



(Bangkok, Thailand, 22 to 26 June 2026)

ENHANCING STATE-LEVEL AVIATION CRISIS RESPONSE MANAGEMENT AND EMERGENCY COORDINATION UNDER THE STATE SAFETY PROGRAMME (SSP)

SUMMARY

The paper encourages APAC Member States to strengthen aviation crisis response mechanisms, inter-agency coordination arrangements, crisis communication procedures, and continuous improvement processes to enhance aviation system resilience and effective implementation of the State Safety Programme (SSP).

1.1 Recent aviation-related crises, including aircraft accidents, pandemics, cyber-attacks, severe weather events, armed conflicts, and disruptions to aviation services, have demonstrated the importance of effective State-level crisis management arrangements and coordinated emergency response capabilities.

1.3 In this regard, aviation crisis response management may be considered an important supporting element for strengthening aviation system resilience and effective implementation of the State Safety Programme (SSP).

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Recent aviation crises have demonstrated the importance of effective State-level crisis management arrangements and coordinated emergency response capabilities involving multiple authorities and aviation stakeholders. Effective aviation crisis response management arrangements may support States in ensuring coordinated decision-making, maintaining continuity of aviation oversight activities, supporting timely communication, and strengthening public confidence in the aviation system. As aviation crises increasingly involve cross-border operational impacts, public communication challenges, and multi-agency coordination, strengthening State-level crisis response arrangements may also support regional aviation resilience within the APAC Region.

2.2 Thailand has established an Aviation Crisis Response Management arrangement under the Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) to support coordinated State-level aviation crisis response in accordance with ICAO Annex 19 provisions.

The arrangement includes:

- a) establishment of a Crisis Response Team (CRT);
- b) crisis notification and coordination procedures;
- c) inter-agency communication arrangements;
- d) crisis response testing and continuous improvement processes;
- e) communication strategy for the public and social media;
- f) checklists for all key CRT members; and
- g) defined roles and responsibilities for relevant personnel and stakeholders.

The arrangement applies to various aviation crisis scenarios that may significantly affect aviation safety, operational continuity, or public confidence.

2.3 Thailand has also incorporated periodic testing to evaluate and enhance operational readiness. The CAAT Aviation Crisis Response Management Manual specifies that crisis response arrangements are reviewed following activation of the CRT and tested through simulation exercises if no activation has occurred within a two-year period. In this regard, Thailand conducted an Aviation Crisis Response Drill to evaluate notification procedures, crisis coordination arrangements, communication processes, and organizational response readiness. Lessons learned from this exercise were valuable and are being used to improve procedures, training of CAAT staff and strengthen CAAT capabilities. Thailand would also like to express its sincere appreciation to the Directorate General for Civil Aviation (DGAC) France for the valuable support and contribution in strengthening CAAT's Aviation Crisis Response Management arrangements, including related crisis response drill activities.

2.4 Thailand considers that strengthening State-level aviation crisis response management arrangements may support effective implementation of the State Safety Programme (SSP) and enhance aviation system resilience within the APAC Region.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information presented in this paper;
- b) encourage Member States to consider establishing and maintaining State-level aviation crisis response management arrangements in accordance with ICAO Annex 19 – Safety Management provisions;

- c) encourage Member States to ensure that the role of the CAA is appropriately reflected in national emergency response planning and crisis management mechanisms;
- d) encourage Member States to conduct periodic crisis response drills, and post-event evaluations to enhance their capabilities to face an aviation crisis; and
- e) encourage the sharing of national experiences, best practices, lessons learned, challenges, and regional collaboration initiatives related to aviation crisis response management through future APAC activities.

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