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Discussion Paper :Flight Safety Foundation FATIGUE RISK MANAGEMENT CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION

APRAST/26
Bangkok 2026

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ASIA PACIFIC CENTRE FOR AVIATION SAFETY

Introduction

- The Asia-Pacific Regional Aviation Safety Plan (AP-RASP) 2026-2028 Edition builds upon the previous 2023-2025 AP-RASP and adopts a risk-based approach for managing safety at the regional level through coordinated collaboration between regional aviation stakeholders.
- Across the industry, it has been shown that fatigue can contribute to all the global high-risk categories. The AP-RASP 2026-2028 Section 3.6.1 specifically identifies Fatigue as a contributing factor to Controlled Flight Into Terrain (CFIT) accidents.
- The ICAO Assembly, 42nd Session, stated that fatigue remains a persistent safety and operational risk across the aviation industry. Due to the significant growth projected in the Asia Pacific region through 2044, this challenge is even more pronounced in ASPAC.

Introduction

- The 61st Conference of Directors General of Civil Aviation Authorities, held in Kuala Lumpur in September 2026, classified the Fatigue Risk as Core Action in the Region.

Conference of Directors General of Civil Aviation Asia and Pacific Region

61st APAC DGCA CONFERENCE OUTPUT
7 -11 September 2026
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

A. CORE ACTION ITEMS

All items listed on the table below are subject to monitoring and reporting.

DP No.	Action Item ID	Action Descriptions	Primary Owner	Supporting Entities	Expected Outcome	Reporting Mechanism	Reporting Frequency
Aviation Safety							
DP/03/29	61/03	Acknowledging the importance of Fatigue Risk Management System (FRMS) and Flight and Duty Time Limitations (FDTL), the Conference agreed that a regional baseline of fatigue risk management practices be established in APAC by FSF, who shall conduct the surveys and workshops with voluntary participation.	FSF	State/ Administrations ICAO APAC RO	Regional guidance to support establishment of regional baseline of fatigue risk management practices complementary to the existing fatigue and human performance framework	RASG or APRAST Meetings DGCA Conference	RASG or APRAST Meetings

Discussion: Objective of the APAC FRMS initiative

- In response to the fatigue risk, the Flight Safety Foundation has initiated a capacity-building initiative to better understand fatigue-related challenges and support improvements in fatigue risk management.
- The Asia Pacific Region would greatly benefit from a better understanding of the operational conditions and systemic factors that contribute to fatigue-related risks.
- The target is to establishing a regional baseline that will help identify common risks, emerging trends, alignment with international best practices, and opportunities for improvement in fatigue related risks and consequences.

Discussion: APAC FRMS initiative project plan

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- The initiative will conduct surveys and virtual workshops directed to regulators, airlines, and pilot associations/unions.
- Using the insights, AP-CAS will facilitate multidisciplinary external working groups including airlines, pilot representatives, and regulators engaged with APRAST Operations WG and SEI. The working groups will identify effective practices and develop practical guidance that supports consistent and informed fatigue risk management decisions across the region.
- The results will support the development of practical guidance and tools to strengthen fatigue risk management across the Asia Pacific region.
- The resulting guidance material will highlight regional challenges, relevant international best practices, and practical approaches that can assist States and operators in strengthening fatigue risk management programs that could benefit other industry groups beyond flight crews.

Action by the Conference

The Meeting is invited to:

- Note the information presented in this Working Paper
- Note the Core Action of the DGCA/61 included in the State Letter Ref. SN 2 (2026): AP112/26 (TC) and information presented in this Working Paper and recognize the importance of improving understanding of fatigue-related risks across the Asia Pacific region.
- Encourage States, regulators, operators, and flight crew representatives to support the Flight Safety Foundation's regional fatigue risk management initiative and contribute to the identification of current challenges, effective practices, and lessons learned, following the guidance of the DGCA/61
- Encourage States review and, where appropriate, strengthen their fatigue risk management regulations and guidance material, taking into account ICAO provisions and international best practices.
- Encourage the sharing of fatigue-related data, experiences, and effective practices among regulators and operators to support continuous improvement in fatigue risk management across the region.
- Agree that a regional baseline of fatigue risk management practices be established in APAC; and invite the FSF to conduct the capacity building project to help establish the baseline, reporting the outcomes and resulting guidance material to APRAST and RASG-APAC for their consideration, and to DGCA/62.

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THANK YOU

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