



INFORMATION PAPER

RASG-PA ESC/20 — IP/04
15/07/14

**Twentieth Meeting of the Regional Aviation Safety Group – Pan America (RASG-PA)
Executive Steering Committee (RASG-PA ESC/20)
Washington, D.C., United States, 15 to 16 July 2014**

**Agenda Item 4: RASG-PA Project Reports
4.2 Central American Accident and Incident Investigation Commission
update**

**CREATION OF AN INVESTIGATIVE BODY FOR THE CONDUCT OF INVESTIGATION OF
ACCIDENTS AND INCIDENTS IN CENTRAL AMERICA**

(Presented by COCESNA / ACSA)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
This information paper informs the ESC on the progress which the Regional Investigative Group of Central America has achieved, thanks to the support of the Board of Directors of COCESNA and of its Member States. The second half of 2014 is filled with activities that are detailed in this report, seeking the support of previous members of the ESC who in the past have offered their support, paving the road for January’s 2015 launch of the regional accident and incident investigative group.	
<i>Strategic Objective:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety
<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP) • Safety Road Map • Annex 13 • Doc. 9946

1. Introduction

1.1 The Central American Agency for Aeronautical Safety (ACSA) in compliance with resolution 97/5 arising out of the Civil Aviation Directors meeting of the region and Panama, agrees for; **"COCESNA to support and coordinate the development of a project for the establishment of a Regional Accident Investigation agency"** which has been developing through the years and will now be based in ACSA Costa Rica, in compliance with said motion, developing the initial activities for the implementation of the above mandate.

1.2 COCESNA as an agency of integration and harmonization assigns this mandate to ACSA who is presently in charge of its establishment and implementation of an INDEPENDENT investigative body. Although it's been a tough road getting to this point, ACSA has since been involved in assisting COCESNA States, upon request, investigation of accidents and incidents in accordance to ICAO's requirements. This year, the regional group has received much needed funds which has allowed for the initiation of the second phase at a much quicker pace. The formation of the group involves the execution of three phases. Phase one consisted with the creation of procedure manuals, checklist and the formation of the group itself. Presently, the project is in phase two which involves the purchasing of equipment and the training of personnel. For information concerning this project and future plans, please contact ACSA at acsaservicios@cocesna.org or miguel.pacheco@cocesna.org, where all request for services are handled. This information paper, also calls for assistance from the ESC members who have offered their support before, enabling the successful launch of the Regional Accident Investigation Group for 2015.

2. Implementation

2.1 The creation of this regional group involves different logistical activities, which are summarized as follows:

- Captain Miguel Pacheco, from COCESNA ACSA, is officially named Investigator in Charge (IIC) and coordinator of the regional group, which through his hard work and efforts, has earned him this nomination
- COCESNA establishes an accident and incident department within the installations of ACSA, from which the group will officially be operated from
- The Board of Directors of COCESNA approves the necessary funds required by the project in order to facilitate and initiate the launching of the regional group as planned. This was unanimously approved based on the commitment that the member states has for the project
- The initial acquisition of laptops and field kits are been purchased which will assist the investigators on the field
- We are seeking assistance form members of the ESC who can assist the regional group with regards to personnel training
- The regional group SOP's are presently been developed and will form part of the regionals group procedure manual governing its activities

- An official letter to COCESNA member states calling for the nomination of its personnel to the group has been completed
- The projects roadmap is presently been developed and will be completed with the nomination of the member states personnel to the group and finalized when the regional group meets for its first time in August of this year
- We are presently working on a system of aeronautical notification and information gathering which will be compatible with ECCAIRS, complimenting the mandatory and voluntary reporting systems of Annex 13, as a supporting project to the regional group, shared among other safety programs of which ACSA and its member states administer.

3. Required Action:

3.1 Advice the ESC of the regional group's accomplishments, highlighting the support the project has received from COCESNA member states.

3.2 Request from the ESC any information or advise which would assist the regional group with training channeling such information via email to acsaservicios@cocesna.org or miguel.pacheco@cocesna.org.

3.3 Advice the ESC of its initial start of SINSA (Sistema de Notificación de Sucesos Aeronáuticos) in Central America, compatible with ECCAIRS, involving the collection and analysis of data.