



International Civil Aviation Organization  
Asia and Pacific Office

**Twelfth Meeting of the Asia Pacific Accident Investigation Group  
(APAC-AIG/12)**

*(Bangkok, Thailand, 2024)*

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**Agenda Item 3: Update on ICAO AIG-Related Requirements and Activities**

**UPDATE ON APAC-AIG ACTIVITIES**

*(Presented by the Secretariat)*

**SUMMARY**

This paper updates the meeting on the activities of the Asia Pacific Accident Investigation Group (APAC-AIG) since APAC-AIG/11.

Action by the meeting is in paragraph 3.0 below.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 This working paper updates the meeting on the activities of the Asia Pacific Accident Investigation Group (APAC-AIG) since APAC-AIG/11, which was held in Singapore on 16-17 August 2023.

**2. DISCUSSION**

**2.1 Asia/Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation**

2.1.1 The First Asia/Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation was held in Beijing, China from 31 January to 1 February 2018. The Beijing Declaration endorsed by the Conference focused on four major areas, viz. Aviation Safety, Collaboration, Accident Investigation and Human Resource Development. The Beijing Declaration is a high-level commitment from the States in the region to aviation safety and efficiency of air navigation services.

2.1.2 In the area of accident investigation, the APAC Ministers committed through the Beijing Declaration to either establish an accident investigation authority that is independent from State aviation authorities and other entities that could interfere with the conduct or objectivity of an investigation or, where appropriate, develop a bilateral, sub-regional or regional partnership to support the establishment of accident investigation capabilities to serve the Region, sub-region or State.

2.1.3 In the area of human resource development, the APAC Ministers committed through the Beijing Declaration to establish access to quality training and encourage sharing of resources bilaterally and/or multilaterally as well as with industry partners.

2.1.4 The activities of the APAC-AIG had been in line with the APAC Ministers' thrusts. The APAC-AIG will continue to pursue the following aims:

- To encourage States/Administrations to establish an independent accident investigation authority, as required by Annex 13, as well as the related investigation system and procedures; and
- To develop training opportunities to enhance:
  - the accident investigation capabilities of the States/Administrations; and
  - the professionalism of the States/Administrations' investigators

2.1.5 A Second Ministerial Conference was planned to be held in 2020 to give further impetus to the commitments made in 2018. However, unfortunately The September 2023 date got postponed till 2024 due to COVID travel restrictions and other commitments of India who is the host. It had been hoped that the conference could consider setting a target date for the States/Administrations to establish an independent accident investigation authority. Now AIG forum needs to restart the initiative, as things are getting normal after COVID.

## 2.2 Asia-Pacific Regional Aviation Safety Plan (AP-RASP) 2023-2025

2.2.1 The Regional Aviation Safety Group – Asia and Pacific Regions (RASG-APAC) decided at its 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand on 6-7 September 2018 on the formulation of a Regional Aviation Safety Plan (RASP) for 2020-22. RASG-APAC requested the Asia Pacific Regional Aviation Safety Team (APRAST) to look into formulating the plan in collaboration with the APAC-AIG wherever required. After the GASP 2023-25 was published end of 2022, APRAST reviewed the AP-RASP 2020-22 version and aligned with the current GASP as AP-RASP 2023-25 version. In addition, a new AP-RASP WG was created under APRAST with Co-Chair (State) and Co-Chair (Industry)

2.2.2 The APRAST invited the APAC-AIG for comments during its drafting of the RASP. The APAC-AIG noted that the APRAST had already considered the following target:

“States should achieve at least 75% EI in AIG of USOAP CMA, and an APAC average USOAP EI score in AIG higher than or equal to the global average [by 2025]”

2.2.3 In line with the commitment of the APAC Ministers expressed in the Beijing Declaration as regards the establishment of independent accident investigation authority, the APAC-AIG proposed to the APRAST the following additional target for the RASP:

“States should establish an independent aircraft accident and incident investigation authority (AAIIA) as required by Annex 13, as well as related investigation system and procedures [by 2025 – Org Roadmap Action Item A.V.7]”

2.2.4 APAC AIG has the role to play for effective implementation of the AP-RASP 2023-2025 Org Roadmap in Appendix A addressing the Targets (T-7, T-10, T-16 and T-18) and Action Items (A.II.1/2025, A.III.1/2025, A.III.2/2025, A.V.1/2025, A.V.2/2025, A.V.3/2024 and A.V.7/2025).

## 2.3 Code of Conduct on Cooperation Relating to Civil Aviation Accident/Incident Investigation

2.3.1 ICAO APAC Office had issued State Letter dated 08 March 2022 [Ref. T 6/8.3.1 - AP048/22 (FS)] to encourage States/Administrations which have not done so to pledge support to the APAC-AIG *Code of Conduct*, in order to initiate implementation and to evaluate the feasibility of either one of the below two Options/Proposals:

### **Option/Proposal 1.**

Member States, actively participate in the RAIO-CP virtual platform and gain useful practical experience of examples of Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs), Memorandums of Cooperation (MOC) and Identified Cooperative Mechanisms (ICMs) shared by other RAIOS on the said RAIO-CP Platform.

Key objective of such information sharing is to promote and generate interest of States/Administrations, in the establishment of RAIOS for other sub-regions, as and when the feasibility is comprehended and is justifiable.

### **Option/Proposal 2.**

Those States, who have not signed, are encouraged to pledge their support to the legally non-binding Code of Conduct (CoC), on cooperation relating to Civil Aviation Accident/Incident Investigation already established by APAC AIG.

2.3.2 The Asia-Pacific Code of Conduct on Cooperation Relating to Civil Aviation Accident/Incident Investigation was developed to promote cooperation in accident/incident investigation in the APAC region but is not meant to be legally binding. To date, 22 States/Administrations<sup>1</sup> have pledged their support to the Code of Conduct.

### **2.4 Database of investigation agencies**

2.4.1 A database of the investigation agencies in the APAC region has been created to allow States/Administrations to obtain contact information of their counterparts easily and facilitate expeditious communication among States/Administrations. To date, 25 States/Administrations<sup>2</sup> have provided input to the database.

## **3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- (a) Note the activities of the APAC-AIG;
- (b) Urge States/Administrations to take early actions to achieve the following AIG-related targets in the Asia Pacific Regional Aviation Safety Plan 2023-2025:
  - States should achieve at least 75% EI in AIG of USOAP CMA, and an APAC average USOAP EI score in AIG higher than or equal to the global average
  - States should establish an independent aircraft accident and incident investigation authority (AAIIA) as required by Annex 13, as well as related investigation system and procedures

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<sup>1</sup> The 22 States/Administrations are Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, France, Hong Kong China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Macao China, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Timor-Leste.

<sup>2</sup> The 25 States/Administrations are Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, France, Hong Kong China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Macao China, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

- (c) Request States/Administrations to update the RASG-APAC on their plan and progress pertaining to the establishment of an independent aircraft accident and incident investigation authority;
- (d) Encourage States/Administrations which have not yet done so to pledge their support to the *Asia Pacific Code of Conduct on Cooperation Relating to Civil Aviation Accident/Incident Investigation*; and
- (e) Encourage States/Administrations, which have not yet done so to provide input to the database of the investigation agencies in the APAC region.

— END —

List of Updated AIG/11 Decisions and Conclusions

Conclusion/ Decision No --- Strategic Objective*	Title of Conclusion/Decision	Text of Conclusion/Decision	Responsibility	Deliverable	Target Date	Status as of February 2023	Action by RO/HQ/A NC
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
<b>Decision APAC-AIG 11/1:</b> —  <b>A &amp; B</b>	<b>Review of the Decisions and Conclusion by RASG- APAC and APRAST – Secretariat</b>	That, APAC RO to circulate RASG-APAC Procedural Handbook draft TORs of APAC-AIG to the AIG Focal points of States/ Administrations for review and amendments, if necessary.	RO	Action in accordance with the Decision.	By AIG 12	Action: Included in RASG-APAC Procedural Handbook under Appendix C and D.  <b>Action:</b> Proposed to be Closed	RO
<b>Decision APAC-AIG 11/2:</b> —  <b>A &amp; B</b>	<b>Update on APAC-AIG activities – Secretariat</b>	That, APAC-AIG Chairs shall form an AIG Expert Group from the representations of States/ Administrations to carry out the tasks of APAC-AIG following the TOR of RASG-APAC Procedural Handbook which will be tabled for approval of RASG-APAC.	RO APAC-AIG	Action in accordance with the Decisions.	By AIG 12	AIG Expert Group (AIG-EG) with total of 22 volunteer members from 14 States/Administrations and 2 International Organizations was formed. First meeting was launched on 14 December 2023 tasking AIG-EG members to support AIG Work Programme. AIG-EG TORs are approved in RASG-APAC/13 under RASG-APAC procedural Handbook Appendix C and D. A State Letter was sent to all Ref.: T 6/8.3 – AP187/23 (FS) 14 December 2023.  <b>Action:</b> Proposed to be Closed	RO

## Appendix A

Conclusion/ Decision No --- Strategic Objective*	Title of Conclusion/Decision	Text of Conclusion/Decision	Responsibility	Deliverable	Target Date	Status as of February 2023	Action by RO/HQ/A NC
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
<b>Decision APAC-AIG 11/3:</b>  —  A & B	<b>Following up the Progress of Implementation of the Decision APACAIG 10/1, 10/2 and 10/3 – Secretariat</b>	That, the APAC-AIG Chairs to task the upcoming AIG Expert Group, when established, to review the draft template of Investigation Cooperation Mechanism (ICM) and verify the existing clauses of the APAC-AIG Code of Conduct (CoC) and identify the differences that need to be addressed.	AIG EG	Action in accordance with the WP timeline	AIG 12	Relevant WP to be presented with the progress at AIG-12 on the ICM and CoC by APAC AIG Chairs/EG.  The proposed ICM with CoC to be presented in RASG-APAC/14 for approval and publish in the ICAO APAC Website.  <b>Action:</b> In progress	RO to follow up
<b>Decision APAC-AIG 11/4:</b>  —  A & B	<b>ECAC Group of Experts in Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation Workshop on the Harmonizing on Treatment of Serious Incidents – Singapore</b>	That, APAC RO to coordinate with APAC-AIG Chairs to organize a workshop on the ‘Understanding of classification of serious incidents/ incidents for the APAC Regional States/Administrations’.	APAC-AIG RO	Action in accordance with the WP timeline	AIG 12	Action:  AIG 12 shall organize a Workshop on the subject matter on 27 August 2024.  <b>Action:</b> Proposed to be Closed	RO
<b>Decision APAC-AIG 11/5:</b>  —  A & B	<b>Determining the effectiveness of Safety Actions Taken – Australia</b>	That, APAC RO to coordinate with ATSB to organize a workshop on ‘Determining the effectiveness of Safety Actions via Risk Assessment’.	APAC-AIG RO	Action in accordance with the WP timeline	AIG 12	Action:  AIG 12 shall organize a Workshop on the subject matter.  <b>Action:</b> In progress	RO
<b>Decision APAC-AIG 11/6: —  A &amp; B</b>	<b>Medical Examination Requirement for Aircraft Maintenance Engineer &amp; Mental Health Issue as Part of</b>	That, APAC RO shall coordinate with ICAO HQ (PEL SMEs) to clarify whether any medical assessment is required covering the mental health issues for the Aircraft	APAC-AIG RO	Action in accordance with the WP timeline	AIG 12	Action:  RO shall coordinate with PEL SPO at ICAO HQ.  <b>Action:</b>	RO

Conclusion/ Decision No --- Strategic Objective*	Title of Conclusion/Decision	Text of Conclusion/Decision	Responsibility	Deliverable	Target Date	Status as of February 2023	Action by RO/HQ/A NC
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	<b>the Medical Examination – Indonesia</b>	Maintenance Engineers (AMEs) while retaining their AME Licenses under ICAO Annex 1.				In progress	
<b>Decision APAC-AIG 11/7: —</b>  <b>A &amp; B</b>	<b>ATSB Strategic Partnership with RMIT University Offering Qualifications in Transport Safety Investigation - Australia</b>	That, ICAO RO shall coordinate with ATSB to update APAC States/Administrations on the RMIT’s Training courses in AIG area and identify how best RMIT efforts can be utilized for building the APAC-AIG training capacity for the region.	APAC-AIG RO	Action in accordance with the WP timeline	AIG 12	Action:  APAC RO to organize a Training Symposium in 2025 and invite RMIT.  <b>Action:</b> In progress	RO
<b>Decision APAC-AIG 11/8: —</b>  <b>A &amp; B</b>	<b>Introduction of ICAO Occurrence Validation Study Group - Secretariat</b>	That, the AIG Expert Group, when established, in coordination with ICAO RO to subscribe and participate in the OVSG activities and meetings	APAC-AIG RO	Action in accordance with the WP timeline	AIG 12	Action:  RO made a coordination with OVSG Coordinator at HQ and they shall deliver a short presentation on the mechanism to join OVSG.  <b>Action:</b> In progress	RO
<b>Decision APAC-AIG 11/9:</b>	<b>Updated Contact Information of Accident Investigation Authorities on ICAO’s Website - Singapore</b>	That, APAC RO to:  a) Disseminate a State Letter to AIAs of States/Administrations to review their contact information on ICAO’s portal and send their updated AIA contact information to ICAO AIG section for updating on ICAO’s portal; and	APAC-AIG RO	Action in accordance with the WP timeline	AIG 12	Action:  State Letter was sent on the subject vide ref <b>AP193-23-FS - Dec APAC-AIG 11-9, dated 18 Dec 2023</b> and contact list shall be updated accordingly. - RO shall coordinate with HQ for the relevant change on the Portal for 24/7 contact Menu  <b>Action:</b> In progress	RO

## Appendix A

Conclusion/ Decision No --- Strategic Objective*	Title of Conclusion/Decision	Text of Conclusion/Decision	Responsibility	Deliverable	Target Date	Status as of February 2023	Action by RO/HQ/A NC
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
		b) Coordinate with ICAO HQ to include AIA Contact Information database format adding 24/7 contact numbers.					
<b>Decision APAC-AIG 11/10: —  A &amp; B</b>	<b>APAC-AIG Standing and Annual Work Programme (WP/18) - Secretariat</b>	That, APAC RO to initiate a State Letter to AIAs of States/ Administrations to nominate their competent candidates for the Action Item Groups; <b>A.II.1 by 2025, A.III.1 by 2025, A.III.2 by 2025, A.V.1 by 2025, A.V.2 by 2025, A.V.3 by 2024 and A.V.7 by 2025</b> strengthening and supporting their work as derived from APAC-AIG Annual Work Programme 2023-2024.	APAC-AIG RO	Action in accordance with the WP timeline	AIG 12	Action:  AIG Chairs distributed the Tasks of Annual Work Program 2023-24 to the relevant AIG Expert Groups headed by a Lead Coordinator. Different Task groups shall update on their progress through WP during AIG/12.  <b>Action:</b> <b>In progress</b>	RO

— END —