



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

**THIRD MEETING OF THE
ASIA PACIFIC ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION GROUP
(APAC-AIG/3)**

COLOMBO, SRI LANKA, 23 – 24 JUNE 2015

**RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS AND
CONCLUSIONS**

The views expressed in this Report should be taken as those of the
APAC-AIG and not of ICAO.

Adopted by APAC-AIG and
published by the ICAO Asia and Pacific Office

**Third Meeting of the Asia Pacific Accident Investigation Group
(APAC-AIG/3)**

**23 -24 June 2015
Colombo, Sri Lanka**

RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

1. Meeting and Attendance

1.1 The APAC-AIG/3 Meeting was held at Ramada Hotel, Colombo, Sri Lanka from 23 – 24 June 2015.

1.2 The APAC-AIG/3 Meeting was attended by 44 participants from 18 Member States/Administrations i.e. Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, China, Hong Kong China, Macao China, France, Indonesia, India, Japan, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore and Sri Lanka and four International Organization/Industry Partners i.e. Embraer, IATA, IFALPA, ICAO APAC. One representative from Qatar also participated in the meeting at the invitation of the Chairman APAC-AIG.

1.3 The list of participants is in **Attachment A**.

2. Opening Session

2.1 Mr. Parakrama Dissanayake, Senior Director, Sri Lanka Civil Aviation Authority, welcomed the participants to the APAC-AIG/3.

2.2 Mr. Chan Wing Keong, Director, Air Accident Investigation Bureau of Singapore and Chairman APAC-AIG, made the opening remarks.

2.3 Mr. Amal Hewawasam, Officer Flight Safety, International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Asia and Pacific and Mr. Mohamed Shibly Aziz, Chairman, Sri Lanka Civil Aviation Authority, addressed the meeting.

3. Introduction of Participants

3.1 The delegates were requested to introduce themselves.

4. Meeting Arrangements and Adoption of Agenda

4.1 Meeting Arrangements

4.1.1 The Meeting was chaired by Chairman APAC-AIG, Mr. Chan Wing Keong, and Vice-Chairman, Dr. Richard Batt.

4.1.2 Mr. Amal Hewawasam, ICAO APAC Officer Flight Safety acted as Secretary to the Meeting.

4.2 Adoption of Agenda (WP/1) - Secretariat

4.2.1 The following agenda was proposed and adopted.

Agenda Item 1: Review of the decisions by APRAST in respect of the conclusions of APAC-AIG/2

Agenda Item 2: APAC Underwater Database and Code of Conduct

Agenda Item 3: Update on ICAO initiatives

Agenda Item 4: Independent investigation authority

Agenda Item 5: Investigator training

Agenda Item 6: Regional cooperation

Agenda Item 7: Action Plan to improve the accident/incident investigation capability in the APAC region

Agenda Item 8: Other business

5. Agenda Item 1: Review of the decisions by APRAST in respect of the conclusions of APAC-AIG/2

5.1 Status of Conclusions from APAC-AIG/2 (WP/2) – Chairman APAC-AIG

5.1.1 The Meeting noted the status of the Conclusions from the Second Meeting of the APAC-AIG.

5.2 Chairman APAC-AIG's Report on the works of APAC-AIG to the APRAST (IP/2) - Chairman APAC-AIG

5.2.1 This paper summarized Chairman APAC-AIG's report to the Sixth Meeting of the Asia Pacific Regional Aviation Safety Team (APRAST/6) on the progress made on the conclusions and decisions developed by APRAST/4, APRAST/5 and RASG-APAC/4 relating to accident investigation.

5.2.2 The Meeting developed the following conclusion:

Conclusion APAC-AIG 3/1

that, the ICAO APAC Office develop a procedure to send a State Letter, on a half yearly basis, to invite States/Administrations to update the information in the database of the APAC accident/incident investigation bodies.

6. Agenda Item 2: APAC Underwater Database and Code of Conduct

6.1 APAC-AIG database and Code of Conduct status update (WP/3) – Singapore

6.1.1 This paper updated the meeting on the States/Administrations that have submitted their information to the APAC-AIG database, and those that have pledged to the APAC Code of Conduct on accident investigation matters.

6.1.2 States/Administrations are encouraged to consider pledging their support to the Code of Conduct, and to provide their current accident investigation agency's information to ICAO APAC Office if they have not already done so.

6.1.3 The Meeting developed the following conclusion:

Conclusion APAC-AIG 3/2

that, the ICAO APAC Office issue a State Letter informing that the ICAO APAC-Office will be the single point of contact for submitting information related to the APAC-AIG database.

7. Agenda Item 3: Update on ICAO initiatives

7.1 The Secretariat shared with the meeting with an overview of ICAO initiatives, covering Annex 13 amendments, AIG Guidance material, AIG Expert Groups, outcomes of Safety Information Protection Task Force and Group of Experts of Accident and Incident Records, AIG website, e-Library of Final Reports, AIG workshops and AIG future works.

7.2 ICAO upcoming standard for establishing an independent accident investigation authority (WP/4) – Secretariat

7.2.1 The paper presented ICAO's upcoming standard that will require States/Administrations to establish an independent investigation authority that is independent from State aviation authorities and other entities that could interfere with the conduct or objectivity of an investigation. This standard will be applicable from November 2016. The Chairman APAC-AIG mentioned that the APAC-AIG may provide guidance and assist States/Administrations in areas such as mock audits and training.

7.2.2 The Meeting agreed that ICAO should provide more guidance as to how a State/Administration can demonstrate the independence of its accident investigation agency.

7.2.3 The Meeting developed the following conclusions:

Conclusion APAC-AIG 3/3

that, the ICAO APAC Office send a State Letter to re-emphasize the need for States/Administrations to meet ICAO's upcoming standard that will require the establishment of an accident investigation authority that is independent from State aviation authorities and other entities that could interfere with the conduct or objectivity of an investigation.

Conclusion APAC-AIG 3/4

that, the ICAO APAC Office request ICAO HQ to provide more guidance as to how a State/Administration can demonstrate the independence of its accident investigation agency.

7.3 GEPAIR initiatives (WP/5) – Singapore

7.3.1 The Meeting noted the works and progress of the ICAO Group of Experts on Protection of Accident and Incident Records (GEPAIR).

7.4 BEA's view on the protection of accident and incident records and flight recorder recordings (WP/6) – France

7.4.1 The Meeting noted EU's approach and regulations to ensure the protection of the reporter of an incident. The meeting also noted EU's policies in place to deter misuse of safety information, and on the prevention of the sharing of CVR and AIR recordings.

7.5 ICAO High Level Safety Conference - Singapore (IP/3) – Singapore

7.5.1 The Meeting noted the key subjects relating to accident investigation that were discussed at the ICAO Second High-Level Safety Conference.

7.6 Establishing a new independent aviation safety investigation agency in the South Pacific (IP/5) – Papua New Guinea

7.6.1 The paper highlighted the Papua New Guinea's experience and challenges in establishing a new independent accident investigation agency. The meeting noted the agency's reporting structure, staff strength, expansion plans, and the ATSB's assistance in developing the agency's capabilities.

7.6.2 The Meeting developed the following conclusion:

Conclusion APAC-AIG 3/5

that, the ICAO APAC Office disseminate this paper to the APAC States/Administrations as a reference for those that wish to establish an independent accident investigation agency.

8. Agenda Item 5: Investigator training

8.1 Investigation under Challenging Environment: A Chinese Perspective (WP/7) – China

8.1.1 The Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) presented its experience in conducting investigation in challenging terrain and environment, and the types of training and coordination undertaken to better prepare their investigators for such situations.

8.1.2 The Meeting noted the importance of training in challenging environment so as to be able to conduct investigations effectively in such circumstances.

8.2 On-site Accident Investigation Training (WP/8) – Singapore

8.2.1 The Meeting noted the accident investigation workshops that AAIB Singapore conducted for Vietnam, Cambodia and Brunei.

8.3 Flight data recorder training at AAIB Singapore (IP/8) – Sri Lanka

8.3.1 The Meeting noted the benefits of co-operation among aircraft accident investigation authorities in technical assistance and investigator training.

9. Agenda Item 6: Regional cooperation

9.1 Joint Wreckage Mapping Exercise (IP/9) – Macau China, and Participation in Foreign Investigation Exercise (IP/10) – Singapore

9.1.1 The Meeting noted the value of organizing investigation exercises and States/Administrations were encouraged to consider inviting foreign participants when organizing training activities.

9.2 Collaboration between Brunei Darussalam and Singapore (IP/11) – Brunei Darussalam and Singapore

9.2.1 This Meeting noted the collaboration between AAIB Singapore and the Brunei Department of Civil Aviation through the signing of MOUs, investigation training and observer attachments.

9.3 Sharing of Experience from a Recent Sea Search Operation (IP/12) – Indonesia and Singapore

9.3.1 This Meeting noted the lessons learnt from the recent sea search operation led by the Indonesia National Transportation Safety Committee and the importance of maintaining good networking and close regional cooperation.

9.4 Report of the 2014 International Confidential Aviation Safety Systems (ICASS) Group meeting (IP/13) – Australia

9.4.1 The Meeting noted that ICAO Annex 19 paragraphs 5.1.2 and 5.3.1 require States/Administrations to establish a voluntary incident reporting system and to afford protection to the sources of the information reported.

9.4.2 The Meeting also noted that the 2015 ICASS Group meeting will be held in Cologne, Germany, from 19-23 October 2015. RASG had earlier encouraged States/Administrations interested in setting up a Confidential Aviation Incident Reporting programme to contact ICASS for assistance in designing and implementing new systems. States/Administrations that wish to find out more about establishing a voluntary incident reporting system are encouraged to attend this meeting.

10. Agenda Item 7: Action Plan to improve the accident/incident investigation capability in the APAC region

10.1 Training events by AAIB Singapore (IP/14) – Singapore

10.1.1 The Meeting noted the upcoming training events planned by AAIB Singapore.

10.2 Updates to work plan (WP/9) – Chairman

10.2.1 The Meeting noted the updated APAC-AIG work plan as attached in **Attachment B**.

11. Agenda Item 8: Other Business

11.1 The importance of investigating serious incidents, and not just accidents (IP/15) – Australia

11.1.1 The Meeting noted that it is an ICAO Standard to institute an investigation of a serious incident when the aircraft is of a maximum mass of over 2,250 kg. The meeting noted that valuable safety information can be obtained from investigating serious incidents that could prevent the occurrence of future accidents.

11.1.2 The Meeting also noted that investigating serious incidents is one of the main ways that a State/Administration can ensure that it develops and maintains the capability to respond to a major aircraft accident.

11.2 Ground Collision Occurrence at Yangon, Myanmar (IP/16) – Myanmar, and Ground Collision Occurrence at Yangon International Airport (IP/17) – Republic of Korea

11.2.1 The Meeting had an interesting discussion and noted that the classification of an occurrence may not always be straightforward. Chairman APAC-AIG added that a State/Administration may revise the initial classification of an event in the course of an investigation. Regardless of the classification, the most important point is to ensure that a thorough investigation is being conducted.

11.2.2 Chairman APAC-AIG invited States/Administrations to inform ICAO APAC Office and Chairman APAC-AIG **before 24 August 2015** if they have any suggestion to refine/enhance ICAO Annex 13's definitions of occurrences to reduce ambiguity.

11.3 Investigation insurance coverage (IP/18) – Sri Lanka, and Investigation expenses (IP/19) – Singapore

11.3.1 This Meeting noted the costs of investigations may be recovered by way of insurance, or from the parties concerned through the provisions of State legislation.

11.4 Investigation of Occurrence and Managing State Safety Program in India – India

11.4.1 The Meeting noted the establishment, developments, capabilities and works of the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau of India.

12. Date and Venue for APAC-AIG/4

12.1 The APAC-AIG/3 Meeting decided the Fourth Meeting will be held in Japan in conjunction with JTSB hosting of an AsiaSASI Workshop. The date of the APAC-AIG/4 will be advised later.

13. Adoption of Conclusions

13.1 The APAC-AIG/3 adopted the Conclusions.

14. Closing of the Meeting

14.1 The Chairman thanked the meeting participants for their contributions.

APAC-AIG/3
Record of Discussions and Conclusions

Attachment A

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

State/Name		Title/Organization	Tel/Fax Number	e-mail
1.	AUSTRALIA			
	1.	Mr. Richard WHITE	Manager Accident Liaison Investigation Unit Civil Aviation Safety Authority Canberra ACT 2601	Tel.: +61-7-30144 7550 Fax.: +61-7-30144 7575 richard.white@casa.gov.au ;
	2.	Dr. Richard G. BATT	ATSB Manager International Australian Transport Safety Bureau Civic Square ACT 2608	Tel.: +61-2-6274 6404 Richard.batt@atsb.gov.au ;
	3.	Mr. Robert C. CHOPIN	Senior Transport Safety Investigator – Aviation Australian Transport Safety Bureau Civic Square ACT 2608	Tel.: +61-7-3833 9903 Fax: +61-7-3833 9921 Rob.chopin@atsb.gov.au ;
2.	BANGLADESH			
	4.	Mr. Khan Md. AYUB	Assistant Director Flight Safety & Regulations Division Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh Dhaka – 1229	Tel.: +880-2-890 1406 Fax: +880-2-890 1418 ayubcaab@gmail.com ;
	5.	Mr. Mohammad Shafiul AZAM	Airworthiness Inspector Flight Safety & Regulations Division Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh Dhaka – 1229	Tel.: +880-2-891 4870 Ext. 3502 Fax: +880-2-890 1418 shafiulcaab@gmail.com ; aeld3_caab@yahoo.com ;
3.	BRUNEI DARUSSALAM			
	6.	Mr. Chun Heng WONG	Operations Officer Regulatory Division Civil Aviation Department Bandar Seri Begawan BB2513	Tel.: +673-878 9126 +673-2330 142 Ext. 1389 Fax: +673-234 5345 Chunheng.wong@civil-aviation.gov.bn ;

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State/Name		Title/Organization	Tel/Fax Number	e-mail
4.	CHINA			
	7.	Mr. Yanfeng MAO	Director Aircraft Accident Investigation Division Office of Aviation Safety Civil Aviation Administration of China Beijing	Tel.: +86-10-6409 1909 Fax: +86-10-6405 2829 Yf_mao@caac.gov.cn ; maoyanfeng214@gmail.com ;
	8.	Mr. Yong LI	Director Transport Aviation Accident Investigation Division (AAIC-CAAC) Beijing	Tel.: + Fax: +
5.	HONG KONG CHINA			
	9.	Mr. Jimmy W. S. LEUNG	Airworthiness Officer Flight Standards and Airworthiness Division Hong Kong Civil Aviation Department	Tel.: +852-2910 6092 Fax: +852-2362 4250 jwsleung@cad.gov.hk ;
6.	MACAO CHINA			
	10.	Mr. Chi Man SIN	Safety Officer Civil Aviation Authority of Macao	Tel.: +853-8796 4119 Fax: +853-2833 8089 edwinsin@aacm.gov.mo ;
	11.	Mr. Qian LUO	Assistant Safety Officer Civil Aviation Authority of Macao	Tel.: +853-8796 4182 Fax: +853-2833 8089 bryanluo@aacm.gov.mo ;
7.	FRANCE			
	12.	Mr. Arnaud TOUPET	Senior Investigator Bureau d'Enquêtes et d'Analyses pour la sécurité de l'aviation civile	Tel.: +33-1-49 92 72 34 Fax: +33-1-49 92 72 03 Arnaud.toupet@bea-fr.org ; pph@bea-fr.org ;
8.	INDONESIA			
	13.	Mr. Tatang KURNIADI	Chairman Komite Nasional Keselamatan Transportasi (KNKT) Jakarta	Tel.: +62-21-351 7606 Fax: +62-21-351 7606 knkt@dephub.go.id ;

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State/Name		Title/Organization	Tel/Fax Number	e-mail
	14.	Capt. Nurcahyo UTOMO	Senior Investigator KNKT Komite Nasional Keselamatan Transportasi Jakarta	Tel.: +62-21-351 7606 Fax: +62-21-351 7606 raynurcahyo@gmail.com ;
	15.	Mr. Apib K. Wahyu Wiwing PRAYOGI	Investigator KNKT Komite Nasional Keselamatan Transportasi Jakarta	Tel.: +62-21-351 7606 Fax: +62-21-351 7606 Apib.knkt@gmail.com ;
9.	INDIA			
	16.	Mr. Maneesh KUMAR	Director Air Safety Directorate General of Civil Aviation India	Tel.: +91-11-24620272 Fax: +91-11-24633140 maneeshdgca@nic.in maneesh.dgca@gmail.com
10.	JAPAN			
	17.	Mr. Shinji YOSHIDA	Aircraft Accident Investigator Japan Transport Safety Board (JTSB) Tokyo	Tel.: +81-3-5253 8814 Fax: +81-3-5253 1677 Yoshida-s2mh@mlit.go.jp ;
	18.	Mr. Takashige SUGO	Director for International Affairs Japan Transport Safety Board (JTSB) Tokyo	Tel.: +81-3-5253 8824 jtsbinternational@mlit.go.jp ;
11.	MALAYSIA			
	19.	Mr. Abdul Wahab IBRAHIM	Senior Inspector Ministry of Transport Putrajaya	Tel.: +60-3-8892 1073 Fax: +60-3-8888 0163 cptwahabibrahim@mot.gov.my ;
	20.	Mr. Mohan SUPPIAH	Senior Inspector Ministry of Transport Putrajaya	Tel.: +60-3-8892 1073 Fax: +60-3-8888 0163 mohansuppiah@mot.gov.my ;
	21.	Mr. Muhammad Imran ISMAIL	Inspector Ministry of Transport Putrajaya	Tel.: +60-3-8892 1073 Fax: +60-3-8888 0163 Imran.ismail@mot.gov.my ;

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State/Name		Title/Organization	Tel/Fax Number	e-mail
	22.	Dr. Noorlinah G. MOHD	Deputy Director Department of Civil Aviation Putrajaya	Tel.: +60-3-8871 4212 Fax: +60-3-8871 4333 noorlinahgmohd@dca.gov.my ; drnoor6077@gmail.com ;
12.	MALDIVES			
	23.	Mr. Idris Abdul RAZZAK	Accident Investigation coordinating Committee Chairman Maldives Civil Aviation Authority Male	Tel.: +960-332 4983 Fax: +960-332 3039 abdulrazzakidris@gmail.com ;
13.	MYANMAR			
	24.	Mr. Myo THANT	Director (Airworthiness and MAIB) Department of Civil Aviation Yangon International Airport	Tel.: +95-1533003 Fax: +95-1533016 Myothant502@gmail.com ; dtech@dca.gov.mm ;
14.	PAPUA NEW GUINEA			
	25.	Dr. Marcus J. Matthews	Advisor to PNG Accident Investigation Commission Australian Transport Safety Bureau Port Moresby	Tel.: +675-323 2911 Fax: +673-311 2406 mmatthews@aic.gov.pg ; marcus.matthews@atsb.gov.au ;
	26.	Capt. David INAU	Chief Executive Officer PNG Accident Investigation Commission Port Moresby	Tel.: +675-323 2911 Fax: +673-311 2406 dinau@aic.gov.pg ;
15.	PHILIPPINES			
	27.	Mr. Francisco L. NAJERA JR.	Acting Chief Aircraft Accident Investigation and Inquiry Board Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines Manila	Tel.: +63-2-879 9225 Fax: +63-2-879 9225 Fl_Najera@yahoo.com ;

APAC-AIG/3
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State/Name		Title/Organization	Tel/Fax Number	e-mail
	28.	Mr. Reineer Y. BACULINAO	Aircraft Accident Investigator Aircraft Accident Investigation and Inquiry Board Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines Manila	Tel.: +63-2-879 9225 Fax: +63-2-879 9225 rybaculinao@aaib.caap.gov.ph ; r.baculinao@gmail.com ;
16.	QATAR			
	29.	Mr. Nonito Gegona CEDRO	Head Airworthiness Qatar Civil Aviation Authority Head of Airworthiness Air Safety Department	Tel.: +974-555-44079 Fax: +974-4465-4761 Nonito.cedro@caa.gov.qa ;
17.	REPUBLIC OF KOREA			
	30.	Mr. Jong Sun CHA	Director, Standards Team Aviation and Railway Accident Investigation Board (ARAIB) Sejong Special Self-Governing City	Tel.: +82-44-201 5448 Fax: +82-44-201 5696 chajs@korea.kr ;
	31.	Mr. Sun Suk IN	Investigator Aviation and Railway Accident Investigation Board (ARAIB) Sejong Special Self-Governing City	Tel.: +82-44-201 5438 Fax: +82-44-201 5698 Ssin25@korea.kr ; sunsukin@hanmail.net ;
	32.	Ms. Min Jeong KIM, Megan	English Affairs Coordinator Aviation and Railway Accident Investigation Board (ARAIB) Sejong Special Self-Governing City	Tel.: +82-44-201 5432 Fax: +82-44-201 5696 flyingmin@korea.kr ; flyingmin@naver.com ;
	33.	Mr. Hyoung-Gyu LEE	Safety Investigation Team Leader Korean Air Seoul	Tel.: +82-2-2656 6392 Fax: +82-2-2656 8299 hyeongglee@koreanair.com ;
18.	SINGAPORE			

APAC-AIG/3
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State/Name		Title/Organization	Tel/Fax Number	e-mail
	34.	Mr. Wing Keong CHAN	Director Air Accident Investigation Bureau of Singapore Singapore 918155	Tel.: +65-6595 6010 Fax: +65-6542 2394 Chang_wing_keong@mot.gov.sg ;
	35.	Mr. Guan Kiat TEO, Steven	Senior Investigator Air Accident Investigation Bureau of Singapore Singapore 918155	Tel.: +65-6595 6768 Fax: +65-6542 2394 Steven_teo@mot.gov.sg ;
	36.	Mr. Junsheng NG	Accident Investigator Air Accident Investigation Bureau of Singapore Singapore 918155	Tel.: +65-6541 2799 Fax: +65-6542 2394 Ng_junsheng@mot.gov.sg ;
19.	SRI LANKA			
	37.	Mr. Dissanayake Mudiyansele Parakrama DISSANAYAKE	Senior Director Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka Colombo 02	Tel.: +94-11-230 4709 Fax: +94-11-235 8826 sd@caa.lk ;
	38.	Mr. Ajith Susantha De Silva SANDRA MARAKKALA	Director Flight Safety Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka Colombo 02	Tel.: +94-11-235 8878 Fax: +94-11-235 8879 dfs@caa.lk ;
	39.	Ms. Samudra CHANDRARATNE	Programme Assistant / Aircraft Accident Investigation Civil Aviation Authority of Sri Lanka Colombo 02	Tel.: +94-11-235 8820 Fax: +94-11-230 4644 paaai@caa.lk ;
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INDUSTRIES				
1.	EMBRAER			
	40.	Mr. Felipe A. N. SANTOS	Air Safety Representative Embraer Asia Pacific Pte. Ltd. Gold Coast MC QLD9726 Australia	Tel.: + Fax: + elipe.santos@embraer.com.br ;

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State/Name		Title/Organization	Tel/Fax Number	e-mail
	41.	Mr. Dinesh JEGANATHAN	Manager Flight Safety EMBRAER (Asia Pacific Office) Singapore 238874	Tel.: +65-9827 5801 Fax: +65-6734 3908 Jeganathan.dinesh@sin.embraer.com ;
2.	INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION (IATA)			
	42.	Mr. Muhammed A WADUD	Deputy General Manager Corporate Safety & Quality Dept. Biman Bangladesh Airlines Ltd Dhaka-1229	Tel.: +880-2-890 1784 Mabdul.wadud@bdbiman.com ;
	43.	Mr. MD. M. RAHMAN	Asst. Manager Fire Flight Safety Dept. Biman Bangladesh Airlines Dhaka-1229	Tel.: +880-2-8901 500 Ext. 4354 managersafety@bdbiman.com ;
3.	INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF AIR LINE PILOTS' ASSOCIATION (IFALPA)			
	44.	Capt. Ishtiaque HOSSAIN	Regional Vice President (Asia/West) IFALPA	Tel.: +880-17-1153 4710 ishtiaquehossain1@gmail.com ;
4.	ICAO			
	45.	Mr. Amal HEWAWASAM	Regional Officer, FS ICAO Asia and Pacific Office Bangkok 10900, Thailand	Tel.: +66-2-537 8189 Fax: +66-2-537 8199 APAC@icao.int ; ahewawasam@icao.int ;

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Attachment B

APAC-AIG Work Plan

Date	Activities / Events	APAC-AIG Meeting	ICAO Regional Workshop	AsiaSASI Workshop	ISASI Annual Seminar	International Accident Investigation Forum	ICASS Meeting	Creation of AIU Database	1st Asian Turbomeca Engine Seminar	ICAO Technical and End-User Course on ECCAIRS	Advanced Investigation Training	Workshop on Underwater Search of Flight Recorders	Aircraft Accident Site Safety Workshop	ECCAIRS In-house Training	Orgat'l & Mgmt Factors Investigation Training	
2013	Q1															
	Q2			13-14 Jun Taipei		23-25 Apr Singapore										
	Q3	18-19 Sep Bali	16-17 Sep Bali		19-22 Aug Vancouver								22-24 Jul Singapore	25-26 Jul Singapore		
	Q4							Provision of Data Database developed								
2014	Q1															
	Q2	27-28 May Hong Kong		29-30 May Hong Kong					1-4 Apr Singapore	14-23 May New Delhi						
	Q3										21-25 Jul Singapore	30-31 Jul Singapore				
	Q4				13-16 Oct Adelaide		3-7 Nov Canberra									
2015	Q1															
	Q2	23-24 Jun Sri Lanka	25-26 Jun Sri Lanka													
	Q3				24-27 Aug Augsburg			Database expansion								
	Q4						19-23 Oct Cologne								16-20 Nov Singapore	
2016	Q1															
	Q2					19-21 Apr Singapore						Singapore				
	Q3	Japan		Japan												
	Q4				3-7 Oct Iceland											
2017	Q1															
	Q2	Proposed	Proposed													
	Q3				22-24 Aug USA											
	Q4															