



WORKING PAPER

THIRTEENTH AIR NAVIGATION CONFERENCE

Montréal, Canada, 9 to 19 October 2018

COMMITTEE B

- Agenda Item 6: Organizational safety issues**
6.2: Implementation of safety management
6.2.2: Safety management systems

**THE IMPORTANCE OF CERTIFYING THE SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (SMS)
OF AIR NAVIGATION SERVICE PROVIDERS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

(Presented by the Dominican Republic)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper highlights the importance of certifying the safety management systems (SMS) of air navigation service providers, in the case of the Dominican Republic.

Action: The Conference is invited to agree to the recommendation in paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Air Navigation Directorate (DINA) of the Dominican Civil Aviation Institute (IDAC), the agency in charge of providing air navigation services to the Santo Domingo flight information region, has completed the process of establishing and maintaining a safety management system (SMS) in line with national and international regulations.

1.2 In compliance with the provisions of ICAO Annex 19 — *Safety Management* and Dominican Aviation Regulation 110 (RAD-110, Safety Management System), an organisational structure was created within DINA for purposes of planning and implementing the necessary procedures for achieving the stated objective. This included the appointment of the Chief Executive, the Safety Manager and key personnel to carry out the tasks.

¹ Spanish version provided by the Dominican Republic.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Upon completion of the implementation process, the system was checked to ensure it functioned as per the requirements of both Dominican Aviation Regulation RAD-110 and Annex 19.

2.2 In February 2017, DINA underwent an evaluation by the Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) using the Standard of Excellence for Air Navigation Services (SEANS). Of the thirty-three evaluation sub-categories, nineteen were rated ‘C – *Managed*’, and fourteen ‘D - *Assured*’. The report concluded that DINA has “a well-developed SMS in place, [...] putting the ANSP in good standing under Annex 19 of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)”.

2.3 In late February this year, our SMS was once again audited, this time by the State Safety Management Department (DGESO) of the Planning and Development Directorate (DPD), the body overseeing the State safety programme (SSP) of the Dominican Republic, with the objective of measuring the level of compliance of the DINA SMS with Dominican Aviation Regulation RAD-110. The audit showed that the DINA SMS is in full compliance with our national standards, and as such has been certified under the Dominican SSP, which is a source of pride for DINA and the IDAC.

2.4 The DINA SMS certification process was highly beneficial in that both the certification body and the applying institution shared a great deal of experiences and developed agreements on how to measure the different safety indicators. Substantial assistance was received to improve the DINA SMS in a number of working meetings prior to the final audit.

2.5 Implementation of SMS by our air navigation services provider has led to the introduction of performance indicators and processes that have brought significant improvements in terms of the acceptable levels established.

2.6 The maturity of the DINA data capture systems has turned DINA into the main supplier of safety information for the SSP of the Dominican Republic. This vital information has enabled the SSP to validate the reports of the various service providers and stands as a framework of reference as regards the levels of reporting for the system as a whole.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 The experience of the Air Navigation Directorate of the IDAC with the SMS certification process has been very useful for implementing the system, which is already paying off in terms of improved safety performance indicators. For this reason, it would be worthwhile for States to begin the certification process for their air navigation service provider, and we urge the Conference to approve the following recommendation to that effect.

The Conference is invited to:

urge States to certify the SMS of their air navigation service providers so as to consolidate their safety management processes and obtain valuable information from nearly all civil aviation systems.

— END —