INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Eighth Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean Regional Aviation Safety Group (RASG-AFI/8)

7 - 11 November 2022

Agenda Item 2: **Review of the outcomes of the RASC/8 Meeting; and status of the implementation of RASG-AFI/7 Conclusions and Decisions**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY
This paper reviews the outcomes of the RASC/8 Meeting; and the status of implementation of RASG-AFI/7 Conclusions and Decisions. The action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.
REFERENCE(S): • Report of RASG-AFI/7 Meeting; • Report of RASC/8 Meeting.
Related ICAO Strategic Objective(s): This working paper is related to the ICAO Strategic Objective on SAFETY.

1. **INTRODUCTION**

1.1. Review of progress in the implementation of the RASG-AFI Conclusions and Decisions; and the Outcomes of its Contributory Bodies, from previous meetings is undertaken periodically by the Secretariat as part of the monitoring process. In this regard, an overview of the outcomes of the RASC/8 Meeting and the status of implementation of RASG-AFI/7 Conclusions and Decisions are presented in Table 2 as an Appendix to this paper.

2. **DISCUSSIONS**

2.1 The Eighth Meeting of the RASG-AFI Steering Committee (RASC/8) was held at the ICAO Eastern and Southern Africa Office (ESAF), from 29 to 30 August 2022. The meeting was conducted in a hybrid format (both in-person and virtual). The meeting formulated 9 conclusions and 2 decisions, provided herewith as Appendix-1 to this Paper.

2.2 The RASG-AFI/7 meeting adopted 13 conclusions and 4 decisions, and Table-1 below depicts the summary of implementation as at 31 October 2022, the details are provided in Appendix-2 to this paper.

Table-1

RASG-AFI/7 Conclusions	RASG-AFI/7 Decisions	Status of Implementation 31 October, 2022
2	1	Outstanding
9	1	In progress
2	2	Accomplished
Total = 13	4	

2.3 In accordance with the Group's terms of reference, the activities of the RASG-AFI are mainly undertaken under the framework of the four Safety Support Teams (SSTs): State Safety Oversight System Support Team (SSO-SST); Operational Safety Issues Support Team (OSI-SST); State Safety Programme Support Team (SSP – SST); and the Air Navigation Services Support Team (ANS – SST). The SSTs have been restructured by RASG-AFI/7 for better alignment with the current Edition of the GASP, and to promote better safety performance and attainment of the regional targets in a sustainable manner.

2.4 It is important to note that for activities that are continuous, the status of implementation is reflected as 'In-Progress'. Notwithstanding, the levels of implementation are provided accordingly.

3.   ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1   The meeting is invited to:

   a)   Note the status of implementation of the RASG-AFI/7 conclusions and decisions;
   b)   Approve the conclusions and decisions of RASC/8 Meeting as presented herein at **Appendix-1**; and
   c)   Urge States and other stakeholders to make efforts towards expeditious implementation of the pending conclusions and decisions.

RASG-AFI/8, WP/02		Appendix-1: RASC/8 Meeting Outcomes		
Concl./Decn. No.	Title of Conc./Dec.	Text of Conclusion/Decision	Responsibility	Deliverable
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
RASC/8 – Conclusion 8/01	SSP Implementation in the AFI Region	That, the RASG-AFI request States to: a) Allocate the required resources to meet Regional and Global targets related to SSP implementation; and b) Nominate Focal Points and release subject matter experts (SMEs) to support safety management implementation in the RASG-AFI region.	RASG-AFI States; SSP-SST.	Focal Points for SSP-SST nominated by States; SMEs released to support safety management implementation in the RASG-AFI region.
RASC/8 Conclusion 8/02:	Support to the RASG-AFI Safety Support Teams (SSTs)	That, the RASG-AFI urge: a) States to assume ownership and actively participate in the activities of the SSTs to ensure their effectiveness in the discharge of their assigned tasks; and b) Stakeholders to maintain or increase their support to the SSTs, especially in terms of providing necessary resources.	RASG-AFI States; Aviation Industry; Aviation partners; Donor Agencies.	a) Ownership and active participation in the activities of the SSTs assumed by RASG-AFI States. b) Required support to the SSTs provided by aviation stakeholders
RASC/8 – Conclusion 8/03:	Establishment and implementation of an effective State Safety Oversight training system: challenges and way forward.	That, the RASG-AFI request: a) States discharge their safety oversight obligations, including establishing and implementing an effective training system. b) ICAO continues to include a training component in developing and providing implementation support to States through implementation packages (iPacks) and other assistance activities; and c) Aviation stakeholders, including donors and partners, extend training assistance and support to States through scholarships, fellowships, and other programmes.	RASG-AFI States; ICAO; Aviation stakeholders; donors Agencies; Aviation partners.	a) Effective training systems established by RASG-AFI States. b) Training iPack deployed to RASG-AFI States. c) Scholarships, fellowships, and other programmes, provided by aviation stakeholders, partners and donor agencies.

RASG-AFI/8, WP/02		Appendix-1: RASC/8 Meeting Outcomes		
Concl./Decn. No.	**Title of Conc./Dec.**	**Text of Conclusion/Decision**	**Responsibility**	**Deliverable**
1.	**2.**	3.	4.	5.
RASC/8 – Conclusion 8/04:	**Measures to mitigate potential ANS SSCs in the AFI Region**	That, the RASG-AFI urges States/Organizations to take preventative actions to prevent the occurrences of ANS SSCs, by ensuring that: a) they comply with the provisions and requirements for flight calibration of Navigational and Visual Aids by considering the use of existing frameworks such as exemptions based on risk assessments, establishment of mitigation measures, and adoption of best practices that meet Acceptable Level of Safety for the State; b) Adequate training is provided to flight procedure practitioners to maintain their competencies, including through the African Flight Procedure Programme (AFPP); c) Instrument flight procedures (IFPs) are validated periodically and continue to comply with established operational minima, including minimum obstacle clearance; and d) Implement quality assurance of flight procedure design processes.	RASG-AFI States; ICAO Regional Offices.	Preventive actions/measures put in place by States/Organizatio-ns to prevent the occurrences of ANS SSCs.

RASG-AFI/8, WP/02		Appendix-1: RASC/8 Meeting Outcomes		
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1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
RASC/8 – Conclusion 8/05:	**Addressing RVSM airspace safety challenges in the RASG-AFI Region**	That, in order to stop the operations of non-approved aircraft in the AFI RVSM airspace, and to ensure an acceptable level of safety is maintained at all times, RASG-AFI urge States to, a) Ensure that data related to RVSM approvals for State aircraft are regularly submitted to the relevant RMA as per established requirements; b) Include RVSM approval when registering RVSM-capable aircraft; c) Prohibit allocation of FL420 to aircraft by air traffic control personnel, and sensitize pilots and other personnel involved in flight planning on the associated risks; and d) Report on allocation/utilizati-on of FL420 as part of RVSM data to ARMA.	RASG-AFI States; RMA; ICAO Regional Offices.	a) Data related to RVSM approvals for State aircraft regularly submitted to the relevant RMA as per established requirements; **b)** RVSM approval included in the registration of RVSM-capable aircraft. **c)** Pilots and other personnel involved in flight planning sensitized on the associated risks for allocating FL420. **d)** Report on allocation/utili-zation of FL420 included as part of RVSM data to ARMA.
RASC/8– Conclusion 8/06:	**Implementation support to low-performing States**	That, the RASG-AFI request that: States facing challenges in meeting their safety obligations under the Chicago Convention continue to be provided support under the existing initiatives (AFI Plan projects, SAFE, AFI-CIS, etc.) or seek support from other States or Regional Safety Oversight Organisations to strengthen their safety oversight capabilities.	RASG-AFI States; RSOOs; RAIOs; AFI Plan; SAFE; AFCAC.	Support provided to challenging States under the existing initiatives to meet their safety obligations under the Chicago Convention.

RASG-AFI/8, WP/02			Appendix-1: RASC/8 Meeting Outcomes	
Concl./Decn. No.	**Title of Conc./Dec.**	**Text of Conclusion/Decision**	**Responsibility**	**Deliverable**
1.	**2.**	3.	**4.**	**5.**
RASC/8– Conclusion 8/07:	**Implementation support to the African Lusophone States**	That, The RASG-AFI request the ICAO Regional Offices to explore arrangements with States having the capability to do so, to provide support and assistance activities to address the specific needs of States with national official languages other than ICAO working languages, notably the African Lusophone States.	ICAO Regional Offices; RASG-AFI States; Aviation stakeholders; Partners; Donor Agencies.	
RASC/8 – Conclusion 8/08:	**Implementation of USOAP off-site validation activities and Integrated Validation Activities (IVA) in the AFI Region**	That, in order to enhance the continuous monitoring of States' safety performance in the AFI Region, ICAO arrange for more USOAP off-site and integrated validation activities based on CAP progress as documented on the online framework.	States; ICAO.	Increased number of USOAP off-site and integrated validation activities conducted in the RASG-AFI Region.
RASC/8 – Conclusion 8/09:	**State Safety Programme and Peer Review Mechanism**	That, RASG-AFI to request: a) ICAO Regional Offices to coordinate with the stakeholders and guide the SSP implementation initiatives in line with the GASP Goals; b) To avoid duplication of efforts and ensure consistency of the initiatives, the SSPRM to coordinate with ICAO Regional Offices and align the SSPRM Proposal Document with the revised AFI-Plan SSP project initiatives; and c) Beneficiary States of the AFI-Plan SSP project and the SSPRM to continue supporting the development and implementation of the SSP initiatives and provide a progress report to the RASG-AFI.	ICAO Regional Offices; Aviation stakeholders; States.	SSP implementation initiatives coordinated in line with the GASP Goals; and progress reported to the RASG-AFI. .

RASG-AFI/8, WP/02			Appendix-1: RASC/8 Meeting Outcomes	
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1.	**2.**	3.	4.	5.
RASC/8 – Decision 8/01:	**Implementation of RASG-AFI Conclusions and Decisions.**	That, a) The ICAO Regional Office for Eastern and Southern Africa (ESAF) continues engaging Eritrea towards the resolution of the existing SSC, as a matter of urgency; b) The RASG-AFI Secretariat engages the concerned States and other stakeholders to expedite implementation of the pending conclusions and decisions; and c) The RASG-AFI Secretariat continues to track, monitor, and facilitate action items and report status to the next meeting of the RASG-AFI.	Eritrea; RASG-AFI States; ICAO ESAF Regional Office.	SSC in Eritrea resolved; RASG-AFI conclusions and decisions implemented.
RASC/8 – Decision 8/02:	**Review of the Abuja Safety Targets**	That, a) The Secretariat coordinate the revision of the Abuja safety targets to align with the current ICAO Global Plans targets/goals or requirements; b) the RASG-AFI Aviation Safety Report Team (ASRT) be tasked with: i) Carrying out a comprehensive review of the Abuja Safety Targets and Action Plan in light of the provisions of the ICAO Global Aviation Safety Plan (Doc 10004); ii) Analyzing existing Projects/Progr-ammes addressing/referring to aviation safety targets; and iii) Developing proposals for a suitable and consistent aviation safety performance framework to be used by States and Regional Institutions and Organizations.	RASG-AFI Secretariat; AFCAC; ASRT.	Abuja safety targets revised and aligned with the current ICAO Global Plans targets/goals or requirements.

RASG-AFI/8, WP/02			Appendix-2: Status of Implementation of RASG-AFI/7 Conclusions and Decisions.			
Conc./Dec. No.	Title of Conc./Dec.	Text of Conclusion/Decision	Responsibility	Deliverable	Report/ Completion date	Status of Implementation
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
RASG-AFI/7 Decision 7/05	**Restructuring of the RASG-AFI Contributory Bodies (SSTs)**	That, in order to better align the functions of RASG –AFI SSTs to the Global Aviation Safety Plan Goals and Targets (2020-2022 Edition of the GASP), thereby facilitating performance measurement with respect to implementation of the Plan Goals: a) the proposed restructuring of SSTs and the associated Terms of Reference (ToRs), as presented in Appendix 4C is approved; b) the Secretariat to conclude the establishment and assignment of tasks for the development and subsequent implementation of the AFI Regional Aviation Safety Plan (AFI-RASP); involving States, industry and other stakeholders; and c) The RASG-AFI Procedural Handbook to be revised to reflect the restructuring accordingly.	RASG-AFI/7 Plenary; RASG-AFI Secretariat.	The functions of the RASG –AFI SSTs better aligned to the Global Aviation Safety Plan Goals and Targets; The RASG-AFI Procedural Handbook amended to incorporate the revised ToRs of SSTs.		a) **Accomplished** b) **Accomplished** c) **In-Progress** Revision of the RASG-AFI Procedural Handbook to reflect the restructuring is on-going.

RASG-AFI/8, WP/02			Appendix-2: Status of Implementation of RASG-AFI/7 Conclusions and Decisions.			
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1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
RASG-AFI/7 Conclusion 7/02	**Review of the Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF)**	That, in order to effectively utilize the Human Resources Development Fund (HRDF) for enhancing human resource capacity in the region, the African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) to conclude the review of the terms of reference of the HRDF and share the outcome with all stakeholders by 31 December 2021.	AFCAC ICAO	The terms of reference of the HRDF reviewed and shared with all stakeholders.	31/12/2021	**Accomplished.** ToRs of the HRDF successfully reviewed. 33rd AFCAC Plenary resolved to adopt the HRDF Task Force recommendations for utilization of the HRD Fund to sponsor training courses aimed at qualifying aviation professionals in areas of needs of States. ICAORD WACAF acting Secretary of the Management Committee to coordinate the next steps with the AFCAC Secretary General.
RASG-AFI/7 Conclusion 7/04	**Resolution of the Significant Safety Concern (SSC) in Eritrea**	That, in order to resolve the outstanding SSC in Eritrea by 30 June 2022, a) The ICAO ESAF Office is urged to work with Eritrea to resolve the existing SSC through mitigation measures by suspending or revoking AOCs issued to any Air Operator in the State or restrict them to domestic operations only;	ICAO ESAF Office; Eritrea; ICAO HQ; Aviation Partners.		30/06/2022	**Accomplished** ICAO removed the SSC on 9 September 2022 upon accepting mitigation measures implemented by Eritrea.

		b) ICAO and partners are urged to support the appropriation of funding from either SAFE, AFI Plan, or other financial partners for the efficient implementation of the AFI Plan projects, particularly the resolution of the SSC or prevention of new ones; and c) The State of Eritrea is urged to solicit or accept assistance to enhance the efforts to resolve the existing SSC and any other identified safety issues; and to stimulate a positive safety culture, including the sharing and exchange of safety data and information, especially through the USOAP CMA OLF and State Letters, as well as with AFCAC.				
RASG-AFI/7 Conclusion 7/06	**Restructuring of the RASG-AFI Contributory Bodies (SSTs)**	That, in order to align the functions of RASG-AFI SSTs to the Global Aviation Safety Plan Goals and Targets (2020-2022 Edition of the GASP), thereby facilitating performance measurement with respect to implementation of the Plan Goals, Stakeholders (States, AFCAC, RSOOs, Airlines, Airports operators,	RASG-AFI SSTs; RASG-AFI States; AFCAC; RSOOs; Airlines; Airports operators; ANSPs.	Aviation stakeholders participate actively in the activities of the SSTs.		<mark>In-progress.</mark> States and other Stakeholders identified by Secretariat to serve in the various SSTs. Identified States and other Stakeholders to confirm their commitment to serve in the SSTs or other SSTs of their choice at the RASG-AFI/8.

		ANSPs, …) to actively participate in the functions and activities of the SSTs, especially in terms of providing required resources.				
RASG-AFI/7 Conclusion 7/07	**Revision of the Abuja Safety Targets**	That, in order to ensure consistency between the GASP and the Abuja Safety Targets, AFCAC, in collaboration with ICAO and other key stakeholders, to revise the Abuja Safety Targets by 31 March 2022 and ensure their harmony with the goals, targets and indicators specified in the current edition of the Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP).	AFCAC; RASC; ICAO Regional Offices (ESAF/ WACAF).	The Abuja Safety Targets revised and harmonized with the goals, targets and indicators specified in the current edition of the Global Aviation Safety Plan.	31/03/2022	<mark>In-progress.</mark> RASC/8 Meeting assigned the task of reviewing the Abuja Safety and Air Navigation Targets to the Annual Safety Report Team (ASRT), which has already commenced the work.
RASG-AFI/7 Conclusion 7/09	**Development of remote safety oversight mechanism**	That, in order to explore alternative methods to ensure continuous compliance with regulatory requirements: **a)** States to establish a formal mechanism for the conduct of effective and efficient remote safety oversight activities and consequently, amend their Inspector's Handbooks to include related procedures and processes; **b)** States to ensure that appropriate training is provided to relevant CAA	RASG-AFI States; RSOOs.	Formal mechanism for the conduct of effective and efficient remote safety oversight activities established by States; and appropriate training provided to relevant CAA and industry personnel.		<mark>In-Progress</mark> a) The Guidance Material describing processes and procedures has been developed to enable CAAs implement the guideline and to review the Inspectors Handbooks and Inspectors Surveillance and Audit Manuals (ISAM) incorporating remote surveillance and auditing procedures. b) Training of stakeholders on the remote auditing and surveillance is planned for year 2023;

		and industry personnel involved in remote safety oversight activities; and **c)** States to seek assistance/guidance from the Regional Safety Oversight Organizations (RSOOs), other States and Organizations, in this endeavour.				c) The ESAF States have been in collaboration and cooperation with RSOOs in developing documentation, procedures and processes aimed at instituting remote auditing (CASSOA doc CAA-O-039 as attached). Coordination with the WACAF States to be pursued.
RASG-AFI/7 Conclusion 7/10	**RASG-AFI Projects and Critical Activities**	That, for the effective and efficient implementation of the RASG-AFI activities, projects and critical activities: **a)** States are encouraged to promote and enhance the sharing and exchange of safety data and information; and **b)** Partners are encouraged to maintain, and to the extent possible, increase support and assistance for the implementation of RASG-AFI projects and activities, with priority on the resolution of the SSC in Eritrea.	RASG-AFI States; Aviation Partners; Eritrea.	The SSC in Eritrea resolved.	30/06/2022	<mark>**In-progress**</mark> a) Low level of sharing and exchange of safety data and information amongst States. b) AFI Plan SC/25 called for the support to the continuation of the AFI Plan activities beyond 2024 until 2030 as part of the work programme of the ICAO Regional Offices. Some of the AFI Plan projects support the RASG-AFI activities (e.g. SSC, FSO, AIG, etc.).

RASG-AFI/8, WP/02		Appendix-2: Status of Implementation of RASG-AFI/7 Conclusions and Decisions.				
Conc./Dec. No.	Title of Conc./Dec.	Text of Conclusion/Decision	Responsibility	Deliverable	Report/ Completion date	Status of Implementation
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
RASG-AFI/7 Conclusion 7/11	**AFI Plan State Safety Programme (SSP) Project**	That, to assist States establish, implement and maintain effective State Safety Programmes (SSPs), AFI Plan, in collaboration with ICAO, States and other relevant partners, including AFCAC, RSOOs, RAIOs, international organizations and Industry to provide assistance, including: a) promoting the effective implementation of the provisions contained in Annex 19 — Safety Management; b) supporting States to conduct SSP Gap Analysis and to define and implement SSP implementation plans; and c) supporting States to complete and update PQ self-assessment, including SSP related PQs, and CAPs as appropriate, with special emphasis on SSP foundation PQs.	AFI Plan; AFCAC; RSOOs; RAIOs; International Organizations; and Industry.	Effective SSPs implemented by the RASG-AFI States.	31/12/2025	<mark>In-progress</mark> Under the revised AFI-Plan SSP project activities, the Regional Offices are coordinating with eligible States to designate SSP Focal Points and release of State Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to assist in the SSP project implementation activities. Currently, as reported by RASG -AFI States on iSTARs, **22.9%** of States have not started the GAP analysis, **40%** of States have started or completed the GAP Analysis; **35,4%** of States have defined the SSP implementation Plan; and **2%** has fully implemented the SSP.

RASG-AFI/8, WP/02		Appendix-2: Status of Implementation of RASG-AFI/7 Conclusions and Decisions.				
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1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
RASG-AFI/7 Conclusion 7/12	**ICAO integrated Safety Trend Analysis and Reporting System (iSTARS)**	That, to provide States with reliable safety data and information, ICAO should update and validate the information and tools on the iSTARS applications**.**	ICAO	Reliable safety information and tools available on the iSTARS applications.		<mark>**In-progress**</mark> Improvement of the iSTARS to ensure data is updated is ongoing at the ICAO HQ.
RASG-AFI/7 Conclusion 7/13	**Certification of International Aerodromes**	That, States and their aerodrome operators to expedite the certification of the aerodromes used for international operations.	RASG-AFI States; Aerodrome Operators.	All International Aerodromes certified.		<mark>**In Progress**</mark> Certification of International Aerodromes currently being supported by AFI Plan Aerodrome certification Project. To date, **44.4%** of aerodromes in ESAF and **27.8%** in WACAF are certified.
RASG-AFI/7 Conclusion 7/14	**Release of USOAP-CMA Protocol Questionnaire – 2020 Edition.**	That, in order to address the evolution of the USOAP CMA towards the continuing assessment of the effectiveness and sustainability of States' safety oversight systems, States to review and update their information on the USOAP-CMA online framework (OLF).	RASG-AFI States.	Information on the USOAP-CMA online framework (OLF) updated by RASG-AFI States.		<mark>**In-Progress**</mark> The ICAO Regional Offices are conducting assistance missions to States with the aim of improving their safety oversight capacities and improving their USOAP-CMA online framework (OLF) activities.
RASG-AFI/8, WP/02		Appendix-2: Status of Implementation of RASG-AFI/7 Conclusions and Decisions.				
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1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
RASG-AFI/7 Conclusion 7/15	Establishment of a Regional CAPSCA Management and Operationalization of the Centre for Aviation Medicine.	That, in order to foster the implementation and compliance with the aeromedical standards and related guidance material: **a)** States and RSOOs are encouraged to strategize and develop programmes aimed at capacity and capability building in the field of aviation medicine, including aviation medical assessors and designated medical examiners to meet the fitness to fly and air traffic management operations demands; and **b)** States and stakeholders are encouraged to use the EAC CASSOA Center for Aviation Medicine (CAM) for the medical assessments of aviation personnel, assistance in aviation medicine matter and training in UPRT for pilots.	RASG-AFI States; RSOOs;	Programmes aimed at capacity and capability building in the field of aviation medicine developed by the RASG-AFI States; The EAC CASSOA Center for Aviation Medicine (CAM) being used by the RASG-AFI States.		<mark>In-Progress</mark> a) CASSOA continuously organizes and conducts Technical support missions at major international airports, Organizes training programs for airport Stakeholders and aviation personnel and the development and regular review of Operational Guidelines for the management of Air Passengers and Aviation Personnel in line with ICAO guidelines on Public Health and CAPSCA framework; b) The infrastructure and facilitation of Centre for Aviation Medicine (CAM) has been completed. The operationalization of the Centre in Nairobi is expected to be completed by December 2022.

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1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
RASG-AFI/7 Conclusion 7/16	**Building Back Better from the COVID-19 Pandemic**	That, in order to ensure pursuance of the outcomes of HLCC 2021: **a)** States are urged to show commitment to the implementation of the HLCC 2021 Ministerial Declaration; and **b)** States and other stakeholders continue to contribute resources, including financial and in-kind, to ensure effective implementation of the NCLB Initiative, including utilization of innovative means, especially under crises situations such as COVID-19.	RASG-AFI States			<mark>Outstanding</mark>

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