



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

AFI COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR AVIATION SECURITY AND FACILITATION IN AFRICA (AFI SECFAL PLAN)

NINTH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

(28 July 2020)

Agenda Item 1.2: Report on the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on aviation security and facilitation and strategy to implement the Council Aviation Recovery Task Force CART report and take-off guidance document and the High-Level Task Force (HLTF) recommendations

(Presented by AFI SECFAL Plan Secretariat)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Working Paper presents the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on aviation security and facilitation and strategy to implement the CART Report and Take-Off guidance document and HLTF recommendations. The Steering Committee (SC) is requested to consider proposals of mitigation measures and plans to support the recovery of aviation in Africa and note the information contained in this paper.

Action by the SC is proposed in **Paragraph 4**.

1. Introduction

1.1 The COVID-19) pandemic has had devastating impact on global air transport with an anticipated reduction of scheduled international passenger traffic of up to 71% of seat capacity and up to 1.5 billion passengers globally. Airlines and airports face a potential loss of revenue of up to USD 314 billion and USD 100 billion respectively, for 2020, according to ACI.

1.2 In order to have a coherent and focused approach to aviation recovery, the ICAO Council established a dedicated task force to generate recommendations and guidelines/measures to guide States and industry recovery processes. Consequently, the ICAO Council Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART) report and Take-Off: Guidance document for air travel through the COVID-19 Public Health Crisis was issued in May 2020.

1.3 The CART Report highlights recommendations on strategic priorities and policies to assist States and industry in coping with the challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic in the immediate term including; facilitating the restart of aviation operations in a sustainable, safe, secure and orderly manner as soon as practicable taking into consideration the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic and decisions by relevant National Public Health Authorities to build a more resilient aviation system in the long term.

1.4 At the recommendation of AUC and WACAF and ESAF DGCA's meeting the HLTF was established towards restart and recovery of aviation in Africa under the coordination of the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) in March 2020. The HLTF report included recommendations endorsing the provisions of the CART report and those specific to the African aviation sector.

2. CART Report and the Take-off Guidance and HLTF Recommendations related to aviation security and facilitation and implementation strategy.

2.1 CART report recommendations 6, 7, 8 and 9 focus on Facilitation and Aviation Security related issues and actions to be taken by States to address the COVID19 impact. The recommendations highlight matters such as:

- a) Establishment or review of National Air Transport Facilitation Committee (NATFC), or its equivalent, with appropriate support to ensure participation of stakeholders charged with the health related responsibilities in coordination with CAPSCA;
- b) Ensuring availability and use of Public Health Forms on board of flights;
- c) Ensuring that relevant personnel are provided training to identify and manage unruly passenger situations related to non-respect of essential aviation public health and safety measures;
- d) Adapting the security guidelines provided in maintaining an adequate level of security in the current circumstances;
- e) Embracing use of advanced technologies to facilitate contactless processing of passengers at various stages of the journey;
- f) Ensuring that measures should be commensurate to the risk level, and shall not compromise aviation security;
- g) Reviewing the national oversight system and quality control activities with regards to health consideration;
- h) Uploading information regarding implementation of CART report to the COVID-19 Response and Recovery implementation Centre (CRRIC).

2.2 The HLTF adopted all the CART recommendations related to AVSEC and FAL as highlighted in (2.1) above. In addition, Furthermore, and in order to have a harmonised approach to assist and support States efforts to implement and monitor CART and HLTF recommendations and measures, ICAO has developed global guidelines and in the case of WACAF and ESAF Regions, established a strategy to support States of their accreditation. Its therefore imperative for AFI SECFAL Plan to compliment the Regional office efforts to support and monitor implementation and offer necessary technical assistance to States, including but not limited to:

- a) Support the deployment of the Facilitation Implementation Package (iPACK), which consists of guidance material, training, as well as expert assistance;

- b) Sensitization and awareness States that uploads in ICAO Portal CRRIC are only meant to provide status on implementation of activities recommended in the report.
- c) Provide continuous remote technical support, monitoring and follow-up activities to ensure effective and timely implementation of the CART guidelines;
- d) Assist the implementation of the ICAO Aviation security contingency plan and provide additional guidance material developed by ICAO and
- e) Continuously share best practices by States and air transport industry partners for harmonious regional and global application of the contingency measures.

3. AFI SECFAL Plan COVID-19 Recovery Activities.

3.1 The AFI SECFAL Plan secretariat has initiated and also proposes the following activities to support States endeavours towards COVID-19 recovery and building a resilient aviation sector:

- a) Development and implementation of a project to assist the delivery of the recently released FAL webinar
- b) In collaboration with ICAO TCB and GAT, promote the implementation of iPACKs by States;
- c) Coordinate joint AFCAC/AFI SECFAL Plan assist and monitor activities towards implementation of CART and HLTF recommendations in AFI Region;
- d) Periodically report progress of COVID-19 recovery activities to the Steering Committee
- e) Conduct monthly webinars to raise awareness, share experiences and provide guidance.

3.2 The implementation of CART and HLTF report and recommendations introduces unanticipated new elements and activities not included in the 2020 work programme. Therefore, there is need to mobilise human and financial resources to accomplish the tasks mentioned in 3.1 above and effectively achieve the intended goals. The details of the activities and anticipated financial estimate of USD 700, 000 is highlighted in Appendix to this working paper.

4. Conclusion

4.1 The reality of the effect of the COVID19 pandemic and impact to the aviation sector and the security and facilitation aspects in particular requires the intervention of the AFI SECFAL Plan. The primacy of assisting and monitoring States efforts to implement the provisions of the CART and HLTF reports is central focus of the initiatives and proposed activities in line with the overall objective of the AFI SECFAL Plan.

4.2 To effectively undertake the planned intervention initiatives and activities in a sustainable manner, it is critical that the necessary human and financial resources are secured to carry out this additional task.

5. Action by Steering Committee

5.1 The Steering Committee is hereby invited to:

- a) Note the information contained in this working paper; and
- b) Approval the proposed initiatives and activities necessary to support, provide technical assistance and monitor State efforts towards the implementation of the CART report and HLTF and building resilient aviation security and facilitation systems.

APPENDIX

Activities	Proposed activity	Cost	Human Resources
Development and implementation of a project to assist the delivery of the recently released FAL webinar.	Two webinars on FAL and AVSEC i-PACKs (French and English) by the ROs.	USD10k	Regional Officers
In collaboration with ICAO TCB and GAT, promote the implementation of iPACKs by States.	Should be done by ROs during the webinars	USD10k	Regional Officers
Coordinate joint AFCAC/AFI SECFAL Plan assistance and training activities towards implementation of CART and HLTf recommendations in AFI Region.	Remotely or on site assistance to States through the i-PACKs (FAL and AVSEC). State specific needs assistance on request (can be done remotely or on site).	FAL iPack: Approximately USD 200k for 2 years) AVSEC iPack: TBD during ISD and RDs upcoming meeting (approximately USD350k for 2 years) Travel cost (on site when restrictions ease- approximately \$150k for 2 years)	Instructors trained on FAL iPack (2 ROs) ICAO AVSEC instructors AFI CES and ROs
Periodically report progress of COVID-19 recovery activities to the Steering Committee.	Report on CART: ROs should extract information from CRRIC. Report on HLTf: AFCAC should extract information on AUC database.	Nil	Regional Officers AFCAC experts
Conduct monthly webinars to raise awareness, share experiences and provide guidance.	Monthly webinars	Nil	Regional Officers