



Air Accident Investigation UAE lead working group in regional accident investigation cooperation

Nov 2024



Introduction to RAIO

- A regional organization enabling States to meet **accident investigation obligations** established through agreement between member States
- Operates independently from civil aviation authorities
- Reports to high-level government authorities to insure the independence of the investigations



Key Objectives of RAIO

- 1. Pool Resources:** - Share human and financial resources - Eliminate duplication of efforts - Achieve economies of scale
- 2. Enhance Investigation Capabilities:** - Provide standardized training - Develop common regulations and procedures - Enable investigators to gain experience quickly
- 3. Ensure Independence:** - Maintain objectivity and impartiality - Separate from regulatory authorities - Free from political interference



Core Functions

1) Regulatory Framework:

- Develop common investigation regulations - Create standardized procedures - Ensure Annex 13 compliance

2) Technical Support:

- Conduct investigations when delegated - Provide trained investigators - Assist member States with investigations

3) Training & Development:

- Train investigators - Develop guidance materials - Share best practices



Organizational Structure

- Chairman:
Overall management and administration
- Board:
Advisory body with representatives from member States
- Head/Chief Investigator:
Oversees investigations
- Training & Administrative Coordinator:
Manages training programs
- Investigation Teams:
Accident investigators for deployment



Benefits of RAIO

- Cost-effective investigation capabilities
- Standardized regional approach
- Enhanced regional cooperation
- Improved investigation quality
- Better accident prevention
- Stronger regional aviation safety



Outcome of the Working Group 23 Survey Results on Regional Cooperation analysis

- 114 ICAO Member States responded
- Current State of Investigation Bodies:
 - * **79 States:** Independent investigation bodies
 - * **27 States:** Within Civil Aviation Authority
 - * **87 States:** Engaged in bilateral/multilateral cooperation
 - * **78 States:** Authorized to delegate investigations



Key Challenges in Regional Cooperation

1. Primary Concerns: (4 main area)
 - Enhancing regional cooperation (55 States)
 - Technical training for investigators (28 States)
 - Financial support issues
 - Resource sharing limitations



Implementation Challenges:

- Equipment and tool sharing
- Database access and management
- Standardization of procedures
- Cost distribution among members



Future Manual Development

1. Need for Updated Guidance: - 85 States (74.6%) support new guidance material - Plans to replace Doc 9946 with new comprehensive document
2. Preferred Approach: - 46.5% favor updating existing Doc 9946 - 24.6% support developing new ICAO document - Focus on various investigation cooperation mechanisms (ICM) beyond RAIO
3. New Document Will Cover: - Ad-hoc agreements - Regional multilateral agreements - Formal RAIO structures - Various cooperation models - Best practices from existing regional mechanisms



Existing Regional Cooperation Models

1. Established RAIOs:

- Interstate Aviation Committee (IAC): 12 States
- Banjul Accord Group (BAGAIA): 7 States

2. Other Investigation Cooperation Mechanisms:

- South American ARCM (13 States)
- ENCASIA (27 European States)
- GRIAA (6 Central American States)
- MENA ARCM (16 States)



Future Implementation Support

1. Resource Sharing:

- Investigator/expert secondment programs
- Equipment and tool-sharing protocols
- Joint training initiatives
- Shared database access

2. Cost Management:

- Investigation expense allocation
- Training cost distribution
- Equipment sharing arrangements



New Manual Development

1. Current Status:

- Doc 9946 "Manual on Regional Accident and Incident Investigation Organization" to be reviewed and replaced
- New document number and title to be assigned
- Current Doc 9946 will become obsolete

2. Scope Expansion:

- Will cover a broader range of cooperation mechanisms
- Include guidance beyond the RAIO framework
- Address various regional investigation cooperation models
- Incorporate survey findings from 114 States



Time line

3. Timeline:

- **Target completion: Before AIGP/10 meeting (MAY 2026)**
- **Will require ICAO internal approval process**
- **WG-23 to complete draft guidance material**



Questions?