



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization

The Fourth Meeting of the South Asia, Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia ATM Coordination Group (SAIOSEACG/4)

Bangkok, Thailand, 18 – 21 March 2025

Agenda Item 3: Review of Current Operations and Problem Areas

ANS USOAP UPDATE

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the annual update of Air Navigation Services (ANS) Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) information.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 States' safety oversight capability can be determined by accessing the implementation of Protocol Questions (PQs). The PQs are organized by nine audit areas, each associated with one of the eight critical elements (CEs). The nine audit areas are Primary Aviation Legislation and Specific Operating Regulations (LEG); Civil Aviation Organization (ORG); Personnel Licensing and Training (PEL); Aircraft Operations (OPS); Airworthiness of Aircraft (AIR); Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation (AIG); Air Navigation Services (ANS); Aerodromes and Ground Aids (AGA); and State Safety Programme (SSP, effective from the 2024 Edition).

1.2 As per requirements by ICAO USOAP Continuous Monitoring Approach (CMA), if a State has implemented all the elements of the PQs and has provided all the relevant evidence, it has fully addressed a PQ, and the PQ is assessed as "satisfactory". If a State provides insufficient or no evidence of compliance with the elements outlined in the PQ, the PQ is assessed as "not satisfactory". The State is required to develop and implement a corrective action plan (CAP) that addresses all elements of the "not satisfactory" PQ, including the presentation of the necessary supporting documentation and evidence.

2. DISCUSSION

USOAP CMA PQs – 2024 Edition

2.1 ICAO has developed the 2024 edition of its PQs, in accordance with the High-level Conference on COVID-19 (HLCC 2021) Recommendations (C-WP/15312 refers) regarding the integration of State Safety Programme Implementation Assessment (SSPIA) with traditional USOAP CMA activities, that were approved by the Council of ICAO on 4 March 2022 (C-DEC 225/7 refers) as well as updates based on amendments to ICAO provisions [Annexes to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Doc 7300), Procedures for Air Navigation Services (PANS), guidance material] and State and stakeholder feedback.

2.2 The 2024 edition of PQs comprises, along with an editorial and references review of the existing PQs, the incorporation of Safety Management System (SMS) related PQs to the areas of Personnel Licensing and Training (PEL); Aircraft Operations (OPS); Airworthiness of Aircraft (AIR); Air Navigation Services (ANS); and Aerodromes and Ground Aids (AGA), as well as of State Safety Programme (SSP) related PQs as a new audit area of SSP.

2.3 The 2024 edition of the PQs, in English, is now posted on the USOAP CMA online framework (OLF) (<https://www.icao.int/usoap>) under the heading “CMA Library”. The French, Spanish, and Russian translations will follow. For reference purposes, the PQ documentation also includes Introduction, General Guidelines, Specific Guidelines, Acronyms and Abbreviations, ICAO References and a Summary of Amendments for each of the nine audit areas.

2.4 The 2024 edition of the PQs will become applicable for all USOAP CMA activities starting after 1 July 2025, except for the SSP related PQs, which will become applicable at a later stage to be announced in due time. The 2024 edition of the PQs will be gradually migrated into the OLF. States will be given at least six months before the new edition of the PQs becomes applicable to them. For USOAP CMA activities starting before 1 July 2025, the 2020 edition of the PQs will continue to apply.

2.5 The SMS and SSP-related PQs will have an undetermined status and will not affect the effective implementation (EI) scores of States, as reflected on the OLF, until they are audited. A dedicated EI score for SSP will be provided separately once this area has been audited. The existing SSPIA PQs, including the self-assessments submitted and the assessment results for those States which have received SSPIAs, will be archived on the OLF and can be made available upon request.

2.6 USOAP CMA related documents and materials, including Document 9734, Part A – The Establishment and Management of a State Safety Oversight System, and Document 9735 – Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme Continuous Monitoring Manual, will be updated accordingly in due course.

Regional USOAP ANS Implementation Status

2.7 **Figure 1** provides an average level of Effective Implementation (EI) for the 37 States in APAC region that had been audited or received an USOAP activities. As of February 2025, the average ANS-related EI in the APAC region is 65.42%, with 21 States achieving an ANS EI equal to or above the regional average.

2.8 The data source was the USOAP CMA OLF¹, which reflected the 2020 version of PQs and recent USOAP activities such as CMA audits, ICAO Coordinated Validation Missions (ICVMs), and Off-Site Validation Activity (OSVA).

¹ The USOAP CMA OLF is restricted access only to National Continuous Monitoring Coordinator (NCMC) and State users. Similar data is provided on the ICAO portal website, integrated Safety Trend Analysis and Reporting System (iSTARS 4.0); however, it may take time for the data to be updated.

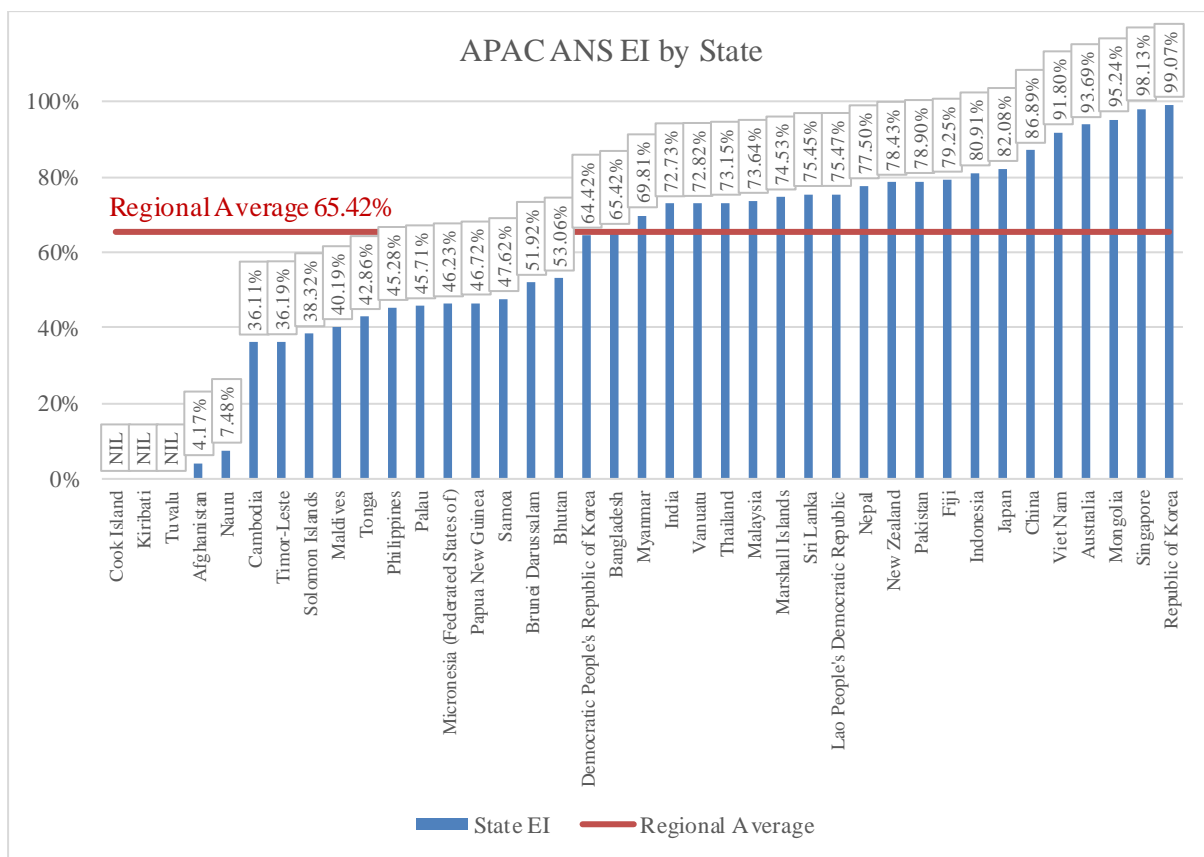


Figure 1: USOAP ANS EI Comparisons by State (February 2025)

2.9 **Figure 2** provides a summary of the global average level of ANS-related EI for the 187 States that were audited or received an USOAP activities, indicating that APAC is lower than the global average.

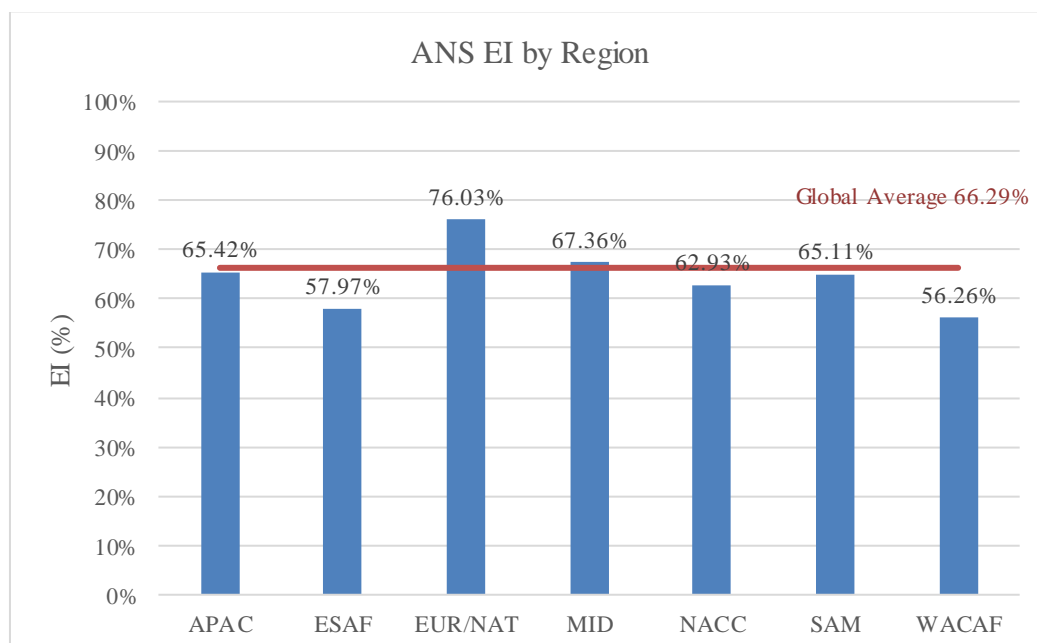


Figure 2: ANS EI by Region (February 2025)

2.10 **Figure 3** provides information on the Asia/Pacific (APAC) Region’s EI by Audit Area and Critical Element.

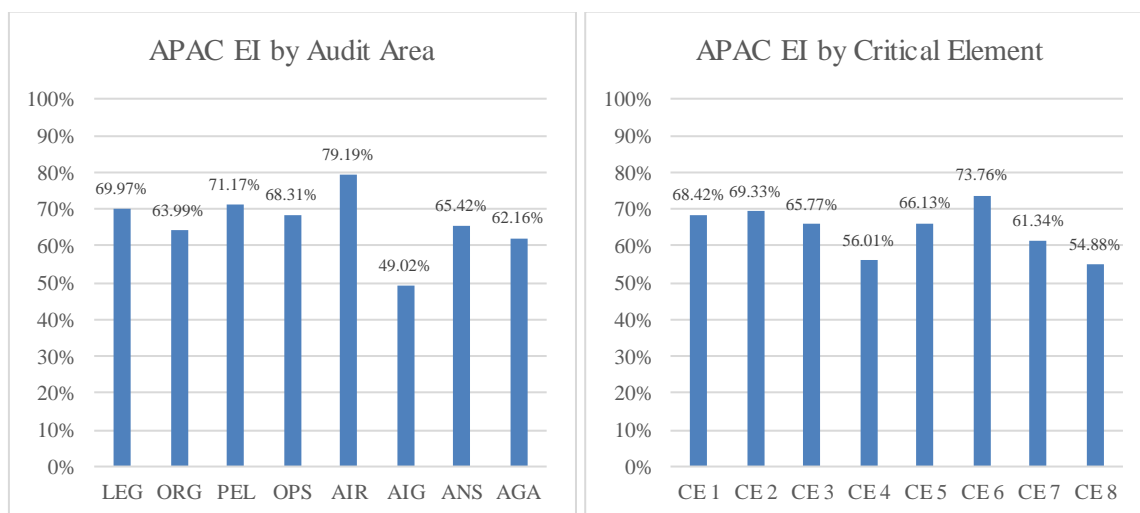


Figure 3: APAC EI by Audit Area and Critical Element (February 2025)

USOAP activities in 2024 and 2025

2.11 Two CMA audits and one ICVM were completed in the APAC Region in 2024.

2.12 For 2025, six USOAP CMA activities have been scheduled in the APAC Region: four CMA audits and two ICVMs.

USOAP CMA Workshops – Planning Status for 2025

2.13 USOAP CMA workshops have been conducted in ICAO Regional Offices and ICAO Member States since 2013. Two workshops have been tentatively scheduled for 2025.

Location	Region	Date
Lima, Peru (regional)	SAM	9 to 11 April 2025
Bangkok, Thailand (regional)	APAC	11 to 13 November 2025

Table 1: USOAP CMA Workshops – Planning Status for 2025

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- note the information contained in this paper;
- encourage States to review and update or submit their information in the PQ Self-Assessment. ICAO will use this information as part of its USOAP CMA activity planning and preparation; and
- discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

.....