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: State Safety Programme (SSP) Peer Review Mechanism

(Presented by
South Africa, Kenya, Togo, Eswatini, Ivory Coast, Nigeria and Rwanda)

SUMMARY
This working paper presents an update and progress of the AFI State Safety Programme (SSP) Peer Review Mechanism. The AFI SSP Peer Review Mechanism seeks to promote collaboration amongst States to improve the implementation of SSP/SMS through sharing of technical experts information among AFI States. The goal of this mechanism is to ensure that all AFI states have achieved the GASP and Regional goal of effective SSP implementation by 2025. This programme recognises the importance of the management of safety as one of the top priorities in achieving the acceptable safety standards and reducing aviation safety risks. It therefore supports the GASP mandate to reduce operational risks and implement proactive programmes to manage safety and prevent accidents and loss of life and damage to property/infrastructure. Action by the Meeting is at paragraph 3

Strategic Objectives:	A – Safety
References:	ICAO Annex 19: Safety Management ICAO Doc 10004: Global Aviation Safety Plan

1.   **INTRODUCTION**

1.1   The AFI State Safety Programme (SSP) peer review mechanism proposal was presented at RASG-AFI/6. The proposal was in response to the lack of significant improvement in the implementation of an effective SSP. It has been noted that most AFI States were constrained in terms of resources to establish and implement an effective SSP.

1.2   It was noted that only one State (Rwanda) has managed to achieve Level 4 of the SSP implementation (iStars results). The lack of significant progress in AFI States has a negative impact on the achievement of the GASP goal for States to implement the foundation of an SSP by 2023.

1.3   The SSP Peer review mechanism notes, recognises and appreciates the AFI programmes to assist States in the progression of SSP implementation, therefore the SSP Peer review mechanism is meant to supplement current ongoing efforts. The mechanism focuses mainly on the State Safety Programme Implementation Assessments (SSPIAs) and the sharing of best practices and tools amongst AFI States.

1.4   RASG-AFI/6 – WP/05-E, which was presented at the RASG AFI/06 contained the following proposals:

a) *Adopt and establish the proposed AFI SSP Peer Review Mechanism as a proactive programme to enhance and improve SSP implementation in the region;*

b) *The AFI Plan Project on the implementation of the SSP to establish a team to facilitate the experts from States to participate in the Peer Review taking into consideration SME's involvement in the Aviation Safety Risk Management iPack Deployment Process;*

c) *Urge AFI States to collaborate, to work together and participate in the AFI SSP Peer Review Mechanism to enhance safety and achieve the regional goals;*

d) *Note the request for support from the Regional Offices.*

1.5   In response to the proposals, the following was decided upon (as reflected in the RASG-AFI/6 report)

- **RASG-AFI/6 Decision 6/18: Support to the SSP Peer Review Mechanism** - That the ICAO Regional Offices facilitate the finalisation of modalities towards the establishment of the SSP Peer Review Mechanism, taking into consideration the involvement of SMEs in the deployment of the Aviation Safety Risk Management iPack.

- **RASG-AFI/6 Conclusion 6/19: Cooperation amongst States in the AFI SSP Peer Review Mechanism** - That AFI States collaborate and work together in the AFI SSP Peer Review Mechanism to enhance safety, through effective SSP implementation, and thereby achieve the regional goals.

1.6   Further, RASG/7 in conclusion 7/11 on the AFI Plan State Safety Programme (SSP) project, recognized the need to ensure that the implementation of the AFI Plan SSP Project and the SSP Peer Review complement each other.

1.7   This WP seeks to provide an update on the establishment of the SSP Peer Review mechanism.

2.   **DISCUSSION**

2.1   Progress on decisions is detailed below:

DECISION: RASG-AFI/6 DECISION 6/18: SUPPORT TO THE SSP PEER REVIEW MECHANISM

That the ICAO Regional Offices facilitate the finalisation of modalities towards the establishment of the SSP Peer Review mechanism, taking *into* consideration the involvement of SMEs in the deployment of the aviation safety risk management iPack.

Progress made – Meetings were held between the ESAF & WACAF Regional Officers and the States participating in the SSP Peer review mechanism. The purpose of the engagements was to understand the objectives and purpose of the mechanism and establish support required from the ESAF & WACAF Regional Offices. States undertook to draft the SSP Peer Review mechanism initiation document (attached). The document contains modalities of the mechanisms; it is meant to provide information on the mechanisms to the Regional Office and the Directors-General of participating States. The document was finalised by the participating States and was forwarded to the ESAF & WACAF Regional Offices and presented at RASC-8.

DECISION: RASG-AFI/6 Conclusion 6/19: Cooperation amongst States in the AFI SSP Peer Review Mechanism - That AFI States collaborate and work together in the AFI SSP Peer Review Mechanism to enhance safety, through effective SSP implementation and thereby achieve the regional goals.

Progress made: Efforts were made to reach out to additional States such as the Ivory Coast and Rwanda. States had numerous virtual meetings to discuss and give input on the modalities of the mechanism (as contained in the project initiation document). Additionally, States were able to establish a project plan for the Peer review mechanism. States also shared tools to be used in the peer review mechanism.

Conclusion 7/11 of RASG-AFI/7: AFI Plan State Safety Programme (SSP) project

Progress made: The Peer review mechanism has been included as a supporting activity in the SSP safety support team. Pilot States will continue to work closely with the Reginal Offices to support both the AFI Plan project and the Peer review mechanism.

3.   **ACTION BY THE MEETING**

The meeting is invited to:

a)   Review the draft SSP Peer Review mechanism initiation document and provide feedback that will build on the final document to be completed in collaboration with ICAO;

b)   Note the progress made in the establishment of the SSP Peer review mechanism and to continue to support efforts made by States.