

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

*Cebu, Philippines  
14 to 18 October 2024*

**AGENDA ITEM 8: CAPACITY BUILDING AND  
IMPLEMENTATION**

**BUILDING A PIPELINE OF ICAO QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS  
FOR THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION**

(Presented by Hong Kong, China)

**SUMMARY**

The 58<sup>th</sup> Conference of Directors General Civil Aviation (DGCA) has endorsed the Regional Training Cooperation Framework (RTCF) under the Regional Cooperation Mechanism Task Force (RCM TF) to implement the initiatives to foster greater cooperation among civil aviation training academies in building up training capacity and capabilities within the Asia Pacific (APAC) region. This Discussion Paper seeks to propose solutions to work collaboratively with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and APAC States/Administrations to address current challenges faced by the region.

## **BUILDING A PIPELINE OF ICAO QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS FOR THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION**

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The 58<sup>th</sup> ICAO Director-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) Conference in 2023 has endorsed the key initiatives to be delivered under the Regional Training Cooperation Framework called by the RCM TF. One of the objectives to achieve under the framework is to ‘Strengthen existing efforts to build a pipeline of trainers to allow States and Administrations to provide technical experts with possible career pathways to become trainers’.

1.2 Asia Pacific is one of the few regions with ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) Effective Implementation (EI) scores lower than the global average, of which Technical Personnel Qualifications and Training (CE-4) is one of the CEs with low EI scores. The Government Safety Inspector (GSI) Training Programme has been developed to ensure a high-level of quality and standardization in the training of government safety inspectors globally. Courses under this programme have been developed to address one of the shortcomings identified in audits conducted under the ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) relating to the lack of qualified technical personnel to carry-out safety oversight responsibilities.

1.3 A pipeline of ICAO qualified instructors in the Asia Pacific region serving as technical experts and ‘regional instructors’ can be accomplished under the Regional Train-the-Trainer Programme (TTP) and to be deployed across States / Administrations to meet the region’s training needs. Through the TTP, the competencies of new and existing instructors will be enhanced while opening up more training opportunities for States / Administrations.

### **2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 Being one of the active members of the Regional Training Cooperation Framework (RTCF), Hong Kong, China attaches great importance to capacity building and development in aviation. The Hong Kong International Aviation Academy (HKIAA) was established by the Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK) in 2016. Being the first civil aviation academy in Hong Kong, HKIAA has a vision to establish Hong Kong’s position as a world-class civil aviation training hub for the sustainable development of the aviation industry in Hong Kong and the region.

2.2 The HKIAA has been awarded the prestigious ICAO Platinum Member/ Training Centre of Excellence (TCE) in the TRAINAIR PLUS Programme (TPP) and was elected as a member of the ICAO TRAINAIR PLUS Steering Committee for the term 2024-26. In addition to being recognised as an Airport Council International (ACI)-accredited Training Partner, the HKIAA also became the second organisation in the world to receive dual recognition for ACI-ICAO TPP-Airport. It is also an International Air Transport Association (IATA) Authorised Training Centre. The HKIAA supports multi-disciplinary training needs for aviation professionals, industry practitioners and newcomers, leveraging the advantages in nurturing aviation talent to support regional aviation industry goals.

2.3 The HKIAA is actively engaged in capacity building events and has co-hosted the Asia Pacific Region Innovation & Capacity Building Symposium 2023 (APICS 2023) from 14 to 15 December 2023 in Hong Kong China, with the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) and the Civil Aviation Department of Hong Kong, China (HKCAD), with support from the ICAO APAC Regional Office and AAHK in fostering innovation, technological development and capacity building of the civil aviation industry on regional and global scales.

2.4 Hong Kong, China strongly supports ICAO’s work and the key initiatives to be delivered by RTCF Working Group. Representatives from HKCAD and the HKIAA are the focal points and attended the First meeting via Video Teleconferencing on 1 August 2024.

2.5 With the Government Safety Inspector (GSI) training courses now available at all TRAINAIR PLUS Programme (TPP) Members' Training Centres, HKIAA is intending to host the following GSI training course for nominated inspectors:

- a) ICAO GSI - Personnel Licensing
- b) ICAO GSI Airworthiness – Air Operator and Approved Maintenance Organisation Certification
- c) ICAO GSI Operations – Air Cargo Certification
- d) ICAO GSI Operations – Air Operator Certification

2.6 ICAO Training Instructors Course (TIC) and Training Developers Course (TDC) have been organised by HKIAA. Multiple intakes of TIC and TDC have been hosted by HKIAA, with well over 50 persons trained from 2023 to date in Hong Kong, China, and Thailand.

2.7 HKIAA's proposed solutions should effectively contribute to the TTP and capacity building in the APAC region by increasing the number of training places and developing more ICAO qualified instructors. HKCAD is in full support of HKIAA's proposal mentioned above.

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

3.1 The Conference is invited to:

- a) Note the contents of this paper.
- b) Support Hong Kong China's proposed solutions to strengthen capacity building and development under RTCF through addressing the training needs of the Asia Pacific region.
- c) Encourage States/Administrations to nominate prospective aviation inspectors to attend the Train-the-Trainer Programme.

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