

**59<sup>th</sup> CONFERENCE OF  
DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION  
ASIA AND PACIFIC REGIONS**

*Cebu, Philippines  
14 to 18 October 2024*

**AGENDA ITEM 3: AVIATION SAFETY**

**SSP IMPLEMENTATION STATUS  
IN MACAO, CHINA**

(Presented by Macao, China)

**INFORMATION PAPER**

**SUMMARY**

Safety management seeks to proactively mitigate safety risks before they result in aviation accidents and incidents. Through the implementation of safety management, States/Administrations can manage their safety activities in a more disciplined, integrative and focused manner. This paper shares the information regarding the steering mechanism currently utilized by the Civil Aviation Authority – Macao, China (AACM) for driving the implementation, maintenance, and continuous improvement of the Macao SAR SSP towards effective safety management.

## SSP IMPLEMENTATION STATUS IN MACAO, CHINA

### 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Safety management seeks to proactively mitigate safety risks before they result in aviation accidents and incidents. Through the implementation of safety management, States/Administrations can manage their safety activities in a more disciplined, integrative and focused manner. Possessing a clear understanding of its role and contribution to safe operations enables a State/Administration, and its aviation industry, to prioritize actions to address safety risks and more effectively manage its resources for the optimal benefit of aviation safety.

1.2 The ICAO Global Aviation Safety Plan objectives call for States to put in place robust and sustainable safety oversight systems and to progressively evolve these into a more sophisticated means of managing safety performance. These objectives align with ICAO's requirements for the implementation of State safety programmes (SSPs) by States and SMSs by service providers.

1.3 State's safety oversight (SSO) system and State safety programme (SSP) are closely connected in terms of the safety objectives that each seeks to achieve. Both address the functions and responsibilities of the State; the former primarily with regard to safety oversight, and the latter with regard to safety management and safety performance. These responsibilities have been integrated in the Second Edition of ICAO Annex 19 and are collectively referred to as the State's safety management responsibilities. The Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) related to safety management responsibilities covering both safety oversight and safety management are interdependent and constitute an integrated approach towards effective safety management.

1.4 Although the term SSP is still used in the Second Edition of the ICAO Annex 19, the meaning has changed to encompass the integrated set of SARPs found in Chapter 3 of the ICAO Annex 19. The SSP is no longer described as a framework, but rather as a programme to meet the State's safety management responsibilities.

1.5 Taking a proactively approach to ensuring aviation safety and to comply with the SARPs contained in ICAO Annex 19, Macao, China has formally established the Macao SAR SSP in 2014. Pursuant to the abovementioned evolution to the ICAO Annex 19 and the ICAO Doc 9859 – Safety Management Manual, the Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR) SSP has continued evolved since then. This paper shares the information regarding the steering mechanism utilized by the Civil Aviation Authority – Macao, China (AACM) for driving the implementation, maintenance, and continuous improvement of of the Macao SAR SSP towards effective safety management.

### 2. DISCUSSION

2.1 With reference to the Fourth Edition of the ICAO Doc 9859 – Safety Management Manual published in 2018, Macao, China reviewed and revised the Macao SAR SSP, integrating the eight critical elements (CEs) of safety oversight system into the four components of safety management. At the same time, the mechanism for driving the implementation of the Macao SAR SSP was reviewed, 3 internal Task Forces were combined and restructured, and as a result, the AACM Safety Committee (ASC) was established in 2020.

2.2 The AACM Safety Committee (ASC) is a steering group responsible for implementation, maintenance, and continuous improvement of the Macao SAR SSP. The ASC is chaired by the President of the AACM, with management personnel and relevant representatives from the functional departments as members to discuss and take all the standpoints in terms of all safety aspects in order to make proper and appropriate decisions efficiently and provide direction or instruction to all functional areas for the implementation, maintenance, and continuous improvement of Macao SAR SSP.

2.3 The ASC conducts ASC meeting quarterly to follow up the implementation of the 14 Macao SAR SSP elements derived from the 4 SSP components according to the Fourth Edition of the

ICAO Doc 9859. The following aspects are regularly reviewed and discussed in the ASC meetings:

- Macao aviation laws and regulations development including ICAO SARPs compliance
- Safety oversight functions, duties and responsibilities including the review of the ICAO USOAP CMA preparation status
- Macao SAR Aviation Safety Plan implementation status
- Training of technical personnel
- Relevance of technical handbooks and guidance
- Licensing, certification, authorization/approval obligations
- Overview of safety reports (both mandatory and voluntary) and their follow up action
- Accident & Incident investigation and follow up action
- Overview of surveillance plans execution and the results
- Overview of service providers' individual safety performance and Macao, China's overall safety performance
- Challenges and suggestions on internal and external communication for promoting safety

2.4 In terms of communication of safety, AACM has regular organized Safety Management Meetings with all SMS stakeholders since 2012 to discuss safety-related matters, introduce new safety initiatives, and exchange safety information with regard to certain safety management items, such communication platform was further extended to governmental departments this year to inaugurate the first Macao SAR SSP Meeting with the authorities of telecommunications, meteorological observatory and marine to enrich the SSP implementation towards effective safety management. It strengthens the trust and collaboration in achieving effective implementation of the SSP and data-driven safety management as well as to gather valuable inputs to the ASC for consideration and take appropriate actions if needed.

2.5 Macao SAR SSP is an important instrument for enhancing aviation safety in Macao, China and it will need to continuously evolve to adapt to the fast-changing aviation environment. Through the utilization of ASC to oversee the implementation of the Macao SAR SSP, it effectively facilitates communication, avoid duplication of effort and conflicting policies within the AACM to better carry out safety management responsibilities to address safety risks and manage resources for the continual improvement on the safety standards and provide a safe and efficient civil aviation transportation system in Macao, China in a more disciplined, integrative and focused manner.

### **3. ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE**

3.1 The Conference is invited to note the progress of SSP implementation in Macao, China and the information contained in this Paper.

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