



**ASSEMBLY – 35TH SESSION**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Agenda Item 16.2: Transition to a systems approach for audits in the ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP)**

**IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF THE AERODROME CERTIFICATION**

(Presented by Republic of Korea)

**INFORMATION PAPER**

**SUMMARY**

This paper presents the implementation status of the Republic of Korea on the aerodrome certification initiated as part of USOAP.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

The Republic of Korea is one of the countries whose aviation and airport system are experiencing considerable growth. Since the standardization is integral part of aviation safety, the Republic of Korea has attempted to achieve compliance with the international standards to assure the highest level of safety in the airport operations as well as the national air carriers and cargo operations.

As of 25 November 2003, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), Ministry of Construction and Transportation, Republic of Korea issued the aerodrome certificates to eight airports, including four military airports where civil air carriers are operating into, used for international operations.

**2. DEVELOPMENT OF AERODROME OPERATIONAL STANDARDS**

The aerodrome certification program is based on the provisions of the Aviation Act that was approved by the National Assembly. The CASA established the Airport Operations Standards (AOS) and Aerodrome Certification and Surveillance Regulations (ACSR) along with the standards and procedures prescribed in the provisions of the Aviation Act.

The aerodrome certificate inspectors of the CASA inspected the aerodromes to be certified and issued the aerodrome certificates, and approved the Aerodrome Operation Manual prepared by the aerodrome operators. The certification program incorporated the ICAO Standards to the extent possible.

### 3. **COMPLIANCE THROUGH EDUCATION**

From the initial stage of the certification program, the philosophy "compliance through education" was adopted by CASA as it regarded the trained personnel as the key to aerodrome safety. The personnel, involved in aerodrome safety, of CASA and the two major airport operators - Korea Airports Corporation (KAC) and Incheon International Airport Corporation (IIAC), were trained with both domestic and international training programs. And a system was also established that requires CASA and the airport operators to ensure on-going training of personnel.

As a result of very intensified efforts, CASA currently maintain 10 inspectors with full qualification, and the two airport operators, KAC and IIAC, also have adequate number of fully qualified self-inspectors and safety personnel.

### 4. **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

The Republic of Korea attributed part of the success to the close international cooperation. COSCAP-NA based in Beijing organized various training courses and seminars to provide guidance for CASA and the airport operators. The Republic of Korea benefited the contribution of COSCAP-NA in understanding how to proceed with certification program.

As the FAA of United States has much experiences in standardization of marking, lighting and sign systems of airports, the certification program was in part modeled in close cooperation with the FAA. The agency also shared with the Republic of Korea of its extensive experiences on airport certification via various courses.

### 5. **MILITARY AIRPORTS**

To ensure the safety of extensive commercial air transportation, the CASA decided to include the 4 joint-use military airports with civil air carrier operations in the certification program. The 4 military airports are owned and operated by the Korea Air Force. The military personnel assume the operational responsibilities for the airfield, and maintain the airfield facilities in accordance with its own operational standards designed for the military aircraft operations.

Some differences were found between the operational standards being used by CASA and the Air Force. However, through the remarkable collaboration among the parties, the discrepancies were minimized successfully.

### 6. **CONCLUSION**

Following the intensive collaboration between the CASA and the airport operators, CASA successfully certified the aerodromes operated by KAC and IIAC in compliance with ICAO Standards. All aerodromes certified are being operated by adequately trained personnel and in accordance with the AOS developed by CASA. As a consequence, all the airline operators can be assured of the highest level of safety at the certified airports.