

**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
SEVENTH MEETING OF THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITIES OF THE SAM
REGION (RAAC/7)**

(Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, July 1-3, 2002)

Agenda Item 8: Other items

Time Span between RAAC Meetings

(Presented by the United States of America)

WORKING PAPER

SUMMARY

This working paper recommends that the Directors General of Civil Aviation of the ICAO SAM Region consider holding the RAAC meetings on a more frequent and consistent basis in an effort to follow-up on prior meeting decisions and implement new concepts that will enhance the overall aviation system.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Prior meetings of the Civil Aviation Authorities of South American were held as follows:

- RAAC/4 – Chile 1994
- RAAC/5 – Peru 1996
- RAAC/6 – Panama 1999

1.2 The RAAC/7 meeting will convene in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, in July 2002.

1.3 These very important meetings occur approximately once every three years. The RAAC meetings provide us with the opportunity to discuss important aviation matters and make decisions that have the potential to enhance the safety, efficiency and security of aviation in South America. Some of these topics included airport services and supervision, regional safety oversight system, CNS/ATM, ATS communications systems, training activities, support of ICAO initiatives, ATS quality assurance and incident investigation programs, English language for controllers and pilots, just to name a few.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 A review of previous meeting reports and action items was conducted and it was found that many of the representatives from States in the ICAO South American Region that participated in prior RAAC meetings have changed. This is mainly a result of the time span between RAAC meetings and the length of service for Directors of Civil Aviation in the region.

The three year lag between meetings can make it difficult to follow-up on many important items affecting the safety, efficiency, and security of civil aviation in the ICAO SAM Region.

2.2 At the RAAC/4 meeting held in Chile in 1994, the Directors General of Civil Aviation of the SAM Region made a decision to hold these important meetings every other year; however, the decision adopted by the meeting was not issued as a numbered decision. The decision was mentioned as a paragraph with other matters and for different reasons, the decision has not been implemented.

2.3 It is recommended that the RAAC 7 meeting revisit the topic of the time span between RAAC meetings and agreed to a reasonable solution to hold these meetings on a more frequent and consistent basis. It is recommended that the meeting consider conducting these meetings once every other year or as appropriate to meet the objectives of civil aviation in the region.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information in this working paper and to agree to hold the RAAC meetings on a more frequent basis in an effort to follow-up on previous meeting decisions and implement new concepts that will improve the overall aviation system in the ICAO SAM Region.