



WORKING PAPER

ASSEMBLY — 42ND SESSION

TECHNICAL COMMISSION

Agenda Item 25: Other issues to be considered by the Technical Commission

**ESTABLISHING ICAO TRAINING AND COMPETENCY FRAMEWORKS FOR
AERODROMES AND GROUND AIDS (AGA) INSPECTORS**

(Presented by Kazakhstan)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this paper is to propose the development of an ICAO framework for establishing training requirements and guidance material for aerodrome and ground aids (AGA) inspectors. Such a framework would help to address inconsistencies in national training practices, strengthen the competency and performance of inspectors, and support global harmonization, transparency, and effective oversight, in line with ICAO's objectives for aviation safety and standardization. This paper invites ICAO to initiate the development of structured training and competency frameworks tailored to the AGA domain, ensuring harmonized and effective oversight across all States.

Action: The Assembly is invited to:

- a) note the information provided in this paper; and
- b) develop ICAO training requirements and guidance material for AGA inspectors.

<i>Strategic Goals:</i>	This working paper relates to <i>Every Flight is Safe and Secure</i> .
<i>Financial implications:</i>	The financial impacts will depend on approved decisions.
<i>References:</i>	Annex 14 — <i>Aerodromes</i> Volume I — <i>Aerodrome Design and Operations</i> Doc 9734, <i>Safety Oversight Manual</i> , Part A – <i>The Establishment and Management of a State Safety Oversight System</i>

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The successful performance of civil aviation inspectors depends greatly on their qualifications, experience, technical knowledge, and professional dedication.

1.2 To ensure effective training and ongoing competency of technical personnel, State civil aviation authorities should establish and implement a robust personnel training system.

1.3 Training requirements for civil aviation inspectors in the operations (OPS) and airworthiness (AIR) domains are more comprehensively detailed in ICAO documentation. However, similar clarity is lacking in the AGA domain.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The establishment of training manuals and structured requirements helps streamline training procedures within civil aviation authorities.

2.2 Although aerodrome inspectors may specialize in specific areas, they should nevertheless possess sufficient knowledge and competence across the full scope of the aerodrome domain. Given the broad nature of AGA responsibilities, an appropriate approach is needed to define specialization, training planning, and recurrent training cycles.

2.3 The AGA domain includes a wide range of technical areas such as aerodrome data, physical characteristics, pavements, electrical systems, visual aids, obstacle limitation surfaces, wildlife hazard management, safety management systems, aerodrome maintenance, and others.

2.4 Within the framework of ICAO's Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP), inspector training in the AGA domain is closely examined. The Protocol Questions (PQs) related to training and on-the-job training (OJT) remain problematic for many States.

2.5 States are required to develop their own internal training systems, which often leads to difficulties related to budgeting, system sustainability, and eventual non-compliance findings during ICAO audits.

2.6 To address the issues outlined above, this paper proposes the development of ICAO training requirements and guidance material for AGA inspectors, with the aim of harmonizing State practices, enhancing inspector competence, and supporting the overall effectiveness of regulatory oversight.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 The effectiveness of aerodrome oversight is directly linked to the competence of AGA inspectors. However, the absence of standardized ICAO training frameworks in this domain continues to result in inconsistencies and oversight challenges across many States.

3.2 Developing ICAO guidance and structured training requirements for AGA inspectors would enhance global harmonization, improve inspector performance, and strengthen States' compliance with oversight obligations under the USOAP framework.