



ICAO

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Seventh Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean Regional Aviation Safety Group (RASG-AFI/7)
(Virtual – 5 November 2021)

Agenda Item 5: Review of the Future Work Programme of the RASG-AFI and its Contributory Bodies.

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY
<p>This Paper presents proposed activities of the RASG-AFI and its Contributory Bodies for 2022 for review and adoption by the RASG-AFI/7 meeting.</p> <p>Action to be taken by the Meeting is provided at paragraph 3 of the Paper.</p>
<p>REFERENCE(S):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved RASG-AFI Procedural Handbook • RASG-AFI/6 Report • RASC.7 meeting Report • ARC-TF/4 meeting Report
<p>Related ICAO Strategic Objective:</p> <p>This Working Paper relates to the ICAO Strategic Objective on Aviation Safety.</p>

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The RASG-AFI Steering Committee (RASC) was established to guide the work of the Group and to ensure that safety initiatives are accomplished in a timely, effective and efficient manner. In this regard, the RASC was mandated, amongst other things, to propose an Annual Work Programme in addition to ensuring that the activities of the Group are properly coordinated.

1.2. The RASC also serves as an advisory body to the RASG-AFI by providing regular safety environment assessments and undertaking any action that may be required to ensure that the RASG-AFI achieves its objectives including the reduction of aviation risks and to minimize or avoid duplication of efforts in the RASG-AFI Region.

1.3. Provided as an **Appendix** to this paper is the proposed programme of activities for 2022.

2. DISCUSSIONS

2.1. RASG-AFI Activities and Future Work programmes require RASC to exercise flexibility, at its discretion, on the contents and frequency of its activities whilst taking into account, the logical chronology and sequence for effective implementation. Therefore, the proposed 2022 activities were developed with these objectives in mind.

2.2. The frequency of the RASC teleconferences although scheduled as quarterly, may be held at the discretion of the RASC and the proposed programme also provides for flexibility in the frequency and manner in which the activities of the Group and its Contributory Bodies are conducted.

2.3. The proposed 2022 Activities cover those of the RASC, the Safety Support Teams (SSTs) and RASG-AFI meetings. The new working arrangement for APIRG and RASG-AFI Meetings (Joint Opening and Closing Plenaries; and sessions in-between) has necessitated the amendment of the RASG-AFI Procedural Handbook. This arrangement is intended to ensure proper coordination between the Groups and ensure that all safety activities at the regional and sub-regional levels are properly coordinated amongst actors to avoid duplication of efforts.

2.4. The only Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs) remaining in the RASG-AFI Region (in Eritrea) is long overdue and requires revision in strategy to better handle and resolve in not a distant future, under the context of COVID-19 pandemic. A key focus area relates to the restructuring of the Safety Support Teams to better align their functions to the Goals and Targets of the 2020-2022 Edition of the GASP; which includes but not limited to, the development and subsequent implementation of the Regional Aviation Safety Plan for the region (AFI-RASP).

2.5. The Joint APIRG/RASG-AFI Coordination Task Force (ARC-TF) which has been established as a subsidiary body to APIRG and RASG-AFI, is responsible for coordinating the activities of APIRG and RASG-AFI on routine basis. In this respect, the proposed 2022 activities also include the review of reports by ARC-TF and follow-up actions.

2.6. In conclusion, in order to optimize resources and to ensure that the activities of the Group are effectively implemented, the RASC will continue to exercise flexibility on the contents and frequency of all planned activities whilst taking into account the immediate overall impact towards achieving the objectives of the Group.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1. The meeting is invited to:

- a) Review and adopt the proposed Activities for 2022 of RASG-AFI and its Contributory Bodies as contained in the **Appendix** to this paper; and
- b) Provide further guidance as appropriate.