



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Second Meeting of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG2) of the AASPG

Dakar, Senegal, from 29 June to 3 July 2026

Agenda Item 3: Achievements of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group.

3.5. Review of Progress registered by the ‘Establishment of Regional Pool of Investigators’ Project Team

(Presented by the Project Team Coordinator)

SUMMARY	
This working paper presents the progress registered by the “Establishment of Regional Pool of Investigators” Project Team since its establishment under the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG) of AASPG. Action by the Meeting is contained in Paragraph 3.	
References:	• AASPG Procedural Handbook; • AASPG/1 and SMO/SG 1 Meeting Reports; • Annex 13, Doc 9756 and Doc 10206
Strategic Goals:	A. Every flight is safe and secure

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The “establishment of the Regional Pool of Investigators” aims to support States with limited capacity, particularly those experiencing shortages of qualified personnel, in the conduct of effective and independent safety investigations, in accordance with Annex 13 to the Chicago Convention, and in the timely issuance of final investigation reports.
- 1.2 By promoting collaboration, standardization and resource optimization, this initiative contributes to consistent investigation quality and improved overall aviation safety performance across the AFI region.
- 1.3 The project’s key activities include the development of the organizational and governance framework for the Regional Pool of Investigators (RPI), the development of selection

criteria for the pool of investigators, the organization of a workshop to validate the framework, coordination with States to facilitate their commitment to the RPI, the selection of investigators for the pool, and the conduct of a workshop to familiarize States with the functioning of the pool and their responsibilities.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Progress Report

- a) The project has progressed through the completion of its initial activities. The project team was established with the nomination of 17 subject matter experts from participating States and partner organizations.
- b) A virtual kick-off meeting was held in March 2026, during which the project coordination team was designated.
- c) A series of virtual meetings of the project team, conducted with the support of the Secretariat, enabled the development of the selection criteria for investigators and the associated training programme, as well as the organizational and governance framework for the Regional Pool of Investigators.

The Regional Pool Investigator is designed as a component of an AIG regional cooperation mechanism.

2.2 Pending Activities

- a) A workshop for the validation of the framework is under preparation and is scheduled from 19 to 23 October 2026 in Dakar (Senegal).
- b) Activities related to the commitment of States to the Regional Pool of Investigators, the designation by States and the selection of investigators, as well as the workshop to familiarize States with the functioning of the pool and the operationalization of the pool, have not yet been initiated.
- c) The status of each project activity is presented in the project work plan provided in Appendix 1.

2.3 Challenges

- a) The project team has encountered challenges related to the limited participation of some members and internet connectivity issues, which affected the organization of virtual meetings and the continuity of exchanges.

2.4 Recommendations

- a) Regional Offices should encourage nominated State experts to actively engage in project activities and ensure their regular participation in Project Team meetings.

3 ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the information provided in this working paper; and
- b) Consider the recommendations provided in para 2.4

-- End --

Appendix 1: Establishment of Regional Pool of Investigators Project Work Plan

Ref.	Description	Delivery date	Comments	Status	Observation
1	Composition of the project team				
1.1	Selection of project team experts	31/12/2025	Coordinate with States and Organizations for the nomination of subject matter experts possessing the required qualifications and experience to compose the project team Output: List of nominated and confirmed project team experts.	Completed	The project teams in charge of the implementation of the project activities are composed of 17 subject matter experts from States including Botswana, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, and Zimbabwe, as well as representatives from Boeing, the UEMOA Regional Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Unit (URSAC), and the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC).
1.2	Project launching virtual meeting	21/01/2026	Organize an initial virtual meeting to nominate Project Team Coordinator and Assistant Coordinator; and identify Project Team Members nominated by States for vetting. Output: Minutes of meeting; record of appointed Project Team Coordinator, Assistant project coordinator, and Members.	Completed	The first kick-off meeting was held virtually on 13 March 2026. The meeting nominated Mr Henry Nwanyanwu as Project Team Coordinator, and Mr Mathias Ombasa and Mr Mamadou Gningue as Vice Project Team Coordinators. Ms Anne Marie Ekra was nominated as Rapporteur.
2	Establishment of a Regional Pool of Investigators				
2.1	Definition of selection criteria for investigators (minimum qualifications, professional experience, areas of expertise)	2026	Criteria to ensure expertise and competence of investigators. Output: Documented containing agreed investigator selection criteria.	Completed	Selection criteria for investigators in the pool and a training programme have been developed
2.2	Definition of stakeholders' roles and responsibilities, management rules, and development of pool operations manual	Q3 2026	Establishment of pool structure, operational modalities and adherence criteria by State. Output: Draft Regional Pool Operations Manual (roles, responsibilities, rules).	Completed	An organizational framework for the Regional Pool of Investigators (RPI), component of the AIG Regional Cooperation Mechanism, has been developed. It includes the functions of the RPI, the rights and obligations of stakeholders, the code of conduct, financial principles, and the quality assurance and review process.

Ref.	Description	Delivery date	Comments	Status	Observation
2.2.1	Workshop for the validation of management framework	Q3 2026	Conduct workshop to validate the management framework.	In preparation	Workshop scheduled from 19 to 23 October 2026 in Dakar (Senegal).
			Organize and conduct interactive sessions to present the proposed management framework of the pool		
			Output: Workshop report including list of participants and validated management framework.		
2.2.2	Approval/Signature by State of the management framework of the regional pool of investigators	Q3 2026	Coordination with States for approval and the implementation of the management framework	Not started	
			Output: Signed copy of framework Document		
2.3	Coordination with States for designation of investigators	Q4 2026	Coordination with States for investigators nominations based on established criteria.	Not started	
			Output: List of designated investigators from States.		
2.4	Selection of investigators for the pool	Q4 2026	Review and finalize selection of nominated investigators.	Not started	
			Output: Roster of the regional pool investigators		
2.5	Induction of selected investigators with operations manual	Q4 2026	Deliver targeted training sessions for pool investigators to ensure harmonized skills.	Not started	
			Output: Training report and list of investigators familiarized with operation manual.		
2.6	Workshop to familiarize States with the functioning of the Regional Pool of Investigators and their responsibilities	Q1 2027	Organize and conduct interactive sessions to explain pool operations, roles of stakeholders, procedures for requesting investigator support, and present the mapping of investigators of the regional pool of investigator	Not started	
			Output: Workshop report		
			List of participants		