



ICAO

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.

Title: Safety initiatives undertaken by BAGASOO in enhancing the safety oversight capacities of its member States

(Presented by Banjul Accord Group Aviation Safety Oversight Organization (BAGASOO))

SUMMARY	
<p>This working paper presents the Safety Initiatives undertaken by BAGASOO in enhancing the safety oversight capacities of its Member States. In addition to outlining the measures already taken in this direction, it also discusses the new programmes and initiative that are currently being pursued, while highlighting the primary challenge faced.</p> <p>Action by the Meeting: The meeting is invited to agree with the actions proposed in paragraph 3.1</p>	
<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	The working paper relates to the safety and air navigation capacity and efficiency strategic objectives

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The eight critical elements of the States safety oversight system constitute a fundamental yardstick for measuring the level of effective implementation of States safety oversight. BAGASOO has progressed in the implementation of its programmes in line with its functions under the BAGASOO agreement and on account of the need to align with the eight critical elements in the strengthening of its systems and processes and in the provisions of assistance to Member States.

1.2 In this regard, a number of initiatives have so far been introduced with the long-term objective of bringing about far-reaching shared benefits and repositioning Member States for increased intra-regional synergy, mutual collaboration and safer civil aviation operations. While some have been completed, others are in various stages of implementation. Some of these initiatives are outlined in Section 2.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 **Common Training System.** BAGASOO has successfully expanded the scope and framework of its structured task-based training system, hitherto limited to Flight Standards domains, to cover all safety domains. Currently the Member States have agreed to and currently implement a common training policy covering the all-ICAO safety areas.

2.2 **Strengthening the harmonization Process.** Over the years, the Organization has been

able to establish a generic and robust foundation for the harmonization of Member States' regulations. BAGASOO is putting in place a new policy framework to further accelerate its efforts towards achieving full harmonization across the region. To this effect, a new harmonization policy document has been developed, The revised framework incorporates new working methodology and principles, strategic policy direction and proposal on a definitive criterion for measurement of progress in harmonization of Member States' regulations. The document is to be finalized by the end of the year 2022 and thereafter implementation will commence.

2.3 Safety Tools. As parts of efforts to strengthen organizational efficiency and performance and ultimately enhance the safety oversight capability of its Member States, BAGASOO has developed and launched a number of aviation safety tools. They are the Inspector Activity Tracking System (ISATS) software, for training management and recording keeping, the Inspector Training and Qualification System (ITRAQS) software, for recording and tracking all inspectors work activity, and the Foreign Aircraft Safety Assessment Programme (FASAP) applications, for recording and reporting ramp inspections of foreign aircraft.

2.4 Technical Assistance to Member States. Several technical assistance missions have been undertaken as part of measures to provide support to BAG Member States in enhancing their capability for safety oversight. The nature of assistance relates to USOAP audit self-assessment, certification and surveillance of service providers, training and technical document development and adaptation, safety tools - deployment, training, upgrade, and data migration.

2.5 Cooperative Inspectorate Scheme. The Cooperative Inspectorate scheme has been established. Under the scheme, a pool of national inspectors from various safety oversight domains was created. The scheme has helped minimized inherent weakness noticeable in the limited number of regional inspectors vis-à-vis the growing annual work program of BAGASOO and has particularly been useful in supporting the Organization in fields where in-house personnel are lacking.

2.6 Capacity Building of National Inspectors. The Organization has been instrumental to the training of several national inspectors in the region, through collaborative arrangements with international partners such as European Union and Federal Aviation Administration, African Development Bank through the PASTA-CO grant, Airbus Industries. BAGASOO consultation with FAA resulted in training concessions, enabling BAG national inspectors to undertake, its web-based courses which are compliant with the region's common training programme. In all, there has been 442 students participating so far with over a total of 7919 course enrollment.

2.7 Other Initiatives

2.7.1 Competency Based Training System for Aviation Lawyers. BAGASOO is in the process of developing a structured training programme for CAA lawyers/Legal Advisers. This is in view of the need to continue to align and tailor the training of CAA Lawyers/Legal Advisers in the BAG Region to better support the industry they serve.

2.7.2 Cooperative Training Scheme and Course Development. In order to build internal training capacity, reduce over dependence on external training and address current training deficit, BAGASOO is working on establishing course development program, using a regional of course developers. Through internally efforts, BAGASOO had solely developed some key inspector training courses to support accomplishment of Job functions in the Indoctrination, Surveillance and Resolution of Safety Concerns categories of its Inspector Training System. The Cooperative training scheme has been introduced for the purpose of maintaining separate pools of instructors and course

developers selected from within the BAG region to support BAGASOO in the provision of training services

2.7.3 GASOS Assessment and Quality Management. BAGASOO participated in the GASOS pilot programme in May 2019 and this has further strengthened and repositioned it for a more effective discharge of its regional safety oversight obligations. In the quest to ensure efficient delivery of services and in line with international best practices, BAGASOO has adopted and is implementing Quality Management System (QMS).

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Recognize the vital role and remarkable benefit that a common regional policy initiative such as common training system and an intra-regional collaborative arrangement such as the cooperative training scheme can bring to safety oversight capacity and encourage RSOOs to consider adopting similar schemes either unilaterally or by collaboration with appropriate bodies;
- b) Recognize the central role of the harmonization objective within the mandate of most RSOOs and its synergistic and capacity enhancing benefits, and encourage RSOOs to adopt more effective and result-orientated harmonization models;
- c) Recognize the benefits of the GASOS in helping to reposition RSOOs for a more effective discharge of their responsibilities and urge RSOOs who are yet to participate to leverage on its availability;
- d) Note the resource constraint faced by RSOOs and work with RSOOs to promote the creation of appropriate conditions and avenues that will encourage international partners and donor agencies to continue to maintain and intensify collaboration and forge new partnerships with RSOOs in critical areas that will strengthen safety oversight capacity; and
- e) Continue to support efforts towards the formulation and implementation of mechanisms that will sustainably address persistent funding challenges faced by RSOOs.