



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization

Sixth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Aerodrome Assistance Working Group (AP-AA/WG/6)

Bangkok, Thailand, 2 to 5 April 2024

Agenda Item 7: Technical Assistance/Cooperation in AGA Field

ICAO INITIATIVES FOR ASSISTANCE TO STATES IN AGA AREA

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper summarizes the initiatives taken by ICAO to provide technical assistance to Asia Pacific States in AGA area through various platforms from 2015 to 2023.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 ICAO's 'No Country Left Behind' (NCLB) initiative highlights ICAO's effort to assist States in implementing ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs). The main goal of this work is to help ensure that SARPs implementation is better harmonized globally so that all States have access to the significant socio-economic benefits of safe and reliable air transport. The NCLB initiative also promotes ICAO's efforts to resolve Significant Safety Concerns brought to light through ICAO safety oversight audits as well as other safety, security and emissions-related objectives. More information on NCLB is available at <https://www.icao.int/about-icao/NCLB/Pages/default.aspx>.

1.2 ICAO plays a leadership role in facilitating the implementation of SARPs and the rectification of civil aviation related deficiencies by coordinating assistance and harnessing resources among aviation partners.

2. DISCUSSION

ICAO APAC Combined Action Team (CAT)

2.1 To realize the ICAO NCLB initiative in Asia Pacific Region, in 2016 the ICAO APAC Office has established Combined Action Team (CAT) comprising of subject matter experts drawn from ICAO Regional Office, COSCAPs and member States. The Objective of the APAC CAT is to visit APAC States with Effective Implementation (EI) below 75% (it was set 60% in 2016) in USOAP CMA to:

- support in enhancing their capabilities to effectively use the ICAO USOAP Continuous Monitoring Approach (CMA) Online Framework (OLF);
- extend assistance to address the non-satisfactory protocol questions; and
- provide guidance on implementation of corrective action plan, which will progressively improve the EIs to reach above the global average and reach EI score of 75 per cent by 2024.

2.2 The APAC CAT assistance mission would be tailor-made for each State/Administration comprising of Experts chosen for different areas where concerned States have EI < 75% in respective audit areas.

2.3 APAC CAT as well as ICAO APAC/COSCAP TA assistance missions in AGA conducted from 2016 to 2023 are illustrated in **Attachment A1** and planned for 2024 are shown below:

S. No	2024
A)	APAC CAT assistance missions in AGA area
1	Vanuatu (Completed onsite CAT Mission on 15 – 19 January 2024)
2	Bangladesh (Completed onsite CAT Mission on 4 – 8 February 2024)
3	Mongolia (Tentatively in June 2024)
4	Samoa (Tentatively in December 2024)
B)	APAC RO and COSCAPs Technical Assistance Missions in AGA
1	Brunei: COSCAP-SEA Aerodrome Certification Onsite Assistance (TBC by the COSCAP-SEA SCM).

ICAO Programme for Aviation Volunteers (IPAV)

2.4 IPAV was created under the No Country Left Behind (NCLB) Initiative at ICAO HQ. Skilled and experienced volunteers are engaged through ICAO to provide a short term assistance to States in the performance of specified tasks related to their field of expertise, for a specific period of time. More information on IPAV is available at <https://www.icao.int/secretariat/TechnicalCooperation/Pages/icao-programme-for-aviation-volunteers-ipav.aspx>.

2.5 IPAV assistance missions in AGA conducted from 2017 to 2019 are provided in **Attachment A2**.

Technical Assistance in Aerodrome Certification and SMS (RAS10801)

2.6 A technical assistance project, funded by a grant from the International Financial Facility for Aviation Safety (IFFAS) with the objective to improve the regulatory oversight capability of participating Pacific Island States and establish the legal basis for aerodrome certification and State Safety Programmes (SSP). The participating States are **Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga**. The project is to ensure that aerodrome certification and Safety Management System (SMS) implementation requirements are conducted in compliance with ICAO Annex 14, Volume I – Aerodrome Design and Operations and other relevant guidance materials. This project, which began in September 2011, has been extended through **December 2024**.

2.7 From 2011 to 2014, an Aerodrome Certification and Safety Management Expert recruited by ICAO TCB conducted initial missions to all participating States. The follow-up technical assistance missions conducted by ICAO APAC AGA Officers from 2015 to 2017 in aerodrome certification and SMS activities are provided in **Attachment A3**.

Capacity Building Programme for APAC States

ICAO Training Courses, Workshops, Seminars and Webinars

2.8 The training courses/workshops/seminars/webinars that had been conducted under ICAO and COSCAP Programmes from 2018 to 2023 are provided in **Attachment B** and planned for **2024** is provided below:

S. No	2024	Remarks
1	ICAO Aerodrome Pavement Workshop, Bangkok, Thailand, 7 to 9 February 2024	Completed

ICAO – ACI Capacity Building Programme for Asia and Pacific States

2.9 ICAO APAC Office and ACI agreed to work together to assist ICAO member States and ACI members in capacity building programme for Asia and Pacific States. ICAO – ACI Training Courses in the area of aerodrome certification and SMS organized through ACI Developing Nations Airport Assistance Programme (ACI-DNA) and ICAO-ACI Training Courses organized in the ICAO APAC Office Bangkok since 2017 to 2023 are provided in **Attachment C**. ICAO-ACI Training Course planned for 2024 in ICAO APAC Office, Bangkok is shown in the Table below:

S. No	2024
1	ACI-ICAO Global Reporting Format (GRF) for Runway Surface Conditions for Airport Operators Course, Bangkok, Thailand, 12 – 14 June 2014

Aerodrome Assistance Go-Team Mission under ICAO Voluntary Funds SAFE (US) - Asia Pacific

2.10 AOP/SG/3 Meeting urged States and International Organizations to collaborate with ICAO in capacity building programmes and provide assistance in the area of certification of aerodromes to States with low USOAP EI. The Aerodrome Assistance Go-Team missions to Lao PDR and Brunei were arranged for coaching and providing advice by aerodrome experts under ICAO Voluntary SAFE Funds contributed by United States in 2023. The details are provided in **Attachment A1**.

ICAO USOAP CMA EI in Asia Pacific States

2.11 Despite the continuous efforts in improving USOAP CMA EI by the States and technical assistance provided to Asia Pacific States through various ICAO led initiatives there is no satisfactory improvement in AGA EI after 2021.

Table: USOAP CMA EI in AGA [Average Asia/Pacific]

	APAC average EI in AGA (in %)	Critical Elements (CEs) – AGA Area							
		CE-1	CE-2	CE-3	CE-4	CE-5	CE-6	CE-7	CE-8
March 2024 (AP-AA/WG/6)	60.73 [Global Average 63.00] 168 (2017 PQs) → 143 (2020 PQs)	63.89 (1→2)	67.22 (28→21)	61.32 (7→7)	42.33 (7→7)	63.98 (20→14)	63.21 (64→51)	58.97 (31→32)	46.59 (10→9)
June 2023 (AOP/SG/7)	61.20 [Global Average 62.43]	65.28	67.45	61.61	41.61	64.29	63.58	60.18	46.60

June 2022 (AOP/SG/6)	60.97 [Global Average 63.37]	72.22	71.53	61.61	40.88	67.46	64.28	57.14	45.69
June 2021 (AOP/SG/5)	61.43 [Global Average 62.72]	75.00	71.33	62.56	41.40	68.04	64.51	58.16	46.96
Oct. 2020 (AOP/SG/4)	61.41 [Global Average 62.65]	75.00	68.64	64.44	42.73	58.61	63.26	58.11	38.42
June 2019 (AOP/SG/3)	60.52 [Global Average 61.59]	75.68	66.80	62.13	42.30	58.14	63.87	58.87	39.77
June 2018 (AOP/SG/2)	57.87 [Global Average 59.5]	68.57	65.78	55.71	38.18	49.60	60.45	53.01	54.43 [Error]
May 2017 (AOP/SG/1)	56.29 [Global Average 57.99]	68.57	63.3	53.65	33.17	51.9	59.78	55.2	39.44

2.12 **Attachment D** provides USOAP CMA EI Scores in AGA area for States that had received TA in AGA through various platforms. Unfortunately, two States of APAC Region that had been audited by ICAO in 2023 had achieved lower EI in AGA compared to their AGA EI before the audit. In addition, there is an impact to USOAP CMA EI in AGA due to adjustment of the EI because of the reduction of AGA PQs from 168 (2017 AGA PQs) to 143 (2020 AGA PQs) numbers (please refer to AP-AA/WG/6 – **IP/08** for USOAP CMA Protocol Questions – 2020 Edition).

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The Meeting is invited to note various initiatives taken by ICAO, COSCAPs, ACI and other ICAO Safety Partners in assisting Asia Pacific States to improve USOAP CMA EI, to overcome challenges associated with the certification of aerodromes in some States in Asia and Pacific Regions and:

- a) Encourage States/Administrations that need AGA assistance to approach respective COSCAPs, PASO, ACI and Champion States for their assistance and support in AGA area;
- b) Encourage States to put additional resources and efforts to enhance EI in AGA area; and
- c) Discuss on any other relevant matters.

USOAP CMA EI in AGA area in 2016 (as baseline data) and after USOAP CMA Activities (ICVM/Audit/IVA/Off-site Validation)

S. No	States	EI as of March 2016	EI as of 2018 [Post ICVM/ Audit]	EI as of 2019 [Post ICVM/ Audit]	EI as of 2020 [Post ICVM/ Audit/]	EI as of 2021 [Post ICVM/ Audit/]	EI as of 2022 [Post ICVM/ Audit/]	EI as of 2023 [Post ICVM/ Audit/]	EI as of 2024 [Post ICVM/ Audit/]
1	Australia	92.36 Off-site activity	-	-	-	-	-	87.29 (-) Audit	-
2	Afghanistan	NA	-	NA [Desktop Audit]	-	-	-	-	-
3	Bangladesh	54.68	65.44 [ICVM]	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Cambodia	39.04	59.03 [Audit]	-	-	-	-	57.02 (-) Adjusted EI AGA not included in ICVM	-
5	Fiji	47.79		78.03 [ICVM]	-	-	-	-	-
6	Indonesia	44.9	72.73 [ICVM]	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Lao PDR	75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8	Marshall Islands	13.28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
9	Myanmar	56.64	-	-	61.48 [IVA]	-	-	-	-
10	Nepal	67.59	-	-	-	-	67.74 [Audit]	-	-
11	Pakistan	87 [CSA audit 2011]	-	-	-	72.19 (-) [Audit, 2021]	-	-	-
12	Papua New Guinea	61.59	68.15 [ICVM]	-	-	-	-	57.60 (-) Audit	-
13	Philippines	38.13	48.89 [ICVM]	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	Samoa	59.09	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Thailand	32.69	-	53.74 [ICVM]	-	-	-	-	-
16	Tonga	19.08	-	32.82 [ICVM]	-	-	-	-	-
17	Vanuatu	28.03	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Viet Nam	42.66 [ICVM]	-	-	-	-	-	-	-