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**Subject: ICAO/PAAST ALAR Tool kit Seminar for the CAR/SAM Regions
(Lima, 20 to 24 May 2002)**

Sir:

I have the honour to address you this letter, following my communication LT 17/16.3/SA128 dated 12 February 2002, through which your Administration was invited to participate in the ICAO/PAAST ALAR Tool Kit Seminar, to be celebrated at the Hotel Las Américas, in Lima, Peru, from 20 to 24 May 2002. In this regard, I am pleased to inform you that, due to the importance of the subjects to be presented at this event, the seminar will be extended to the CAR Region; therefore, the attendance of participants from both CAR and SAM Regions is welcome.

As you may be aware, ICAO Assembly, in its Resolution A33-16, reaffirmed that the primary objective of the Organization continues being to improve the safety of international civil aviation worldwide and, considering that the expected increase in the volume of international civil aviation operations will result in an increasing number of aircraft accidents unless the accident rate is reduced, urged States to adopt the objectives of the ICAO Global Air Safety Plan (GASP), with the aim to reduce the worldwide accident rate.

The GASP has as main objectives the reduction in the number of accidents and deaths independently of the air transit volume and the achievement of a considerable reduction of the accident rate worldwide, making particular emphasis in those Regions where such rate is still high. To achieve these objectives, the programme focus on the activities related to security which offer the best advantages in relation to safety, trying to focus on three basic aspects:

- a) Review of the causal factors of accidents in order to identify concrete aviation safety issues, giving special attention to the reasons that explain the variation in the regional accident rates;
- b) Keep updated the activities carried out by the existent groups interested in aviation safety, with the aim to identify, with a global perspective, the related subjects, specially those activities referred to the accident number and rate reduction;

- c) Encourage the knowledge on safety oversight worldwide.

The Pan American Aviation Safety Team (PAAST), established in 1998, with the purpose to achieve a high participation in aviation safety oversight programmes of personnel from States and territories of the Caribbean, Central America, Mexico and South America, includes aviation safety specialists affiliated with the International Air Transport Association (IATA), Asociación Internacional de Transporte Aéreo Latinoamericano (AITAL), International Federation of Airline Pilots' Associations, International (IFALPA), International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers Associations (IFATCA) and ICAO, as well as airlines, manufacturers and regulators.

As mentioned before, the encouragement of the worldwide knowledge on aviation safety issues and the update of activities of existent groups interested in aviation safety, two of the basic aspects on which ICAO GASP focus. Within these groups, the PAAST develops activities of great importance for the achievement of the GASP objectives, specially regarding accident prevention. For this reason, the PAAST has recently launched the first regional awareness campaign based on *ALAR Tool Kit*, with the aim to prevent accidents in the approach-and-landing phases, including those involving controlled flight into terrain (CFIT).

The ICAO/PAAST ALAR Took Kit Seminar for the CAR/SAM Regions will present, among other subjects related to aviation safety, the PAAST development and objectives and will introduce the *ALAR Tool Kit*, with the aim to contribute to the prevention and reduction of aviation accidents; therefore, the attendance of your Administration is highly recommended. Considering the importance of this event, I will very much appreciate your disseminating the information on this seminar among air operators in your State, as well as manufacturers and organizations interested in accident prevention issues.

In this regard, I am pleased to enclose the agenda of the seminar, as well as information paper 01 (IP/01), including general information of interest to participants.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.



José Miguel Ceppi
Regional Director
South American Office
Lima