



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION OF THE AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN REGION (AFI-DGCA/11)

Cairo, Egypt, from 27 July 2026

Agenda Item 2: Global and Regional Perspectives

ICAO/EASA Third Global RSOO/RAIO Forum for Aviation Safety - Optimizing Resources through Coordination and Cooperation

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY	
This paper provides information on the upcoming ICAO/EASA Third Global RSOO/RAIO Forum for Aviation Safety that will be held in Georgetown, Guyana on 29-30 September 2026. The Forum will provide an opportunity for States, regional organizations, and industry stakeholders to exchange experiences and discuss practical approaches to strengthening regional safety oversight and accident and incident investigation organizations. Participation from Directors General, Regional Safety Oversight Organization (RSOOs), Regional Accident and Incident Investigation Organizations (RAIOs), technical experts, and industry is encouraged to support effective dialogue and sustainable regional outcomes aligned with ICAO Assembly objectives.	
REFERENCE(s)	• ICAO Assembly Resolution A42-10 • ICAO/EASA Third Global RSOO/RAIO Forum website: ICAO/EASA Third Global RSOO/RAIO Forum for Aviation Safety
Strategic Goals	A. <i>Every Flight is Safe and Secure</i> B. <i>No Country Left Behind</i>

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Regional cooperation has long been recognized by ICAO as an effective mechanism for supporting States in meeting their safety oversight and accident and incident investigation obligations. Regional Safety Oversight Organization (RSOOs), Regional Accident and Incident Investigation Organizations (RAIOs) offer practical solutions to challenges related to limited resources, technical capacity, and sustainability.

1.2 ICAO continues to strengthen and support regional safety oversight and accident and incident investigation mechanisms. This is primarily achieved through the ICAO Regional Cooperation Framework which includes cooperation and targeted strategic support, the RSOOs and RAIOS Assessment Programme (RRAP) and monitoring, as well as harmonized guidance and tools. These efforts are aligned with ICAO Assembly Resolution A42-10, which encourages States to make use of regional and sub-regional safety oversight and investigation mechanisms. RSOOs and RAIOS support dialogue, cooperation and collaboration at the policy and technical levels and encourage practical solutions to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of regional mechanisms.

1.3 The ICAO/EASA Third Global RSOO/RAIO Forum for Aviation Safety builds on previous events and ongoing initiatives, providing an opportunity for policy level dialogue, experience sharing, and strategic alignment among States, regional organizations, and partners.

2. FORUM OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

2.1 The Forum programme will include panel discussions and interactive sessions involving senior decision-makers, technical experts, industry representatives, and partners, providing a high-level platform for the exchange of experiences, consideration of emerging challenges, and identification of strategic priorities, while underscoring the vital role of regional cooperation in strengthening safety oversight and accident investigation. The Forum will also provide an opportunity for ICAO to showcase recent key developments, including revisions to the *Safety Oversight Manual*, Part B – *The Establishment and Management of a Regional Safety Oversight Organization* (Doc 9734B) and the evolution of the RSOO and RAIO Assessment Programme (RRAP).

2.2 The Forum aims to:

- a) strengthen regional cooperation as a strategic enabler of safety oversight and investigation;
- b) share best practices and advance harmonization of regulations, tools, and procedures across regions;
- c) establish and promote standardized frameworks for the delegation of functions to RSOOs and RAIOS, supporting States through measurable and practical approaches; and
- d) promote practical solutions for institutional, legal, and funding challenges; highlight the role of RSOOs and RAIOS within the ICAO framework, including through the RSOO/RAIO Assessment Programme (RRAP).

2.3 Expected outcomes of the Forum include:

- a) clear policy-level messages on the sustainability and strengthening of RSOOs and RAIOS;
- b) identification of actionable steps to support States in delegating functions effectively;
- c) reinforced partnerships among States, regional mechanisms, industry, and international organizations; and

- d) region-specific follow-up actions, including ministerial and Director General-level commitments, particularly in the Caribbean.

3. RELEVANCE TO STAKEHOLDERS

3.1. For Directors General, the Forum offers an opportunity to engage in strategic dialogue on the governance, sustainability, and future direction of regional safety oversight and investigation mechanisms. Discussions will support informed decision making at the national and regional levels.

3.2. Active participation from technical experts, RSOOs, RAIOS, and industry stakeholders is essential to ensure that deliberations are informed by operational experience and that outcomes support effective implementation and follow-up.

4. RELEVANCE TO AFI REGION

4.1. For the AFI region, the Forum is of particular relevance, as it directly supports ongoing efforts to strengthen regional safety oversight and accident investigation arrangements in the region, and will provide opportunities to coordinate and share experiences with ICAO Regions and enables engagement in global initiatives.

- 4.2. Participation by AFI States, RSOOs, RAIOS, industry and partners will:
- a) ensure AFI regional perspectives are reflected in global discussions;
 - b) promote alignment between regional priorities and ICAO global initiatives;
 - c) identify opportunities for coordination and support; and
 - d) strengthen cooperation among States, regional mechanisms and industry, enhancing regional safety oversight and accident and incident investigation capabilities.

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