INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

FINAL REPORT ON THE FIRST MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN REGIONAL AVIATION SAFETY GROUP (RASC/1)

(*ICAO WACAF Office, Dakar, Senegal, 19-20 March, 2015*)

PREPARED BY THE SECRETARY OF RASC   MARCH 2015

1. **Background/Venue/Date:**

   1.1 The Steering Committee of the Africa and Indian Ocean Regional Aviation Safety Group (RASC) was created by the first meeting of the Group (RASG-AFI/1) held in Kampala, Uganda, 26-27 March 2012. It composes of representatives from States and international/regional organizations and industry and established to guide the work of the Group.

   1.2 The first meeting of the Steering Committee (RASC/1) was held at the ICAO Western and Central Africa (WACAF) Regional Office in Dakar, Senegal, from 19 to 20 March 2015. The meeting was as a result of an agreement reached by the fifth teleconference of the Steering Committee (RASC Teleconf./5) held on 19 February 2015.

   1.3 The meeting was chaired by the Acting Chairman of the Steering Committee, Mr. Zakhele G. Thwala, Deputy Director General of South Africa Civil Aviation Authority. Mr. Mam Sait Jallow, Regional Director (ICAO WACAF Office, Dakar), served as the Secretary to the meeting. He was assisted by Mr. Gaoussou Konate, Deputy Regional Director, (ICAO WACAF Office, Dakar) and the following Officers from the ICAO WACAF Office:

   Mr. Ousman Manjang, RO/AIR;
   Mr. Kebba Lamin Jammeh, RO/FS;
   Mr. Ali Ousmane, RO/AIR;
   Mr. Rene Tavarez, RO/FS.

   1.4 The discussions were conducted, and the meeting documentation issued in the English language.

2. **Participants:**

   2.1 Members of the RASC comprising representatives of South Africa (Acting Chairperson); IATA; Boeing; Senegal (FSO Champion State); Ethiopia (AIG Champion State); ASECNA; and ICAO attended the meeting. The list of participants is provided as **Appendix-A** to this report.

   2.2 The following members were absent: Ghana (SSC Champion State); Kenya (ESI Champion State); AFI Plan Steering Committee Chairperson; Coordinator for the AFI Group at the ICAO Council.

3 **Deliberations:**

   3.A Agenda Item 1: Review of Minutes of Teleconferences (RASC/4 & 5) and matters arising therefrom.

   The Meeting noted the developments and progress made by RASC as well as challenges it faces, as reported during teleconferences and provided appropriate Conclusions and Decisions.

   Conclusion RASC1/01: Leadership role in the execution of tasks and responsibilities
   That,
   Champion States and Co-Champions of the Safety Support Teams take a more active leadership role in the execution of their tasks and responsibilities.
   *(Champions: **SSC**: Ghana and AFCAC; **FSO**: Senegal and Uganda; **AIG**: Ethiopia and IFALPA; **ESI**: Kenya, ASECNA, ACI).*

Conclusion RASC1/02: Connectivity constraints for participation in teleconferences.

That,

Champion States encountering connectivity constraints that prevent them from participating effectively in RASC teleconferences contact the relevant ICAO Regional Office for alternative arrangements.

Conclusion RASC1/03: Funding of Runway Safety Go-Teams

That,

The Secretariat approaches Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and explores the possibility of their contribution to the funding of activities of Runway Safety Go-Teams.

3.B Agenda Item 2: Review and adoption of proposed RASG-AFI Work Programme for the Year 2015

The meeting reviewed and adopted the proposed 2015 Work Programme and in so doing, called upon the Safety Support Teams (SST) Champions to take into account in their plans and activities, the 2015 goals and regional targets, in general.

Decision RASC 1/01: Venue for the second Meeting of RASC (RASC/2).

That,

RASC/2 be held in Praia, Cape Verde, in October 2015, on the margins of the next APIRG/RASG-AFI/DGCA/AFPPSC Meetings.

Conclusion RASC1/04: Report on status of implementation / establishment of Regional Aircraft Accident Investigation entities, State AIG Bodies and / or conclusion of related agreements within the AFI Region

That,

Ethiopia, as the AIG Champion State, with the support of the Secretariat, conducts an assessment of the status of implementation / establishment of Regional Aircraft Accident Investigation entities, State AIG Bodies and / or conclusion of related agreements within the AFI Region and submits a report, including recommended strategies, to RASC by 1st May, 2015.

Decision RASC 1/02: AIM to be included in the list of Emerging Safety Issues (ESI)

That,

Aeronautical Information Management (AIM) be included in the list of ESIs generally, and that AIS/AIM transition forms part of the ESI-SST activities.

Decision RASC 1/03: Funding of critical activities of 2015 Work programme

That,

The Secretariat explores with ICAO HQ, the possibility of utilizing BOEING SAFE Funds to finance critical activities of the 2015 Work programme including the Runway Safety Project.

3.C Agenda Item 3: Progress Reports of Safety Support Team (SST) Champions

3.1 Fundamentals of Safety Oversight (FSO) project

The meeting applauded the FSO Champion State (Senegal) for the excellent planning, organization and execution of CMA OLF activities in preparation for ICAO off-site validation and for supporting a number of USOAP National Continuous Monitoring Coordinators (NCMCs) in similar work.

Conclusion RASC1/05:   Methodology for CAP updating and CMA OLF activities
That,
the methodology utilized by the FSO Champion State for CAP updating and CMA OLF activities be adopted as "best practice" and that the Champion works with the Secretariat on its refinement and availability in English, and eventual sharing with States' NCMCs.

3.2 Significant Safety Concerns (SSC) Project

The meeting noted with appreciation the progress made in the removal of SSCs in the AFI region and commended the WACAF Regional Office Safety Team and the SSC Champion State (Ghana) for the strategy employed in a bid to resolve the Sierra Leone PEL SSC. It, however, noted the imbalance in the number of unresolved SSCs in States accredited to the two ROs (ESAF and WACAF) and encouraged the use of the Tactical Action Plan example and various means of communication (teleconference, Skype, etc.) as a means of keeping the concerned States engaged.

Decision RASC 1/04: Adoption of Sierra Leone case as best practice
That,
as a best practice, Regional Offices work with States based on specific tactical plans to resolve SSCs by adopting the case of Sierra Leone as good practice.

Conclusion RASC1/06: Engaging ESAF States in resolving SSCs
That,
The High Level efforts of AFCAC and the AU be complemented by the Chairman of RASG-AFI and RD/ESAF in directly engaging the concerned States of the ESAF region particularly Angola, Botswana and Malawi, in a bid to resolving their respective SSCs.

Conclusion RASC1/07: Follow-up with States scheduled for USOAP audit activities
That,
ICAO Regional Offices make follow-ups on activities of States scheduled for USOAP audit activities (ICVM or CSA).

3.3 Emerging Safety Issues (ESI) Project

The meeting noted that the progress made by the ESI SST mainly focused on the Runway Safety Project at the expense of other safety issues under its responsibility. The meeting therefore, agreed that the involvement of the ESI Champion States (Kenya) be re-invigorated.

Conclusion RASC1/08: Coordination between ICAO ESAF Office and Kenya (Champion, ESI)
That,
the ICAO ESAF Office closely coordinates with Kenya, as Champion for ESI, to ensure progress in the activities of the ESI SST and that the Secretariat formally conveys this to the ESAF Office.

3.4 Aircraft Accident Investigation (AIG) project

The meeting took note of the progress made in the development of the AIG iKit which would serve as an effective tool for States to respond to AIG issues related to CE-1 through CE-5.

Conclusion RASC1/09: Coordination on implementation of AIG project training/workshops
That,
The Secretariat coordinates with the AFI Plan and the Bureau d'Enquête Accidents (BEA) of France on their proposed AIG training activities scheduled for the two regions (ESAF/WACAF) and the planned implementation workshops proposed in the AIG Project.

3.D Agenda Item 4:   Update on the work of the Project Group on the evaluation and analyses of the implementation of the Abuja Safety Targets.

The meeting, in recognizing the need for an acceleration of the work of the Project Group for the Evaluation of the Status of Implementation of the Abuja safety Targets in view of the deadline for presenting a report at the Maputo Meeting in May 2015, agreed,

- that a working session (teleconference) involving the whole Secretariat be conducted during the last week of March, 2015 (date and time to be coordinated), so as to:
  i.   assess the information so far available and to identify and compile additional data, as required from other sources; and
  ii.   agree on the methodology for analysis of data and the report format.

- whilst aware, through indications, that it is highly unlikely that the Abuja safety targets will be met on time. The Group proposes a strategy to improve the rate of implementation to a more acceptable level.

Conclusion RASC1/10: Amendment of States' regulations to incorporate IOSA requirements
That,
The FSO Champion liaises with IATA for the development of a model text that could be shared with COSCAPs/RSOOs and AFI-CIS to encourage States in carrying out the necessary amendments of their regulations to incorporate IOSA requirements. The proposed text to be finalized by 30 April 2015.

3.E Agenda Item 5:   Report on the first Meeting of the Annual Safety Report Team (ASRT/1) - Preparations for the drafting of the first report of the ASRT.

The meeting was assured by IATA on the existence of data required for analysis and use in the drafting of the first report of the ASRT. The meeting encouraged IATA to continue to collaborate with members of the ASRT with the goal of finalizing the report in due time.

Furthermore, the Committee agreed that the time horizon for the analysis of the available data be extended to 10 years for the added advantage of identifying consistent issues requiring immediate attention.

Conclusion RASC 1/11: Publication and Launching of the first report of the ASRT.
That,
- *the final draft of the report be ready for circulation by 25 April 2015 (i.e. the end of the ASRT meeting in Johannesburg) and the final version be ready on time for publication and for launching at the Maputo Meeting.*
- *a teleconference involving RASC, ASRT, and AFI Group Coordinator, be conducted on 6 May, 2015 at 13:00 hrs. (UTC) to finalise the ASRT's report.*

3.F Agenda Item 6: Preparations for AFI SC/15 Meeting in Maputo, Mozambique, in May 2015

- The meeting took note of the events scheduled for 18-21 May 2015 in Maputo and in particular, the AFI Plan SC/15 meeting and the Second AFI Safety Symposium. Recognizing the contributions of RASG-AFI to these two events, the Committee called on the Project Group for the Evaluation of the Abuja Safety Targets to finalize its work for presentation at the events.

- The Committee further urged the SST Champions to vigorously pursue implementation of the 2015 Work Programme to ensure the reporting of positive improvements at the Maputo events.

- The meeting tasked the ASRT to finalize its first report for a launching ceremony at the Second AFI Safety Symposium.

Conclusion RASC1/12: Development of specific project proposals by Champion States
That,
In view of the challenges highlighted, the respective SST Champions make specific project proposals to be presented to partners and stakeholders for their support.

3.G Agenda Item 7: A.O.B.

7.1. Report on the 2nd Global PIRG/RASG coordination meeting.

Decision RASC1/05: Coordination between APIRG and RASG-AFI

Considering the need to put in place measures to strengthen existing arrangements and adequately address the requirements for coordination between APIRG and RASG-AFI, that:

- *A joint Task Force, as a subsidiary body responsible for coordinating the activities of APIRG and RASG-AFI to ensure consistency, efficiency and lack of duplication and conflict between the two Groups, be created; and*

- *The Secretariat develops the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the proposed APIRG/RASG-AFI Coordination Task Force for presentation to the RASC teleconference on 6 May 2015 and, subsequently, for consideration by the next APIRG/RASG-AFI meetings in October, 2015.*

7.2. New composition of RASGs

The meeting noted that the RASG-AFI Structure needed to be re-examined for optimization of the reporting lines vis-à-vis Safety Support Teams, the RASC and RASG Chairs.

Decision RASC1/06: Review of RASG-AFI Structure
That,
The Secretariat re-visit the RASG-AFI Structure for the purpose of optimizing the line of reporting and bring up a proposal for consideration by the RASC teleconference of 6 May 2015 and, ultimately, RASG-AFI/3 in October, 2015.