



COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR AVIATION SAFETY IN AFRICA (AFI PLAN)

THIRTEENTH AFI PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

(Dakar, Senegal, 29-30 May 2014)

**Agenda Item 6: EASA's report on EU funded project – Support to the Improvement of
Aviation Safety in Africa (SIASA) initiative**

(Presented by European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA))

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This paper presents information related to the EU funded project Support to the Improvement of Aviation Safety in Africa (SIASA) articulated around 5 domains: Assistance to States with SSCs, Regulation and guidance material activities, Workshops organization, Training activities, and Organizational activities. The latest activities carried out under this project are highlighted along with foreseen future actions.

Action: The Steering Committee is invited to:

- a) Note of the information contained in the paper.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The grant contract between the Secretariat of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Group) and the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) related to the “Support to the Improvement of Aviation Safety in Africa” (SIASA) entered into force on 6 November 2012. The contract implementation started on 15 January 2013 for a duration of 36 months.

1.2 The beneficiaries are civil aviation authorities of Sub-Saharan Africa and more specifically the Regional Safety Oversight Organizations (RSOOs) and national Civil Aviation Authorities (CAAs).

1.3 The purposes of the SIASA project are as follows:

- To ensure the development of common regional safety standards and procedures meeting the international requirements in civil aviation (ICAO standards) and eventually the EU aviation safety rules;

- To contribute to the establishment of effective and sustainable RSOOs via institutional assistance and training of staff.

1.4 In the Inception Report, EASA proposed an Action Plan for the project which was adopted during the first Project Steering Committee meeting in April 2013. The Plan is articulated around the following five sets of activities: Assistance to States with SSCs, Regulation and guidance material activities, Workshop organization, Training activities, and Organizational activities.

2. SUMMARY OF PROGRESS: NOVEMBER 2013 – MAY 2014

2.1 The implementation of the project started after the April 2013 SIASA Steering Committee Meeting and a first set of activities were performed up to November 2013.

2.2 Assistance to States with SSCs was scheduled for 2014. However it was then realized that this assistance could not be reserved to States with SSCs for diverse reasons, the main one being the necessity to secure the commitment of the States themselves to allocate the necessary resources. In November 2013 the project team was asked to draft a States selection methodology and was done and will be presented to the June SIASA Project Steering Committee Meeting for validation.

2.3 Three activities are planned under the category “Regulation and guidance material activities”: ANS regulation, PANS-OPS Procedure approval guidance material and Flight inspector guidance material.

2.3.1 The members of the working group for the development of the ANS regulation have been designated. This working group (which will draft the regulation in French) consists of the following countries: Benin, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Mauritania and Senegal. ASECNA will also participate in this working group along with the European experts. The focus of the working group will be on the certification and oversight of the ANSPs.

2.3.2 As for the PANS-OPS Procedure approval Guidance Material (GM), EASA is working in close cooperation with the Africa Flight Procedure Programme based in Dakar, Senegal. The SIASA project will take care of the mission costs for the experts from four countries participating to the working group. Assistance from European experts will also be provided. The working group will work in both English and French and the first meeting is scheduled for June 2014.

2.3.3 Regarding the Flight inspector guidance material, its development is scheduled for 2015.

2.4 Three events will be organised under the workshop activities: an airworthiness workshop focusing on the introduction of technology evolution, the EASA International Cooperation Forum and a workshop on aviation training organisations certification.

2.4.1 The Airworthiness Workshop which is organised in cooperation with Airbus was originally scheduled to be held in Windhoek, Namibia in April 2014. However, due to logistical difficulties, it was postponed to September 2014. This workshop is expected to attract some 50 participants from civil aviation authorities. Additional participants from industry are also welcomed.

2.4.2 The EASA International Cooperation Forum will take place early June 2014 in Cologne, Germany and will address issues such as new European regulations, the European Aviation Safety Policy, ATM new challenges.

2.4.3 The workshop on aviation training organisations certification will take place in 2015.

2.5 The planned training activities to be carried out under the project are: Train the trainer, AOC Ops Specs approval, Human factors and ANSP oversight.

2.5.1 The train the trainer course which was initially foreseen to be generic has been modified to take into account regional needs as expressed by AFCAC and ICAO AFI Plan. The shortage of French speaking OPS inspectors has been pointed out on several occasions. In the scope of the AFI Plan, Morocco and France have been working on such a course. Once the validation of these courses is complete by ICAO, they may constitute the basis for the training.

2.5.2 The AOC OPS Specifications course has already been delivered twice. The first course took place in Accra, Ghana for the member States of BAGASOO and in Douala, Cameroon for Central Africa. This course will be delivered at least two more times in 2014 (one in the EAC region, and another one in the SADC region).

2.5.3 A human factors course is scheduled to take place at the end of the first semester or at the beginning of the second semester of 2014. This course will be delivered in both French and English. The first session will be held in the UEMOA region.

2.5.4 A fourth training is scheduled to be delivered in 2015. It covers ANSP oversight.

2.6 The fifth activity concerns organisational issues. Under this category three activities are foreseen: SOFIA implementation, ECCAIRS assistance and RSOOs assistance.

2.6.1 As for the SOFIA implementation a first set of missions have been carried out in Eastern Africa in 2013 to upgrade the version of the software already in use by CASSOA member States. Another mission has taken place in Malawi where COSCAP SADC was able to join. Further missions are scheduled for the coming months once Version 2.0 of the software has been released. The next mission will take place in Togo for the UEMOA region. The personnel from REC safety agency ACSAC (Agence Communautaire de Supervision de la Sécurité et de la Sûreté de l'Aviation Civile – Community Agency for the Supervision of Civil Aviation Safety and Security) will be invited to join as well as other member states of the region interested in this tool.

2.6.2 To this date no actions have been implemented regarding ECCAIRS and RSOOs assistance.

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