

Meeting with the Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Congo

Brazzaville, 15 May 2009

1. Objective of the meeting:

- a. Briefing of the Authority on the results of the GASP Workshop for Central Africa organized under ACIP and on follow-up action expected
- b. Follow-up on issue of common interest including USOAP and USAP

2. Participants

ICAO	ICAORD Dakar C/ACIP DD/ANB	
Republic of Congo:	Frédéric Manienze Michel Ambemde Georges Zawou Rigobert Tchissambot Serge Dzota	Chief of Staff – Ministry of Transport Director General of Civil Aviation (ANAC) Adviser to the Minister (and former DG) Inspector General, Civil Aviation Director, Air Navigation Directorate ANAC
ISSG:	Chamsou Andjorin	Boeing

3. Content of the meeting

A. *GASP Workshop for Central Africa*

As the Chief of Staff was briefed on the result of the workshop during the closing session (see attachment), the meeting focused on follow-up action. It was explained that ACIP will shortly contact Congo to establish the dates where a complete gap analysis for Congo can be completed under the auspices of ACIP.

B. *Follow-up on USOAP and USAP Audits*

ICAORD informed the Chief of Staff on the current status of USOAP and USAP Audits based on the brief received from SSA. The need to resolve quickly the existing safety concerns as well as providing a more satisfactory plan of action for the Safety Oversight Audit. The Chief of Staff indicated that progresses were made on the development of new regulations and ANAC re-organization to clearly separate Regulatory and Service Provider functions and that he was personally disappointed by the quality of the Action plan submitted by ANAC and that he had asked that a more realistic and specific action plan be prepared. He also mentioned that temporary air carrier licences were no longer issued and that they had cleaned up the process of issuing air carrier authorization from an economic and financial perspective. However he recognized there were still facing difficulties in the issuance of AOCs. He asked for ICAO assistance.

From the discussion above, it is clear that there is a willingness to make progress and that some actions are being taken. However, the extent of the progress made, especially towards eliminating the significant safety concern, is not clear and ICAORD Dakar agreed to send one of the flight safety officers of his office to assess what has been achieved and provide guidance on further action required.

C. Visit of the President of the Council to Congo

To the surprise of the ICAO delegation, the Chief of Staff had informed us the previous night that he had received a personal commitment of the President that he would visit Congo in August. While it might have been a case of confusion between the Republic of Congo (Brazzaville) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (Kinshasa), we indicated that, should the President decide to go to Brazzaville, there would be a need to show tangible improvement before his visit. Solving the situation which has led to the significant safety concerns would be a way to achieve this goal.
