

**59th CONFERENCE OF
DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
ASIA AND PACIFIC REGIONS**

Cebu, Philippines

14 to 18 October 2024

**AGENDA ITEM 5: AVIATION SECURITY AND
FACILITATION**

**THE IMPORTANCE OF STRENGTHENING PREPARATION
FOR USAP-CMA AUDITS**

(Presented by the People's Republic of China)

SUMMARY

In the USAP-CMA audits, the average effective implementation (EI) of Asia-Pacific countries is lower than the world average. Insufficient preparation, different working languages and culture, and the lack of experience exchanging may constitute the major reasons for the lower than desired EI. This discussion paper addresses the importance of USAP-CMA audit preparation, especially in activity organization, dedicated training and exerting the role of the National Coordinator, and calls on Asia-Pacific countries to value the audit as an opportunity to enhance the national security oversight capability.

THE IMPORTANCE OF STRENGTHENING PREPARATION FOR USAP-CMA AUDITS

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 USAP-CMA aims to comprehensively evaluate the implementation of ICAO security Standards by Member States, covering all aspects of aviation security and encompassing the elements of the entire process from legislation to implementation. The audit is an important opportunity to find out the vulnerabilities in aviation security and effectively improve the national security oversight system and capabilities.

1.2 Data shows that the average EI of the audit results in Asia-Pacific countries is 65%, while the worldwide average is 72%. For specific critical elements, the compliance rate of CE-7: Quality Control Obligations was 41%, and CE-8: Resolution of Security Concerns was 56%.

1.3 Currently, only around 30% of countries in Asia-Pacific have an EI higher than 75%, while 46% of countries worldwide have an EI higher than 75%. In order to achieve the goals, set out in GASeP, 65% of countries shall have an EI of over 75% by 2027 and 80% of countries have an EI of over 75% by 2030. Asia-Pacific countries still need to catch up.

1.4 Although the overall security system *per se* in Asia-Pacific countries needs to be improved, another major reason that leads to the current low EI is the insufficient preparation, different working languages and culture, and the lack of experience exchanging for USAP-CMA audit, which shall be systematically addressed.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Initiate the Audit Preparation

- a) The competent national authorities should attach importance to the USAP-CMA audit preparation, and timely align the national security legislation and specific operating documents with the amendments to the ICAO Annexes.
- b) Upon receipt of the audit notice, the competent national authorities shall timely initiate the audit preparation, conduct compliance reviews of existing national security legislation and specific operating documents with the ICAO SARPS, and benchmark the security plans and measures at the industry level with the national requirements.

2.2 Mock Audits

During the audit preparation, mock audits could be conducted to find out the shortcomings in the operational level. By organizing mock audits, experience could be accumulated in document review, as well as on-site performance and interview to ensure that the actual audit can proceed smoothly. China and Singapore have conducted mock audits which enabled the good results.

2.3 Audit Languages

English is not the native language in some Asia-Pacific countries, and using English as the working language may sometimes lead to misunderstanding when conveying the technical messages. The country receiving the audit shall form a coordination team to train the relevant personnel of the technical

terms and enhance language proficiency.

2.4 **Give Attention to the National Coordinator**

During the preparation, the role of national coordinators should be focused on. It is difficult for the audited country to accept a national coordinator from another country to serve as an observer during the audit. Therefore, communication should be established for national coordinators, and training should be organized in appropriate forms to facilitate experience sharing, communication and cooperation.

3. ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE

3.1 The Conference is invited to encourage Asia-Pacific Countries to;

- a) attach importance to the USAP-CMA audit preparation, systematically improve the preparation quality, and continuously make improvement;
- b) strengthen the sharing of experience in audit preparation, including experience and practices of forming audit expert groups, mock audits, and training; and
- c) ensure that relevant and qualified personnel are nominated as National Coordinators and participate in UASP-CMA National Coordinator training sessions conducted periodically.

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