



**Fourteenth Plenary Meeting of the Regional Aviation Safety Group – Pan America
(RASG-PA/14)**

Virtual Phase (Asynchronous, online September 23 to October 23, 2024)
In-Person Phase (Lima, Peru, November 19 and 20, 2024)

Agenda Item 3: Implementation Problems and Possible Solutions

IDENTIFICATION OF THE CAUSES OF THE LOW IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SSP IN THE REGION

(Presented by the Secretariat)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
This Working Paper presents the considerations related to the project for the identification of the causes of the low implementation of the SSP in the Pan American Region.	
Action:	The Meeting is invited to: a) Review the content of this Working Paper; and b) To comment on and approve the Conclusion proposed in 2.4.
<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety
<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Report RASG-PA/13 • Final Report ESC/39

1. Introduction

1.1 Risk management standards (SMS and SSP) were created in 2006 to ensure the proper allocation of resources to mitigate safety risks, based on a simple premise: that service providers identify safety hazards; ensures that corrective measures are implemented; continuously monitor and periodically evaluate safety levels and seek continuous improvement; and that States establish a security programme to achieve an acceptable level of security. In short, ICAO was looking for data-driven risk management and resource allocation.

1.2 ICAO then developed guidance materials, specialized training and training programmes, as well as technical assistance missions that were quickly put at the service of States. Although SMS and SSP are performance-based concepts, the implementation process in the guidance and evaluation material was conceived under the traditional compliance framework. To implement an SSP, States must develop policies, structures, procedures, processes, training programs, audits, create complex databases, and others, in a phased process, fully complying with the content of the checklists.

1.5 It is perceived, however, that regardless of the availability of standards, guidance material, training programmes and assistance available, States are making slow progress in their efforts to implement SSP and in their ability to adequately manage safety risks.

2. RASG-PA Actions

2.1 The RASG-PA, in response to the low level of establishment of the SSP in the Region, approved Conclusion RASG-PA/13 C3/2023 aimed at "coordinating the development of a project aimed at identifying the causes of the low implementation of the SSP in the Pan American Region".

2.2 In addition, during the Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the Executive Steering Committee (RASG-PA ESC/39) the Secretariat proposed to commission an external academic entity to conduct an impartial study to determine the causes behind the low implementation of the SSP. The meeting agreed with the need to identify a different way forward with the establishment of the SSP and mandated the Secretariat to prepare a project document detailing the costs and timelines for conducting the study, as a prerequisite for approval of the use of RASG-PA funds for that purpose. This document is currently in the preparation phase.

2.3 As part of the proposal mentioned in the previous paragraph, the Secretariat suggested the following hypothesis: *"If States are provided with a different approach to develop their capacity to manage aviation safety risks, in a simple, efficient, effective and measurable manner, focusing on data- and risk-based resource allocation, then States will be able to move more quickly towards the implementation of an effective SSP, even if this new approach involves moving away from the current compliance-based concept"*. The same that will have to be validated or rejected by the independent study that is going to be commissioned.

2.4 In light of the content of this Working Paper, the following Conclusion is proposed to the Meeting:

CONCLUSION RASG-PA/14/CXX	APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT CONCEPT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SSP	
<p>That:</p> <p>Once the project aimed at identifying the causes of the low implementation of the SSP in the Pan American Region, referred to in NE03, is concluded, the RASG-PA will share the results with the ANC for its knowledge and subsequent actions.</p> <hr/> <p>How much: No RASG-PA funds required</p>	<p>Expected impact:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Political/Global</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Inter-regional</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Economic</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Environmental</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operational/Technical</p>	
<p>Why: To facilitate the establishment of the SSP, and to prioritize simpler, more efficient, and effective risk management.</p>		
<p>When: Immediately</p>	<p>State: Valid</p>	
<p>Who: Secretariat <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>		

3. Suggested Actions

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) Review the content of this working paper; and
- b) comment on and approve the Conclusion proposed in 2.4 of this Paper.

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