

**60th CONFERENCE OF
DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
ASIA AND PACIFIC REGIONS**

*Sendai, Japan
28 July - 1 August 2025*

AGENDA ITEM 4: AIR NAVIGATION

SUPPORT FOR THE SUSTAINABLE CAPACITY BUILDING

(Presented by Japan)

SUMMARY

Japan has been supporting various international cooperation activities in the APAC region under ICAO's "No Country Left Behind" initiative. This paper presents some of the representative international cooperation activities being implemented and calls on each State to explicitly include descriptions related to international cooperation in their national plans. Also, Japan is seeking to host the Special Session of 14th Meeting of Common Aeronautical VPN Operations Groups (CRV OG/14) to be held from October 27 to 31, 2025 and intends to support travel expenses for participants from the PSIDS and so encourage attends to this meeting.

SUPPORT FOR THE SUSTAINABLE CAPACITY BUILDING

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In November 2024, the ICAO Council approved the "ICAO Strategic Plan 2026-2050", in which one of the six strategic goals is "No Country Left Behind", reaffirming that capacity building remains an important topic. In addition, at the previous DGCA/59 meeting, support for the Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS) was identified under Action Item 59/39. Based on this background, the Japan Civil Aviation Bureau (JCAB) has been supporting various international cooperation activities in the APAC region. This paper presents some of the representative international cooperation activities being implemented, including the JCAB capacity building projects for the PSIDS and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) technical cooperation projects.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Capacity building of air traffic management in the PSIDS

2.1.1 In October 2023, the ICAO PSIDS Liaison Officer was dispatched to the Pacific region with the support of the Government of Fiji.

2.1.2 The ICAO PSIDS Liaison Officer is expected to play a vital role in fostering international collaboration, providing technical assistance, and addressing the aviation specific challenges faced by the PSIDS.

2.1.3 At the ICAO Global Implementation Support Symposium 2024, JCAB announced its support for ICAO and its intention to contribute to the improvement of global civil aviation by addressing specific sustainable development challenges affecting the PSIDS.

2.1.4 Specifically, JCAB has provided support with a focus on ATS network capacity enhancement surveys and sustainable capacity building in the PSIDS.

2.1.5 JCAB invited operational and technical personnel designated by the PSIDS to Japan for training and familiarization in December 2024. This program consists of technical tours, workshops and presentations designed to provide comprehensive knowledge and skills related to air traffic management in Japan.

2.1.6 JCAB plans to provide similar support to the PSIDS in 2025. In addition, Japan is seeking to host the Special Session of 14th Meeting of Common Aeronautical VPN Operations Groups (CRV OG/14) to be held from October 27 to 31, 2025 and intends to support travel expenses for participants from the PSIDS.

2.2 JICA related activities

2.2.1 JCAB, in collaboration with JICA, has been engaged in international cooperation activities in the field of aviation security over 30 years, particularly through the utilization of JICA's technical cooperation schemes.

2.2.2 Technical cooperation is one of JICA's key areas of development assistance, cooperating with various States through the dispatch of experts, training programs for capacity building of local government officials, and the provision of equipment. Over the past 30 years, JCAB has dispatched more than 200 officials as long-term or short-term experts to approximately 20 States under the JICA technical cooperation projects, contributing to human resource development in the aviation sector.

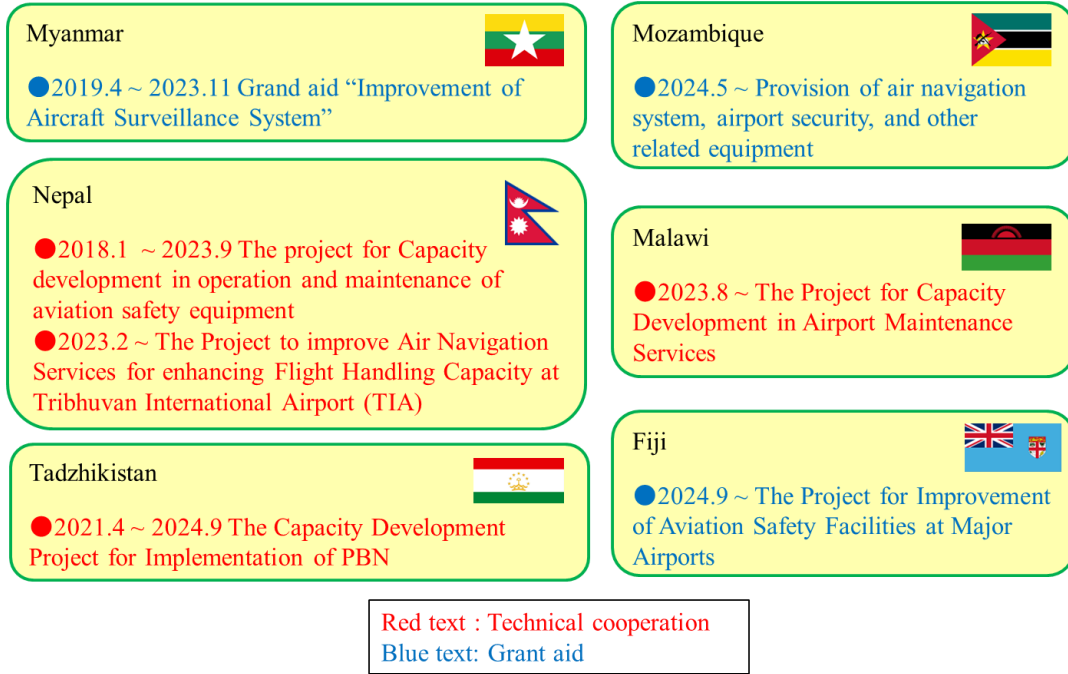


Figure1: Current JCAB's International Cooperation Activities

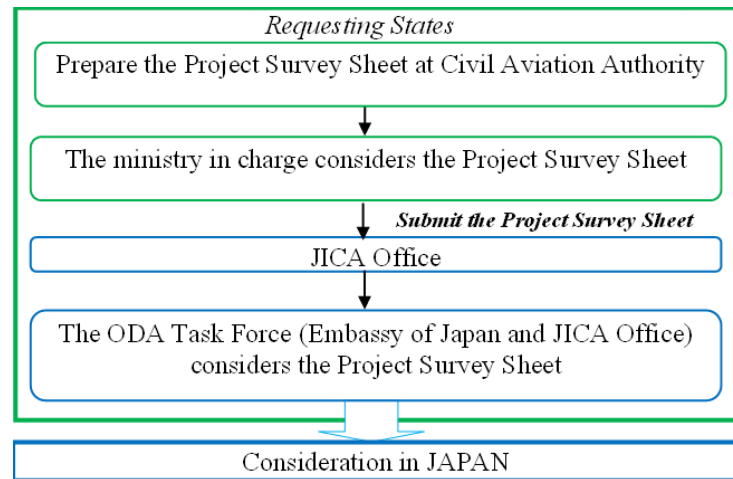


Figure2: JICA Technical Cooperation Scheme Procedures

2.2.3 Figure 2 illustrates the JICA technical cooperation scheme. From this fiscal year, JCAB plans to provide technical cooperation to Mozambique under this scheme to strengthen its air traffic control capacity, and experts from JCAB are scheduled to be dispatched.

2.2.4 JICA's "Knowledge Co-Creation Programs" are a form of technical cooperation that JICA carries out in Japan. This program has welcomed many trainees from around the world and has also provided training on air navigation services (ANS). For example, the program titled "Introduction and Management of Air Navigation Services (ANS) Technologies," which provides extensive knowledge of ANS, has been conducted once a year from 2023 to 2025.

2.3 Other activities

2.3.1 In 2010, JCAB established the "Collaborative Actions for Renovation of Air Traffic Systems (CARATS)" to define the future direction of the air traffic control (ATC) system. However, in light of the significant changes in the environment surrounding ATC system, JCAB has formulated a new CARATS to appropriately address these changes and to realize a highly convenient and sustainable ATC system with safety as the top priority. The new CARATS clearly states "cooperating in the development of international air traffic" as its goal.

2.3.2 JCAB posts on its website (https://www.mlit.go.jp/en/koku/koku_fr13_000038.html) the status of international cooperation and an overview of past international collaboration activities. Please refer to this website as necessary, and do not hesitate to contact us if you need any assistance from Japan.

2.4 Towards effective international cooperation activities

2.4.1 Although JCAB has supported international cooperation activities in the APAC region, there has been a lack of information regarding the support needs of each State and the status of support in other States. By clarifying the support needs of each State and sharing best practices from other States in the field of ANS, it is expected that future cooperation will yield synergistic effects.

3 ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE

3.1 The Conference is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) note the importance of inter-regional and inter-State cooperation in the APAC region, which is a fundamental principle of the Seamless ANS Plan;
- c) encourage States/Administrations to share best practice in providing support in the field of ANS, and to explicitly include descriptions of international cooperation in their respective plans; and
- d) encourage the Asia/Pacific Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group APANPIRG to consider establishing a mechanism for sharing information on multilateral or bilateral support plans in the APAC Air Navigation Plan.

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