INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Eighth Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean Regional Aviation Safety Group
(RASG-AFI/8)
Kigali, Rwanda, 7 - 11 November 2022

Agenda Item 3: **3.3. Other Safety Initiatives**

RASG-AFI Projects and Critical Activities - Promotion and enhancement on sharing and exchange of safety data and information by States

(Presented by South Africa)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This working paper presents South Africa's intentions pertinent to the adoption and fulfilment of the RASG-AFI/7 Meeting Conclusion 7/10: RASG-AFI Projects and Critical Activities.   The paper further provides the recommendation to ICAO on providing guidance to the States for enabling smooth and consistent implementation of this initiative throughout the entire aviation village.
Action: The action by the Meeting is in **paragraph 3**

Strategic Objectives:	This working paper relates to Strategic Objectives - A (Safety)
Financial implications:	None
References:	ICAO Doc 9859 (SMM) 6.4 (6.4.1 and 6.4.2) 4th Edition; ICAO Annex 19, 2nd Edition

1. **INTRODUCTION**

1.1   During the APIRG/24 and RASG-AFI/7 meeting that was held virtually during the period of 1st to 8th November 2021, the Secretariat presented updates on the status of implementation of the activities of the RASG-AFI programmes and projects supported by the AFI Plan and other assistance partners. It was highlighted that RASG-AFI implements its activities through its contributory bodies, specifically by the four Safety Support Teams (SSTs).

1.2   The primary purpose was to respond to the immediate safety challenges facing RASG-AFI by facilitating and providing support in the development, prioritisation and implementation of safety enhancement initiatives.

It was noted that, other notable challenges that impede progress by the SST projects included lack of or limited sharing and exchange of safety data and information.

2. Discussion

2.1   Since its publication, ICAO Annex 19 – Safety Management has presented an unclouded vision of the importance that should be placed on exploiting the data originating within the aviation system. Even up to date, ICAO has given a greater consideration on protection of safety data and information sources as this will enable better and reliable data and information collection systems that will enhance and advance use of safety data and information for decision making (data-driven decision-making) within the aviation community.

2.2   South Africa as an ICAO member State is eager to start implementing this initiative i.e., " to promote and enhance the sharing and exchange of safety data and information" in view of positively supporting the four established SSTs and to further circumvent the notable challenge on "lack of or limited sharing and exchange safety data and information" as indicated and mentioned afore in the notable challenges that impede progress by the SST projects from the **RASG-AFI/7 Conclusion 7/10**.

However, South Africa is hereby bringing this attention to the meeting. That, in the best interest of the smooth and consistent implementation of this initiative throughout the entire aviation village, it is important for the meeting to note that the guidance in the ICAO Doc 9858 (SMM) fourth edition of 2018 chapter 6.4. is regarded/seen no to be sufficient in guiding the States on how the safety data and information sharing and exchange is to be accomplished. To that point, the following are problems/concerns realised as challenges in accomplishing the mandate:

- What data and information should/will be shared by the States (as a starting point);
- What format should the expected data and information be in (Taxonomy);
- What/Which platform/s will be used for the sharing of data and information;
- Will there be a centralised data and information repository/bank (database) for all States to share/submit (deposit) the identified data and information; and
- How will the shared data and information be used – (data and information management).

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

The Meeting is hereby requested to establish a workgroup/task team that will:

- identify what data and information should States share (as a starting point), and in which format should that be (Taxonomy);
- develop guidance to be used by the States on how to share data and information;
- develop or identify which platform (database) can be used by the States for sharing of data and information; and
- develop guidelines on how the shared data and information will be used (information management).