



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

First Meeting of the AASPG Programme Review and Coordination Committee (PRCC/1)

Dakar, Senegal, 11 – 12 September 2025

Agenda Item 2: Implementation of air navigation goals, targets and indicators, including the priorities set in the regional air navigation plan

Outcome of the establishment of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG1) and its first meeting (Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY
This Paper presents a summary of the outcomes of the meeting on the establishment of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG) of the Africa–Indian Ocean Aviation System Planning and implementation Group (AASPG) and the first meeting of the SMO/SG. The meeting on the establishment of the SMO/SG discussed the establishment and operationalization of the SMO/SG, recent developments concerning the GASP and the AFI-RASP, as well as Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs) identified in the region. The meeting further addressed the coordination of activities with the IIIM and AAO Sub-Groups. Volunteer States were designated for membership in the Sub-Group, and a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson were elected from among the representatives of the participating States. The first meeting of the SMO/SG endorsed the six proposed projects and discussed the nomination of Project Team Coordinators (PTCs) and Assistant Coordinators for each of the identified project areas, as well as the future work programme of the SMO/SG. Action by the meeting is at Paragraph 3 of this Paper.
REFERENCES
▪ Report on the establishment of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG). ▪ AASPG Procedural Handbook.
This working document relates to the ICAO Strategic Objective on Safety.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The meeting on the establishment of the SMO/SG of AASPG was held from 24 to 25 April 2025 at the Trademark Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya. The meeting was attended by 50 participants, representing 15 States from the AFI region, 8 regional and international organizations, as well as the ICAO ESAF and WACAF Regional Offices.
- 1.2 Subsequently, the first meeting of the SMO/SG took place virtually from 2 to 4 September 2025. The meeting was very well attended by 182 participants from States and regional organizations. It was chaired by the chairperson of the SMO/SG assisted by the ICAO secretariat from ESAF and WACAF Regional Offices.

2 DISCUSSION

2.1 Meeting on the establishment of the SMO/SG

- 2.1.1 The meeting discussed seven Agenda Items as presented in the Appendix A the report which is available at <https://www.icao.int/ESAF/meetingdocs?fid=7136>.
- 2.1.2 The meeting deliberated on four (4) draft Conclusions/Decisions, and this paper presents draft Conclusions and Decisions that call for the attention of the PRCC and AASPG.

Review of the Terms of Reference, composition, working methods and work programme of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG)

- 2.1.3 The meeting reviewed and endorsed the Terms of Reference, Composition, Working Methods, and Work Programme of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG), with the proposed deletion of item “g” to avoid duplication with item “d” under the section of the TOR on “Tasks of the Sub-Group.” The following draft decision was therefore formulated accordingly:

<i>Draft Decision SMO E/01: Terms of Reference (TOR), Composition, Working Methods and Work Programme of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG).</i>					
Why:	That, to avoid duplication,				
What:	a) The revised Terms of Reference, Composition, Working Methods, and Work Programme of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG) in Appendix 1 is endorsed, with deletion of item “g” under the section of the TOR on “Tasks of the Sub-Group.”				
Who:	Secretariat				
When:	24 April 2025				
Implementation following-up					
Follow-up required	Yes ☒ No ☐	Metrics	Metric Amended TOR	Means to collect data	Mean : Secretariat Report to AASPG/1

Designation of members of the SMO/SG; and elections of chairperson and vice-chairperson of the sub-group

2.1.4 The meeting thereafter, designated volunteers for core membership to the Sub-Group; and elected a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson from representatives of States present, to be responsible for the conduct of the business of the Sub-Group, in accordance with the relevant terms of reference as prescribed in the AASPG Procedural Handbook. The following draft decision was formulated accordingly:

Draft Decision SMO E/02: Designation of members of the SMO/SG; and elections of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Sub-Group.					
Why:	That, to conduct the business of Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG) of the AFI Aviation System Planning and implementation Group (AASPG),				
What:	a) The following States are designated as core members of the SMO/SG: Cameroon, Cote d’Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda, Togo and Zambia. b) Mr. Lawrence Amukono from the Republic of Kenya and Mr. Kone Klédjomoh Ousmane from the Republic of Cote d’Ivoire are elected respectively as Chairperson and Vice-chairperson of the SMO Sub-group.				
Who:	a) ICAO Secretariat; b) States				
When:	24 April 2025				
Implementation following-up					
Follow-up required	Yes ☒ No ☐	Metrics	Metric 1: Membership to the SMO/SG limited to 5 ESAF States; and 5 WACAF States.	Means to collect data	Means:
			Metric 2: Elected officials to serve for a period not exceeding two consecutive meetings of the Sub-Group or		1. ICAO Secretariat to monitor the tenure of office of the elected officials. 2. ICAO Secretariat Report to AASPG

			two consecutive years, whichever comes later.		
--	--	--	---	--	--

Establishment and Operationalization of the SMO sub-group

- 2.1.5 The meeting discussed and agreed on the following areas as proposed by the secretariat for potential development into projects: strengthening of State safety oversight systems; development and implementation of Regional and National Aviation Safety Plans (AFI-RASP and NASPs); establishment of Safety Data Collection and Processing Systems (SDCPS); Safety Management; Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation (AIG); and improved monitoring of SMO/SG-related conclusions and decisions. The meeting also requested that the Secretariat, in coordination with the members of the SMO/SG, undertake a comprehensive review of the proposed areas with a view to developing corresponding project proposals, considering regional needs, priorities, and the availability of resources. The following draft conclusion was therefore formulated:

SMO/SG Conclusion SMO E/03: Establishment and Operationalization of the SMO Sub-Group - Project based approach.					
Why:	That, to support the SMO Sub-Group activities:				
What:	a) States and Organizations to nominate qualified subject matter experts for participation in the Project Teams, ensuring that they meet the specific requirements of the project; and b) States to cooperate by releasing and sponsoring their nominated subject matter experts for participation in the implementation of the SMO/SG projects; and allocating relevant resources as may be considered necessary.				
Who:	a) ICAO Secretariat b) States				
When:	31 July 2025				
Implementation follow-up					
Follow-up required	Yes☒ No ☐	Metrics	Metric: Project Teams established	Monitor the establishment of Project Teams	Secretariat Report to AASPG1

--	--	--	--	--	--

Review of recent developments with the ICAO Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP), AFI Regional Aviation Safety Plan (AFI-RASP), and Significant Safety Concerns in the region

- 2.1.6 The meeting was updated on the review of the GASP by the GASP Study Group (GASP-SG) to align it with evolving global safety trends for the upcoming 2026–2028 Edition. Similarly, the AFI-RASP will be reviewed by the SMO/SG of the AASPG to ensure alignment with the updated GASP, following its approval by the ICAO Council. The following draft decision was formulated:

<i>Draft Conclusion SMO E/04: Updates on the Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP) and the Regional Aviation Safety Plan (AFI-RASP).</i>					
Why:	That, to align the AFI-RASP with the GASP 2026-2028 Edition (after approval by the next ICAO Assembly),				
What:	The Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG) to establish a Project Team to be responsible for reviewing the AFI-RASP 2023-2025 Edition.				
Who:	SMO/SG				
When:	31 July 2025				
Implementation follow-up					
Follow-up required	Yes ☒ No ☐	Metrics	Metric 1: SMO/SG Project Team for the Development/Update and implementation of AFI-RASP and NASPs established.	Means to collect data on the implementation of the conclusion /decision	Mean: Report to AASPG1

Other Safety initiatives

- 2.1.7 IATA presented the global and AFI Region accident investigations over the past five years highlighting key performance trends and persistent challenges in publishing investigation reports within the timelines specified by Annex 13 to the Chicago Convention. Emphasizing the need for timely investigations to enhance industry-wide learning and safety, IATA also addressed concerns over the lack of centralized data on TCAS 7.1 implementation across

the 48 RASG-AFI States, despite ICAO requirement and rising TCAS advisories in the region. Additionally, IATA highlighted progress in the Collaborative Aviation Safety Improvement Programme (CASIP) in Africa, involving 13 partner organizations and three active workstreams focused on operational safety, training and monitoring, and safety issue review. The meeting also made the following recommendations to States:

- Expedite the implementation of RASG-AFI/9 Conclusion 9/09 on Accident Investigation Reports and RASG-AFI/10.
- Effectively implement Conclusion 10/04 on ACAS II (Version 7.1).
- Support the efforts of the Collaborative Aviation Safety Improvement Programme (CASIP) in addressing key safety challenges in the following focus areas: Runway Safety; Aeronautical Information Quality; Communication Shortfalls; Safety Leadership and Safety Culture Development; Loss of Separation (TCAS-related); Ground Damage to Aircraft; Wildlife Hazard Management; Rescue and Firefighting Services; and Operations in environments with Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs).

- 2.1.8 The meeting emphasized the necessity for effective coordination between the sub-groups of the AASPG (IIM, AAO, SMO Sub-Groups). In this respect, the meeting endorsed a list of common areas addressing organizational and operational safety issues such as the timely implementation of ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs); the integration of new entrants into the aviation ecosystem; runway safety; and safety data collection and sharing.

2.2 First meeting of the SMO/SG

- 2.2.1 The meeting discussed five (5) agenda items and deliberated on three (3) draft Conclusions/Decisions. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Laurence Amukuno, the chair of the SMO/SG.

Identification of projects and development of ToRs

- 2.2.2 Participants, primarily nominated by States were assigned to different groups to review and discuss the proposed projects in the following area, including the:
- Development of Terms of Reference (ToR) for each project;
 - Strengthening of States' Safety Oversight Systems;
 - Development and implementation of Regional and National Aviation Safety Plans (AFI-RASP and NASPs);
 - Establishment of Safety Data Collection and Processing Systems (SDCPS);
 - Safety Management - State Safety Programme Implementation and documentation
 - Monitoring of SMO/SG-related conclusions and decisions;
 - Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation (AIG); and
 - Monitoring of SMO/SG-related conclusions and decisions.
- 2.2.3 Each sub-group presented in the plenary outcomes of their discussions, which were subsequently endorsed by the meeting. The amended Project descriptions and ToRs are included in Appendix B of this working paper. The following draft decision was formulated:

Draft SMO/SG1 Decision XX: Review of proposed Projects Descriptions s and Development of the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Project Teams.

Why:	That, to capture broader perspectives of the activities to be undertaken by the project teams for the various projects identified by the SMO/SG, the Project Teams to:				
What:	a) Review the proposed project descriptions and develop the related project documents for further review and endorsement by the AASPG; b) Develop the Terms of Reference of the Project Teams; and c) Coordinate with other projects teams in the development of project documents.				
Who:	c) Subject matter experts nominated by States and Organizations; d) ICAO Secretariat				
When:	4 Sep. 2025				
Implementation follow-up					
Follow-up required	Yes ☒ No ☐	Metrics	Metric: Projects Descriptions and ToRs of Project Teams endorsed by PRCC; and Approved by AASPG	Means to collect data	Reports of the PRCC and AASPG meetings.

Draft SMO/SG1 Decision 01 /03: Review of proposed Projects Descriptions s and Development of the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the Project Teams.

Why:	That, to provide the required support to the States within the ESAF and WACAF Regions, in the relevant priority areas,
------	--

What:	The following proposed projects are endorsed: 1) Strengthening of States Safety Oversight system; 2) development and implementation of AFI -RASP and NASP; 3) Safety data collection and processing system; 4) State Safety Programme Implementation and documentation; 5) Establishment of Regional Pool of Investigators; and 6) Development and Implementation of a mechanism for the Monitoring of SMO/SG-related conclusions and decisions.				
Who:	a) Subject matter experts nominated by States and Organizations and ICAO Secretariat b) PRCC/1 Meeting c) AASPG/1 Meeting				
When:	a) 04 September 2025 b) 12 September 2025 c) 7 November 2025				
Implementation follow-up					
Follow-up required	Yes ☒ No ☐	Metrics	Metric: Projects Descriptions and ToRs of Project Teams endorsed by PRCC; and Approved by AASPG	Means to collect data	Reports of the PRCC and AASPG meetings.

Nominations of Project Team Coordinators (PTC) and Assistant Coordinators for each project area identified

- 2.2.4 The meeting discussed the establishment of the Project Teams, the nomination of Project Team Coordinators and Assistant Project Team Coordinators to conduct the businesses of the Project Teams under the AASPG Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG) for review and adoption. The following draft conclusion was formulated:

Draft SMO/SG1 Conclusion 1 /01: Establishment of the Project Teams, nomination of Project Team Coordinators and Assistant Project Team Coordinators.

Why:	That to establish Project Teams for the SMO Sub-Group identified projects,				
What:	The Secretariat to: c) Expedite the review of the curriculum vitae (CVs) of the list of Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) nominated by States and Organizations for the purpose of selecting suitable candidates, to be responsible for the development of project documents for the proposed projects; and support their implementation; and d) Facilitate the nomination of the Project Team Coordinators (PTC) and Assistance Coordinators (APTCs).				
Who:	a) ICAO Secretariat b) States				
When:	14 Oct 2025				
Implementation follow-up					
Follow-up required	Yes ☒ No ☐	Metrics	Metric: Project Teams established; and PTCs and APTCs nominated.	Monitor the establishment of Project Teams	Secretariat Report to AASPG1

Future Work programme of SMO/SG

- 2.2.5 The meeting discussed and endorsed the proposed future work programme of the SMO/SG, as outlined in Appendix A to this working paper. The programme includes key activities such as the finalization and submission of the project description to the PRCC, development of project documents, coordination with project teams as well as the AOO and IIM Sub-Groups, organization of the AFI-RASP validation workshop, and preparatory work for the upcoming SMO/SG/2 meeting scheduled for mid-2026.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to:
- Take note of the information provided in this paper; and
 - Consider the Draft Decisions and Conclusions stemming from the SMO/SG meetings.