



ICAO

*International Civil Aviation Organization***Sixth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Aerodrome Design and Operations Task Force (AP-ADO/TF/6)***Langkawi, Malaysia, 18 - 21 February 2025***Agenda Item 4: Any other business****USOAP-CMA AUDIT EXPERIENCE SHARING BY CAAC AGA TEAM**

(Presented by China)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the experience sharing and action suggestions of 2024 USOAP-CMA audit organized by ICAO and accepted by CAAC. The Airport Department of CAAC took the lead in the Aerodromes and Ground Aids (AGA) working group, successfully completing all the tasks for the audit, achieved an EI score of 94.7%. The final EI score of the USOAP-CMA audit for China is 90.19%.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Since the launch of the USOAP audit preparation for China's civil aviation in October 2021, CAAC has recognized it as a key task, mobilizing industry resources and accomplishing all audit preparation work. During the USOAP audit, a comprehensive comparison and inspection were conducted on the airport regulatory framework against ICAO SARPs. Ultimately, a total EI score of 90.19 was achieved, with the EI score 94.7% in AGA area. Additionally, this paper summarizes the audit experience and proposes suggestions for the comprehensive transformation of ICAO's airport-related documents and improve the training and recommendation of ICAO AGA auditors in Asia-Pacific Region.

2. DISCUSSIONPreparation and achievement for AGA audit

2.1 First, CAAC formed an AGA audit preparation team with 77 members. The team members include personnel from relevant departments of CAAC, regional administrations, consulting companies, related research institutions and universities, and airport operators. By concentrating on industry resources and leveraging professional advantages, we have achieved remarkable results. Second, we developed a comprehensive progress control plan. This plan clearly defined 203 specific tasks, their schedules, and responsible persons, covering all units and individuals involved in the review preparation. It enabled us to have full control over the review process, advance it in a step-by-step manner, and organize it efficiently. Third, we held regular coordination meetings. We have held 9 coordination meetings of AGA team, managing the progress of the review preparation, analyzing the current situation, clarifying the next steps, and coordinating the resolution of key and difficult issues, ensuring the review preparation proceeds in an orderly manner. Fourth, we conducted centralized office work. Since October 2023, we have organized more than 200 people from regional administrations, regulatory bureaus, airports, and technical support teams to work in a centralized manner at the Management and Training Institute. We have coordinated and carried out in-depth benchmarking, evidence material preparation and review, PQ response plan compilation and translation, and the production of presentation for AGA audit team.

2.2 The airport regulatory framework has been optimized. The USOAP-CMA audit has high requirements for systematization and standardization of the airport regulatory framework. The reference documents of the AGA team include the Chicago Convention and 6 annexes, namely 11, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 19, as well as 16 documents such as ICAO Doc 9137 and two circulars such as Cir 305 and 355. It requires that the relevant laws, regulations, rules, standards and related documents of CAAC be in line with the above-mentioned documents. For this reason, CAAC has completed the formulation and revision of 40 related documents in accordance with the audit requirements and the actual operation of the airport, including 1 regulation, 2 standards and 37 administrative documents. The relevant contents cover multiple aspects such as airport certification, planning and design, operation safety, rescue and firefighting, removal of disabled aircraft, and safety oversight. In particular, the introduction of relevant documents such as airport operation safety deviation and exemption, airport Surface Movement Guidance and Control System (SMGCS), and management of Class A general aviation airports have filled the previous management gaps in the industry.

2.3 Ensure professional guidance and organize drill audit. Five senior USOAP auditors from ICAO APAC Combined Action Team (CAT) were invited to conduct technical assistance and "practical drill audit", which accumulated valuable experience for the audit preparation. Meanwhile, an expert team composed of ICAO auditors from the Chinese mainland and Hong Kong was formed to provide comprehensive training for the audit preparation personnel. Over three years, nearly 300 specialized discussions and six mock audits were organized to ensure that each professional group was fully prepared in accordance with the over 15,000 key elements of the PQ. In strict compliance with the audit requirements, with the support of the East China Regional Administration and the North China Regional Administration, the extended audit and industry visit were successfully completed.

2.4 Improved the quality of translation. In collaboration with various professional groups, we have thoroughly evaluated the relevant risk points of non-native language audit. We have organized 215 seminars successively to unify translation standards and enhance the accuracy of the translated audit evidence. During the on-site audit, we promptly adjusted the translation approach based on the differences in auditors' understanding and ensured information sharing through daily coordination meetings.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to encourage States/Administrations to:

- a) promote the systematic transformation of relevant ICAO documents, fully converting ICAO Annex 14, the "Airport Services Manual" (Doc 9137), the "Airport Design Manual" (Doc 9157), and the "Procedures for Air Navigation - Aerodromes" (Doc 9981) into national regulations and standards, optimize the regulations and standards for airport planning and design, airport operation, deviation and exemptions, aeronautical study, safety risk assessment and etc., to ensure that all ICAO standards and recommended measures are transformed and implemented; and
- b) nominate their competent AGA Experts for ICAO USOAP CMA Computer Based Training (CBT) and recommend subsequent on-job-training to become qualified ICAO AGA auditors from Asia-Pacific Region. By recommending experts, consultants or seconded auditors to ICAO headquarters and Regional Office, as well as providing them training and exchanging within the Asia-Pacific Region would help to increase the number of AGA auditors in the Asia-Pacific Region, which will ultimately help in enhancing State's capabilities for safety oversight system contributing to improved USOAP CMA results.