



3rd ICAO/EASA Global RSOO/RAIO Forum Georgetown, Guyana, 29–30 September 2026

OUTCOMES

Context

- Regional cooperation through Regional Safety Oversight Organizations (RSOOs) and Regional Accident and Incident Investigation Organizations (RAIOs) has been progressively strengthened through ICAO initiatives, joint ICAO/EASA events and secondments of EASA experts to the ICAO Secretariat;
- The 2017 ICAO/EASA Forum on RSOOs for Global Aviation Safety in Ezulwini, Eswatini, contributed to the establishment of the RSOO Cooperative Platform in 2017 and initiating the idea of establishing an assessment system for RSOOs. Following the COVID-19 High-level Conference (HLCC2021), and the 41st Session of the ICAO Assembly in 2022 which reaffirmed the importance of RSOOs, and regional cooperation, ICAO and EASA jointly organized the 2nd Forum on RSOOs for Global Aviation Safety in Nairobi in October 2023. The latter highlighted the need for an ICAO framework that better recognises RSOOs and the importance of industry partnerships;
- ICAO Assembly Resolution A42-10 subsequently confirmed the RSOO and RAIO Assessment Programme (RRAP), with the objective of strengthening, assessing and supporting RSOOs and RAIOs, while leveraging synergies with USOAP;
- The 3rd Global RSOO/RAIO Forum brought together States, RSOOs, RAIOs, ICAO, industry and international partners. The opening ceremony was very high level, with the featured speech by Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, in the presence of the First Lady, Mrs. Arya Devi Ali, Mr. Mark Phillips, Prime Minister, several ministers and the speaker of parliament; and
- The opening ceremony also included a statement by ICAO Secretary General, Juan Carlos Salazar and ICAO Director of Air Navigation Bureau, Michele Markle.





EASA/ICAO/RSOOs contribution

- The Organization and delivery of the Forum was a joined effort between ICAO, EASA and Guyana Civil Aviation Authority;
- Several RSOOs/RAIOs participated actively to the Forum;
- The Forum discussed the benefits of regional cooperation, on recent developments affecting RSOOs and RAIOs, on the delegation of tasks and functions, on workforce challenges, on legal and funding models, on partnerships with industry, and on the development of common and harmonised frameworks and tools;
- In the area of delegation, ICAO highlighted its current work on developing more guidance to States and regional cooperation mechanisms on the delegation of safety tasks and functions, providing a clearer ICAO framework for regional cooperation while recognizing the continuing responsibility and sovereignty of the States under the Chicago Convention;

Key outcomes of Forum

- The Forum provided an opportunity to take stock of progress since the previous ICAO/EASA events and to exchange practical experience on the role of RSOOs and RAIOs in supporting States. In particular, discussions on delegation, assessment, harmonisation and cooperation with industry are directly relevant to the continued development of regional safety cooperation and to the implementation of the evolving ICAO framework, including RRAP (RSOOs and RAIO Assessment Programme);
- Key outcomes were identified in the following aspects:
 - Clear legal and governance frameworks are key;
 - RSOOs and RAIOs must have steady funding and support in human resources;
 - Advocacy for RSOO is vital – decision makers must understand the relevance and value of RSOOs and RAIOs; and
 - There is support for updated regional cooperation frameworks, concept/approaches.
- As further developments in the RSOOs/RAIOs, the priorities were identified in:
 - **Delegation:** to provide clarity on what and how to delegate, including:
 - Delegation levels, legal frameworks and oversight;
 - Workshops on delegation and regional cooperation;
 - New standardized tasks and functions.

Assurance to Member States: RRAP provides a standardized, repeatable assessment with continuous monitoring approach. The programme is being revised to be a four-year cycle and to include a RRAP Register.

Support and Guidance: update guidance material, particularly:

- ICAO Doc 9734, Part B revision (The Establishment and Management of a Regional Safety Oversight Organization).
- Development of the ICAO RRAP guidance manual.

Actions for States are identified in need to support RSOO/RAIO capabilities to undergo RRAP and implement corrective actions, support and monitor on the long term.