International Civil Aviation Organization

MID Safety Support Team

Fifth Meeting (MID-SST/5)
(Cairo, Egypt, 19-21 February 2019)

Agenda Item 2: **MID-SST Work Programme**

SHARING SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS

(Presented by the United Arab Emirates)

SUMMARY
Sharing of Safety Recommendations related to Accidents and Serious Incidents
Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1   The RSC/6 meeting agreed to form a Safety Enhancement Initiative (SEI) to be addressed by the appropriate Safety Team(s) within the RASG-MID framework to enhance sharing of safety recommendations and to establish a regional database, which would be very beneficial in addressing the Focus Areas and Emerging Risks in the MID-Region.

1.2   The RSC/6 meeting noted, with appreciation, that the United Arab Emirates will be the Champion for the implementation of this SEI concerning *Sharing of Safety Recommendations related to Accidents and Serious Incidents*. It was also agreed that details on actions and deliverables should be addressed by the MID-SST/5 meeting.

1.3   It was agreed that the Regional database should include safety recommendations related to accidents and serious incidents. Accordingly, the meeting urged States to share their safety recommendations after investigation of accidents and serious incidents.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1   In accordance with the provisions of Annex 13, a State shall send to ICAO a copy of the Final Report on its investigations into accidents and serious incidents involving aircraft of a maximum mass of over 5,700 kilograms.

2.2   Final Reports can be sent in hard copy but it is preferable that they be in electronic format. The Final reports shall be public documents which are issued in the interest of aircraft accident prevention.

2.3   Final Reports received by ICAO are stored in the ICAO Electronic Library of Final Reports (e-Library) and posted on the AIG website, which is accessible through the ICAO public website. In this way, safety lessons learned during investigations, and information captured in Final Reports, will be made available to a wide audience, including safety investigators, other safety officers, and interested parties.

2.4   Prompt dissemination to all States of the findings of investigations can be a major contribution to aviation safety. To facilitate the exchange of accident information, all States are encouraged to disseminate their Final Reports to other States. Use of the Internet can expedite such dissemination.

2.5   A safety recommendation is defined as a proposal by an accident investigation authority, based on information derived from an investigation. The intended purpose of a safety recommendation is the prevention of accidents or incidents, and the reduction of the consequences of such occurrences. Non-contributing safety issues may also be sources of safety recommendations.

2.6   The benefits of a safety recommendation will be more assured if the State issuing the safety recommendation follows the guidance of ICAO Doc 9756, Part IV. According to the guidance, a safety recommendation should clearly describe the safety problem and provide justification for the recommended safety actions. The development of convincing recommendations must be based on validated factual information, sound analysis and logical conclusions, so as to withstand challenges by those having divergent interests.

2.7   ICAO requires that safety recommendations be transmitted in a dated transmittal correspondence to the appropriate authorities, notifying them of the safety recommendations for which they are responsible. States are also required to inform the Accident Investigation Section of the ICAO Air Navigation Bureau of issued Safety Recommendations of Global Concern (SRGC), as well as the responses received to these recommendations.

2.8   Sharing safety recommendations within the MID-Region will limit the number of States and it will be more practicable for States to present their investigation outcomes. The medium of sharing is preferable to be electronic on a shared MID-Region repository (library).

2.9   An 'online application form' is one of the ways in which safety recommendations may be posted on the repository. The form may contains fields relevant to the safety recommendations components, i.e the safety risks addressed by the investigation, the deficient risk controls, the recommended safety actions, and the addressees of the safety recommendations. This mechanism is the most effective since it makes the origin of the safety recommendation visible to all member States and makes analysis of the database more worthwhile. However, this mechanism needs effort, focus, and human resources from the States.

2.10   As a more traditional approach, safety recommendations may be uploaded to the repository as 'read only' as they are issued either in the Final Report, or in any other safety recommendation document.

2.11   It is highly recommended that the shared safety recommendations be analyzed while considering each State's operational environment and aviation system. However, analysis may be carried out by either an individual State or States' common body. In either scenario, the resulting conclusions and strategic recommended corrective actions should be shared and posted to the repository.

2.12   For this database to be useful and effective, the member States should develop a document such as a 'charter of cooperation mechanism' that will oblige the repository member States to post all Final Reports and safety recommendations. The 'charter' should contain the mechanism of cooperation and the overall objectives. The maintenance of the mechanism should be subject to the utmost diligence by the member States. The location of the repository and its management should be clearly mentioned in the 'charter'.

3.   ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1   The meeting is invited to:

a)   discuss and approve the proposal to establish a repository for MID-Region States to allow sharing and analysis of their safety recommendations and sharing of Final reports;

b)   form a taskforce to prepare a questionnaire and follow up the distribution and collection for surveying of the MID-Region States' interest in such cooperation; and

c)   form a working group to establish Strategy for this cooperation mechanism, and draft a 'charter' to document the cooperation mechanisms and objectives.

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