INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Second Meeting of the Africa - Indian Ocean Aviation System Planning and implementation Group (AASPG/2)
Livingstone, Zambia, from 2 to 6 November 2026

Agenda Item 4: Implementation of safety and air navigation goals, targets and indicators, including priorities set in the Regional Aviation Safety and Air Navigation Plans

4.3 Outcomes of the Second Meeting of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG2)

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY	
This Paper presents the outcomes of the Second Meeting of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG2) of the Africa–Indian Ocean Aviation System Planning and implementation Group (AASPG), which was held in Dakar, Senegal, from 29 June to 3 July 2026. The meeting reviewed the status of implementation of the conclusions and decisions of the previous meetings, assessed the achievements in Safety Management and Oversight, examined Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs) at the regional level, identified activities to be coordinated with the IIM and AAO Sub-Groups, discussed the implementation challenges of the Sub-Group and reviewed the Terms of Reference and future work programme. Action by the Meeting at **Paragraph 3.**	
References	• AASPG Procedural Handbook • The Global Aviation Safety Plan • AASPG/1 Meeting Report • SMO/SG2 Meeting Report
Strategic Goals	*a) Every Flight is Safe and Secure* *b) Aviation is Environmentally Sustainable* *c) Aviation Delivers Seamless, Accessible, and Reliable Mobility for All* *d) No Country is Left Behind* e) *The Economic Development of Air Transport Assures the Delivery of Economic Prosperity and Societal Well-Being for All*

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Second Meeting of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG2) of the Africa–Indian Ocean Aviation System Planning and implementation Group (AASPG) was held in Dakar, Senegal, from 29 June to 3 July 2026.

1.2 The meeting was attended by 59 participants from 14 AFI States, 4 regional organizations, 1 airport operator, 2 aircraft operators, and the ICAO ESAF and WACAF Regional Offices.

1.3 The meeting discussed nine (09) agenda items as presented in Appendix 1 to this Working Paper.

1.4 The meeting adopted three Conclusions and four Decisions. This paper presents the outcomes of the meeting for consideration.

2. DISCUSSIONS

2.1 Second Meeting of the SMO/SG

2.1.1 The meeting was chaired by Mr. Lawrence Amukono, the chairperson of the SMO/SG. Mr. Zewdu Aregawi, Regional Officer, Fight Safety AIR, ICAO Eastern and Southern African Office (ESAF), served as the Secretary to the meeting, assisted by Regional Officers from the ESAF and WACAF Regional Offices.

2.1.2 The meeting was conducted in the English and French languages with simultaneous interpretation services. The documentation was made available in both languages on the websites of ICAO ESAF and WACAF Offices.

Status of implementation of the conclusions and decisions of the previous meetings of the SMO/SG, as well as those of the AASPG/1 meeting applicable to the Sub-Group

2.2.1 The meeting reviewed the implementation status of AASPG/1 Conclusions and Decisions applicable to the SMO/SG, noting that AASPG/1 adopted 33 Conclusions and Decisions, including 2 Conclusions and 5 Decisions relevant to the SMO/SG. Of these, 28.6% were fully implemented and 71.4% were initiated and remain ongoing, with no Conclusions or Decisions reported as not commenced. The meeting also reviewed the status of implementation of SMO/SG1 Conclusions and Decisions. The detailed implementation status, is presented in Appendix 2 to this WP.

2.2.2 The meeting noted the implementation status and invited all stakeholders to enhance the effective implementation of outstanding activities aimed at strengthening aviation safety oversight and safety management in the AFI region.

Achievements in Safety Management and Oversight

2.2.3 The progress made in the implementation of the SMO/SG projects are described in the following sections of this WP.

Review of Progress registered by the 'Strengthening States' Safety Oversight Systems' Project Team

2.2.4 The Project Team presented the progress made, including the development of the Project Document (PRODOC) outlining eligibility criteria, indicative beneficiary States, the project's objectives, implementation arrangements, governance framework, risk management measures, sustainability provisions, and indicative budget aimed at supporting States with low Effective Implementation (EI) scores, Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs), and States that have not yet been audited.

2.2.5 The meeting noted the progress achieved and recommended some improvements in the draft Project Document. It emphasized the importance of close coordination among the various Project Teams and the need to consider ongoing regional initiatives to ensure complementarity of efforts, maximize synergies, and avoid duplication of activities. During the breakout session, the Project Team reviewed and revised the draft Project

Document in line with the meeting's recommendations. Following the review, the meeting endorsed the revised draft Project Document, as presented in Appendix 3 to this WP for consideration.

Review of Progress made by 'Development and implementation of Regional and National Aviation Safety Plans (AFI-RASP and NASPs)' Project Team

2.2.6 The Project Team presented the progress achieved thus far, highlighting the work undertaken by the three dedicated Working Groups established by the Team: Organizational Challenges (ORG), Operational Safety Issues (OPS), and Safety Performance Monitoring (SPM).

2.2.7 An update was also provided on the project milestones, indicating that the development process remained on track, with consolidation of the draft Regional Aviation Safety Plan to be presented for validation at a workshop in October 2026; and subsequently for approval by AASPG/2 in November 2026.

2.2.8 The Meeting noted the progress made and encouraged the Project Team to continue its work in accordance with the established timelines. The Meeting further requested the Project Team to review best practices adopted by other ICAO regions to ensure the timely update of the AFI-RASP in accordance with the future editions of the Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP). The following decision was therefore formulated:

<table>
<tr><td colspan="6">Draft AASPG/2 Decision 2/XX: Development and Implementation of the AFI-RASP and NASPs</td></tr>
<tr><td>Why:</td><td colspan="5">That, to ensure the continuous alignment of the AFI-RASP to the current edition of the GASP</td></tr>
<tr><td>What:</td><td colspan="5">The Project Team:
a) Expedites the revision and amendment of the AFI-RASP to ensure its timely alignment with the latest edition of the GASP and
b) Develops an AFI-RASP implementation monitoring and reporting tool</td></tr>
<tr><td>Who:</td><td colspan="5">AFI-RASP/NASP Project Team; ICAO Regional Offices</td></tr>
<tr><td>When:</td><td colspan="5">a) Subsequent AASPG Meeting following the endorsement of the GASP; and
b) 31 December 2026</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="6">Implementation follow up</td></tr>
<tr><td>Follow-up required</td><td>Yes ☒
No ☐</td><td>Metrics</td><td>Timely revision of AFI RASP
AFI-RASP implementation monitoring and reporting tool established.</td><td>Means to collect data</td><td>PTC report to SMO/SG and PRCC; Secretariat Report to AASPG.</td></tr>
</table>

Review of Progress registered by 'Establishment of Safety Data Collection and Processing Systems (SDCPS)' Project Team

2.2.9 The Project Team presented the progress achieved, highlighted the challenges encountered, and provided recommendations to address them.

2.2.10 The presentation focused on key actions undertaken, including the review of the project description and its Terms of Reference (ToR), establishment of a structured approach for task breakdown, development of a project tracking mechanism, preparation of an SDCPS survey tool for circulation to States, and the draft Project Document (PRODOC) aimed at supporting States in the development and implementation of SDCPS.

2.2.11 The Meeting noted the progress made and emphasized the importance of close coordination with the other project teams to ensure a harmonized approach for the implementation of the project and assistance to States. To support the establishment of SDCPS, the Meeting encouraged States to designate a focal point and actively participate in the SDCPS survey and requested the Project Team to identify States and academic institutions that could support the project's implementation. During the breakout session, the Project Team reviewed and revised the draft Project Document in line with the meeting's recommendations. Following the review, the meeting endorsed the revised draft Project Document (As presented in Appendix 4 to this WP). The meeting formulated the following conclusion:

<table>
<tr><td colspan="6">Draft AASPG/2 Conclusion 2/XX: Establishment of Safety Data Collection and Processing Systems (SDCPS)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Why:</td><td colspan="5">That, to support the establishment of SDCPS</td></tr>
<tr><td>What:</td><td colspan="5">The project team identifies States and academia that will support the implementation of the project.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Who:</td><td colspan="5">States; SDCPS Project Team</td></tr>
<tr><td>When:</td><td colspan="5">31 December 2026</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="6">Implementation follow up</td></tr>
<tr><td>Follow-up required</td><td>Yes ☒
No ☐</td><td>Metrics</td><td>States and academic institutions identified</td><td>Means to collect data</td><td>PTC report to SMO/SG and PRCC; Secretariat Report to AASPG.</td></tr>
</table>

Review of progress made by the 'Safety Management - State Safety Programme Implementation and documentation' Project Team

2.2.12 The Project Team presented the progress made in the implementation of the State Safety Programme (SSP) implementation and documentation project, launched in January 2026. Among the 64 generic SSP documents and tools identified, seven (7) have been completed, twenty-one (21) documents are in progress, eight (8) have not yet been initiated, while 28 remain with Status not reported and await confirmation.

2.2.13 The Meeting noted that the progress has been affected by the limited availability of designated experts and insufficient sharing of existing SSP documentation, resulting in delays and duplication of effort. The Meeting noted the current pace of development of the SSP documentation, encouraged the Project Team to expedite the activities, where feasible, to support the timely completion of the project documents by 31 December 2027. The Meeting requested States to complete a self-assessment of their State Safety Programme (SSP) implementation through the ICAO Online Framework (OLF) by 31 December 2026, in line with GASP Target 3.1. The meeting formulated the following Conclusion:

Draft AASPG/2 Conclusion 2/XX: OLF SSP Self-Assessment, CAP Development and Implementation	
Why:	That, to meet the GASP Target 3.1 related to the implementation of the State Safety Programme (SSP),
What:	a) States develop and implement action plans to address identified gaps through the self-assessment and report progress to the SMO/SG on an annual basis; and b) ICAO Regional Offices, AFCAC and RSOOs, provide technical assistance to States requiring support in completing the self-assessment and developing corrective action plans.

<table>
<tr><td>Who:</td><td colspan="5">States; ICAO Regional Offices, AFCAC and RSOOs</td></tr>
<tr><td>When:</td><td colspan="5">a) reporting Annually as of 31 December 2026
b) In accordance with ICAO Regional Offices, AFCAC and RSOOs working plan</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="6">Implementation follow up</td></tr>
<tr><td>Follow-up required</td><td>Yes ☒
No ☐</td><td>Metrics</td><td>% of States Conducted SSP -SA on the USOAP-CMA OLF
Number of States assisted</td><td>Means to collect data</td><td>USOAP-CMA OLF Regional Office SSP assistances data

AFCAC and RSOOs SSP assistances data</td></tr>
</table>

Review of progress made by the 'Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation (AIG)' Project Team

2.2.14 The Project Team presented the progress achieved and highlighted the completion of the initial phase of the project, which enabled the development of the organizational and governance framework for the Regional Pool of Investigators (RPI), the selection criteria for investigators and the associated training programme. The Project Team also informed the meeting of the preparation for the validation workshop scheduled for October 2026, as the next step towards the formal endorsement by States, the selection of investigators and the operationalization of the Regional Pool of Investigators.

2.2.15 The Meeting noted the progress achieved and emphasized the importance of sharing the relevant documentation with States well in advance of the workshop on the establishment of regional pool of investigators to allow sufficient time for their review and the provision of comments, as necessary.

Review of progress made by the 'Monitoring of SMO/SG-related conclusions and Decisions' Project Team

2.2.16 The Project Team reported progress in developing the project strategy and work plan, reviewing the results of the survey on the implementation of ICAO regional body conclusions and decisions, and establishing a database. They also reported progress in analyzing the conclusions and decisions from the first meeting of the RASG-AFI and SMO/SG's ones to assess their relevance and effectiveness.

2.2.17 A review of the 197 conclusions and decisions on record indicates that 100 items (41 conclusions and 59 decisions) have been completed and are therefore proposed for closure and archiving. The remaining 97 items (25 conclusions and 72 decisions) are being examined to assess their status, determine whether updates or revisions are required, and define the most appropriate follow-up actions. Given the cross-cutting nature of many of these items, input from the relevant SMO/SG Project Teams and other AASPG contributory bodies will be required to support the review process, facilitate informed decision-making, and determine the appropriate course of action for each conclusion and decision.

2.2.18 A monitoring framework and tracking dashboard is in progress and will be presented at the next AAO, IIM and SMO Sub-groups Bureau Coordination Meeting, where decisions and conclusions requiring input from other project teams will be discussed.

2.2.19 As part of the coordination between the AASPG's contributory bodies, the Secretariat has been tasked with facilitating the review by the AAO, IIM and SMO Sub-Groups of cross-cutting conclusions, decisions and other relevant matters.

2.2.20 The Meeting noted the progress achieved and emphasized the need for enhanced coordination among AASPG Sub-Groups in reviewing cross-cutting issues. It further encouraged the long-term development of a web-based monitoring tool to improve collaboration and reporting on the implementation status of conclusions and decisions. Status of implementation of the conclusions and decisions of the previous meetings of the SMO/SG, as well as those of the AASPG/1 meeting applicable to the Sub-Group, is presented in Appendix 4 to this working paper. The meeting formulated the following decision:

Draft AASPG/2 Decision 2/XX: Improved Monitoring of SMO/SG-related Conclusions and Decisions					
Why:	That, to strengthen the monitoring and implementation of conclusions and decisions of AASPG and its contributory bodies.				
What:	The Secretariat facilitates coordination between the Sub-Groups of AASPG (AAO, IIM and SMO Sub-Groups) for the review of cross-cutting conclusions and decisions and other relevant matters.				
Who:	Secretariat; AAO/SG; IIM/SG; SMO/SG				
When:	30 March 2027				
Implementation follow up					
Follow-up required	Yes ☒ No ☐	Metrics	% of cross-cutting conclusions and decisions jointly reviewed.	Means to collect data	Report to AASPG

2.2.21 Following the presentations on the progress achieved by each Project Team, including the challenges encountered, the Meeting expressed its appreciation for the progress made across all project areas. The Meeting further emphasized the importance of close coordination and collaboration among the Project Teams, as well as the active involvement of relevant stakeholders in supporting project implementation, to ensure the successful execution of the projects. Accordingly, the Meeting formulated the following draft conclusion:

Draft AASPG/2 Conclusion 2/XX: Progress registered by SMO/SG Project Teams					
Why:	That, to ensure the completion of the SMO/SG project documents and their implementation,				
What:	ICAO Regional Offices, in collaboration with AFCAC, RSOOs, RAIOs, and other partners, continue to support the finalization of the project documents and pursue resource mobilization efforts to support project implementation.				
Who:	ICAO Regional Offices, AFCAC, RSOOs, RAIOs				
When:	31 December 2028				
Implementation follow up					
Follow-up required	Yes ☒ No ☐	Metrics	Number of project documents developed and approved for implementation Financial and in-kind resources mobilized for project implementation	Means to collect data	Report to AASPG

Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs)

2.2.22 The meeting discussed the existing Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs) which are related to Air Navigation Services (ANS) in the AFI region, providing an overview of the status of unresolved SSCs, progress achieved, key challenges, and ongoing assistance initiatives.

2.2.23 It was highlighted that unresolved SSCs in the region are primarily associated with non-calibration of Navigational Aids and lack of flight validation of instrument flight procedures. Progress in the implementation of corrective action plans and efforts to strengthen ANS oversight capabilities were also reported.

2.2.24 The resolution of the identified SSCs in Zimbabwe including the support being provided by ICAO Regional Offices and regional partners was well noted by the meeting. Attention was drawn to persistent challenges, including limited technical capacity, resource constraints, and weaknesses in regulatory and oversight frameworks.

2.2.25 The Meeting emphasized the need for sustained implementation of corrective action plans, continued regional cooperation, and targeted technical assistance to strengthen ANS safety oversight capabilities and support the timely resolution and prevention of SSCs across the AFI region. The meeting formulated the following draft Decision:

<table>
<tr><td colspan="6">Draft AASPG/2 Decision 2/XX: Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs)</td></tr>
<tr><td>Why:</td><td colspan="5">That, to help in resolving the existing SSCs and in preventing the emergence of new ones,</td></tr>
<tr><td>What:</td><td colspan="5">AASPG Contributory Bodies jointly develop a SSCs prevention and resolution programme/plan to strengthen States’ safety oversight systems, particularly with regard to surveillance activities and resolution of safety concerns.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Who:</td><td colspan="5">Secretariat; AAO/SG; IIM/SG; SMO/SG</td></tr>
<tr><td>When:</td><td colspan="5">30 June 2027</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="6">Implementation follow up</td></tr>
<tr><td>Follow-up required</td><td>Yes ☒
No ☐</td><td>Metrics</td><td>An SSC prevention and resolution programme /plan developed</td><td>Means to collect data</td><td>Report to AASPG</td></tr>
</table>

Activities to be coordinated with the IIM and AAO Sub-Groups

2.2.26 The Meeting noted several areas requiring enhanced coordination among the AASPG Sub-Groups, including the prevention and resolution of Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs), implementation of Safety Data Collection and Processing Systems (SDCPS), revision and alignment of the AFI Regional Aviation Safety Plan (AFI-RASP), and monitoring of cross-cutting AASPG conclusions and decisions.

2.2.27 The meeting emphasized the need for collaboration among the AAO/SG, IIM/SG, and SMO/SG in addressing SSCs, supporting SDCPS implementation, and contributing to the development and maintenance of the AFI-RASP. The Meeting further agreed that the Secretariat should facilitate coordination among the Sub-Groups through formal mechanisms, such as regular consultations, information-sharing arrangements, and clearly defined roles and responsibilities, to ensure effective implementation of joint actions and monitoring of cross-cutting issues.

Implementation Challenges of the Sub-Group

2.2.28 The Meeting noted that variations in States' safety oversight maturity levels, limited sharing of safety oversight and SSP documentation, insufficient information on the implementation of Safety Data Collection and Processing Systems (SDCPS), and the potential duplication of efforts with other regional initiatives continue to affect the timely delivery of project outputs.

2.2.29 The Meeting further noted that coordination challenges among Project Teams, together with the limited availability of some subject matter experts and internet connectivity constraints, have affected the conduct of virtual meetings and the implementation of planned activities.

2.2.30 The Meeting emphasized the importance of conducting State needs assessments, strengthening coordination among regional stakeholders, promoting the sharing of safety oversight and SSP/SMS documentation and tools, and ensuring the active participation of nominated experts. The Meeting encouraged Project Teams and States to enhance communication and coordination mechanisms to support the effective implementation of SMO/SG projects and deliverables.

Proposed Recommendations/Actions to be taken by ICAO HQ

2.2.31 The Secretariat presented a working paper outlining the proposed recommendations and actions emanating from the meeting for consideration by the Air Navigation Commission and the ICAO Council related to Safety Data Collection and Processing Systems (SDCPS), State Safety Programme (SSP) implementation, and the promotion of a positive safety culture, with a view to improving the effectiveness of safety initiatives and enhancing aviation safety performance throughout the AFI region.

2.2.32 The Meeting recognized the need for enhanced implementation support, practical guidance and capacity-building initiatives to assist States in the effective implementation of SDCPS, SSP, and positive safety culture principles. The Meeting therefore agreed on a set of recommendations to be submitted to ICAO Headquarters. The Meeting formulated the following draft Decision:

<table>
<tr><td colspan="6">Draft AASPG/2 Decision 2/XX: Recommendations/actions to be taken by ICAO HQ</td></tr>
<tr><td>Why:</td><td colspan="5">That, to support States in establishing Safety Data Collection and Processing Systems (SDCPS), in accelerating the implementation of State Safety Programmes (SSP), and in enhancing promotion of a positive safety culture</td></tr>
<tr><td>What:</td><td colspan="5">ICAO:
a) Continues to provide implementation support on SDCPS and safety data analysis through training packages, workshops, seminars and e-learning modules;
b) Conducts regional capacity-building activities to strengthen positive safety culture among technical personnel and senior management; and
c) Develops and deploys an enhanced SSP Planning and Monitoring Tool within its Online framework to strengthen States' capabilities for SSP assessment, implementation planning, progress monitoring, and reporting.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Who:</td><td colspan="5">ICAO HQ</td></tr>
<tr><td>When:</td><td colspan="5">a), b) and c): 31 December 2028</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="6">Implementation follow up</td></tr>
<tr><td>Follow-up required</td><td>Yes ☒
No ☐</td><td>Metrics</td><td>Number of regional capacity-building activities conducted</td><td>Means to collect data</td><td>Report to AASPG</td></tr>
</table>

			Enhanced SSP Planning and Monitoring Tool deployed		

Review of the Terms of Reference (TOR) and Future Work Programme of the SMO/SG

2.2.33 The Meeting reviewed the SMO/SG Terms of Reference, provided in Appendix 5 to this report, and endorsed the proposed work programme and meetings plan for 2027, as presented in Appendix 6 to this WP.

Any other business

2.2.34 No additional matter was considered under this agenda item.

Conclusions/Decisions of the Second Meeting of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG2)

2.2.35 The meeting reviewed and adopted the conclusions and decisions discussed under the various agenda items.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

a) note Information provided in this paper;
b) review and adopt, as appropriate, the draft Decisions and Conclusions stemming from the Second Meeting of the SMO/SG;
c) endorse the draft Project Documents on the Strengthening of State Safety Oversight Systems and Safety Data Collection and Processing Systems (SDCPS); and
d) provide guidance as appropriate.