



ACIP-SC/2008/2-DP/01
08/09/08
English and French only

AFI COMPREHENSIVE IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME (ACIP)
SECOND ACIP STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Montreal, 20 to 21 October 2008

Agenda Item 1: Progress Report (2 January to 30 September 2008)

AI 1.1: ACIP Participation and Contribution in Conferences and Meetings in the AFI Region

(Presented by the Secretary)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper presents the ACIP's participation in aviation-safety-related conferences and meetings in the AFI Region and contributions made as well as outputs achieved through participation in such conferences and meetings.

Participation in the various conferences and meetings offered ICAO the opportunity to effectively introduce the objectives of the AFI Implementation Plan and the work programme of ACIP. The meetings offered the opportunity to identify new partners and solidify relationships with existing ones.

Action: The Steering Committee is invited to:

- a) take note of the recommendation of the First Joint Annual Meeting of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and the Economic Commission of Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development;
- b) call on the ICAO Council and/or the African Representatives on the Council to encourage their Ministers of Transport and Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development to convene a joint meeting to address the challenges of air transport safety and services in the 21st Century; and
- c) continue to support the participation of ICAO/ACIP in Africa-wide conferences and meetings promoting the overall objectives of the AFI Implementation Plan and the work programme of ACIP.

1. ACIP PARTICIPATION AND CONTRIBUTION IN CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS IN THE AFI REGION

- 1.1 *First Joint Annual Meeting of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and the Economic Commission of Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development:*

1.1.1 The above meeting was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in two parts. The meeting of Experts of the Joint Annual meeting was held from 26 to 30 March 2008, followed by the meeting of the concerned Ministers from 31 March to 2 April 2008. Both meetings were attended by a large number of participants including 50 African States, 7 Regional Economic Communities, 28 United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, 11 observers from United Nations member States, and observers from 30 other Organizations. The “Theme” of the meeting was “*Meeting Africa’s New Challenges in the 21st Century*” which included four major challenges: Growth and Employment; Climate Change; Emerging Social Issues; and, Accelerating and Sustaining Progress in Good Governance and Building of Capable States were thoroughly discussed, recommendations forwarded and implementation action under each item prioritized.

1.1.2 Although air transport was not included in the main theme of the Conference, C/ACIP was allowed to highlight air transport as the only viable and surest mode of communication in today’s Africa and that investing in aviation safety is one of the major challenges the continent is facing in this century. The presentation clarified the difference between investing on aviation infrastructure and aviation safety and highlighted the impact of the lack of appropriate and adequate safety oversight over the economic and social development of the continent.

1.1.3 As a result, the Committee of Experts recommended to the Meeting of the Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development that enhancing air transport safety and services be included in the proposed Strategic Framework articulating the Commission’s (ECA) priorities for the biennium 2010-2011. The Committee of Experts highlighted that “transport remained a major challenge to Africa’s development and that, in particular, air transport services and safety within the continent need urgent improvement, underscoring the need to address aviation safety and to involve not only Ministers responsible for Transport, but also those of Finance and Economic Planning.” Two specific recommendations relating to air transport safety and services; stating that: “*ECA should assist African Countries in improving their transport systems, including air transport services and safety,*” and that “*African Ministers responsible for Transport, those of Finance and Economic Planning should also be involved in transport development in the continent*” were presented to the Ministers and were adopted by the Joint meeting of Ministers. This recommendation provides a good opportunity for Ministers of Transport to promote the need of the civil aviation sector with their fellow Ministers who control the purse and are also responsible for national planning and economic development. To this end, ICAO or African States on the Council should advocate the holding of a meeting between the African Ministers of Transport and their counterparts in Finance, Planning and Economic Development to meet the challenges of Africa in air transport safety and services in the 21st century.

1.2 *First Conference of the African Union Ministers of Transport:*

1.2.1 The above meeting was held in Algiers, Algeria in two parts. The meeting of Experts was held from 21 to 23 April 2008, followed by the meeting of the Ministers from 24 to 25 April 2008. Both meetings were attended by a large number of participants including 34 African States, 5 Regional Economic Communities, 18 United Nations bodies and specialized agencies. The “Theme” of the meeting was “*Transport: Force for Sustainable Integration and Development in Africa.*” Under this theme the Conference aimed at defining and adopting a common African position in transport to face the present challenges in the sector. The meeting further discussed issues related to the enhancement of infrastructure in Africa as well as brainstormed on the different transport activities underway.

1.2.2 The ACIP Steering Committee Chairperson, Dr. Bernard Aliu made a brief presentation to the meeting of Experts on the overall objectives of the AFI Implementation Plan. This was followed by a detailed presentation by C/ACIP on its work programme. While these two presentations were made to the meeting of Experts, the Secretary General made a keynote speech that, inter alia, addressed the AFI

Implementation Plan during the opening of the meeting of Ministers. Presentations made by ICAO highlighted the establishment of ACIP, the objectives of the AFI Implementation Plan and the need for commitment by States in the AFI Region and all stakeholders. The presentations, which included information on the recommendation made by the *First Joint Annual Meeting of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance and the Economic Commission of Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development* were well received both by the meeting of Experts and Ministers who reaffirmed support for the ACIP and recommended that the ACIP be supported by the Ministers and its work programme be incorporated in the Plan of Action of the African Union and AFCAC work programme.

1.3 *First COSCAP SADC Steering Committee Meeting:*

1.3.1 The above meeting was held in Lusaka, Zambia on 29 May 2008, in conjunction with the 10th Meeting of the Civil Aviation Committee (CAC) of the South African Development Community (SADC) held on 30 May and 1 June 2008. The COSCAP-SADC Steering Committee Meeting was the first to be held and was recognized as the COSCAP-SADC launching meeting. The meeting was attended by 11 of the 14 member States of SADC.

1.3.2 C/ACIP addressed the meeting by providing information on the objectives and activities of ACIP and on the need for the SADC member States to join forces to establish a common safety oversight system in order to overcome the problems faced by many of the States present in meeting their international obligations with respect to the implementation of an effective and sustainable safety oversight system. The presentation was received as highly enriching and informative. C/ACIP highlighted the view that problems associated with lack of implementation in Africa can only be solved should States agree to pull resources to address their common problem – lack of effective safety oversight system. It was noted that very few States in the SADC Region were capable of establishing and managing an effective and sustainable national safety oversight systems thus the advocacy for a regional and sub-regional cooperation to enable States in the region to meet their international obligations.

1.4 *Meeting on the reinforcement of COSCAPS based in the African Region:*

1.4.1 The above meeting was held in Tunis, Tunisia from 18 to 19 June 2008. The objective of the meeting, attended by participants from the three COSCAPs (UEMOA, CEMAC and BAG) all located in the Central and Western African Region, Representatives from the Economic Community of Western African States (ECOWAS), African Development Bank, the World Bank, the French Government, the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), the Boeing Aircraft Company on behalf of the Industry Safety Strategy Group (ISSG), and ICAO (TCB and ACIP), was to discuss the current status of the three COSCAPs with the aim of enhancing their effectiveness.

1.4.2 The meeting was informed on the activities of ACIP and in particular on its cooperation with the COSCAPs in Africa specifically in relation to the holding of Global Aviation Safety Roadmap (GASR) seminar/workshops and the conduct of detailed gap-analysis in each member State of a COSCAP following the holding of a GASR workshop.

1.4.3 Taking the opportunity of being in the premises of the African Development Bank, Mr. Abdullah Fadil, Chief/FAF, Technical Cooperation Bureau and C/ACIP met with Mr. Ali Kies, Transport Division Manager, African Development Bank on Friday 20 June 2008. The objective of the meeting was to brief Mr. Kies on the activities of ACIP and that of TCB in Africa. This was doubly important because ADB has been selected as a member of the ACIP Steering Committee although it had not confirmed acceptance nor participated in the most recent meetings and conferences relating to enhancement of aviation safety in Africa. On the first point – membership of ADB in the ACIP Steering Committee, Mr. Kies confirmed that the management has now accepted to be an active member of the

ACIP Steering Committee and that a letter to this effect has been forwarded to the Secretary General. He also confirmed that he will personally participate in the second meeting of the Steering Committee.

1.4.4 A brief introduction of the AFI Plan and the circumstances that led towards the establishment of ACIP were presented and the need to avoid duplication of efforts in the attempt to rectify aviation safety related activities by a number of players was presented. This resulted in discussion that highlighted the role of ICAO and the Bank and the importance of working closely in the effort to alleviate safety-related problems.

1.5 *Meetings with Burkina Faso and COSCAP UEMOA Authorities on the implementation of ACIP Programmes*

1.5.1 The meetings were held on 28 and 29 July 2008 and focussed on cooperation between ACIP and the COSCAP on issues of mutual interest and on means to assist UEMOA member States to enhance their capability for safety oversight. Further, a meeting was held with the Director of Transport and Aeronautical Regulations in the Directorate General of Civil Aviation of Burkina Faso and with the Secretary General (Chevalier de l'Ordre National) of the Ministry of Transport. As a result, an agreement was reached to hold a GASR seminar/workshop in French in Ouagadougou in November 2008 and a SSP/SMS seminar/workshop in February 2009. To this end, the GASR document and workshop materials have been translated into French and the SSP/SMS seminar/workshop material are also being translated into French and are expected to be ready before the end of this year.

1.6 *18th ACI-Africa Annual Assembly, Regional Conference and Exhibition*

1.6.1 The ACI-Africa Annual Assembly, Regional Conference and Exhibition were held in Accra, Ghana from 28 July to 1 August 2008. C/ACIP participated in the Regional Conference (31 July-1 August) and moderated a Panel consisting of members from IATA, AFRAA, Boeing Aircraft Company, and COSCAP-UEMOA, on regional coordination. The Panel topic offered an opportunity for C/ACIP to explain the objectives of the AFI Implementation Plan and the importance of regional cooperation to enhance aviation safety in Africa.

— END —