



## INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

**Meeting on the establishment of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG) of the Africa–Indian Ocean Aviation System Planning and Implementation Group (AASPG), Nairobi, Kenya.**

*From 24 to 25 April 2025*

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**Agenda Item 4 - Establishment and Operationalization of the SMO Sub-Group****4.1 Project based approach**

*(Presented by the Secretariat)*

SUMMARY
<p>This Paper presents the approach and the mechanisms for the identification and implementation of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO -SG) Projects as defined in the AASPG Procedural Handbook and endorsed by the APIRG/27 and RASG-AFI/10 meeting.</p> <p>Action by the meeting is at <b>paragraph 3</b> of this Paper.</p>
<p><b>REFERENCE(S):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• APIRG/27 and RASG-AFI/10 Report</li><li>• AASPG Procedural Handbook</li></ul>
<p><b>Related ICAO Strategic Objective(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A – <i>Safety</i></li></ul>

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1. The meeting may recall that the Organizational structure of the newly merged entity replacing APIRG and RASG-AFI, the Africa-Indian Ocean Aviation System Planning and Implementation Group (AASPG), was endorsed by the extraordinary Meeting of the APIRG and RASG-AFI held on 19 July 2024 in Libreville, Gabon.
- 1.2. The meeting may also recall that the first edition of the AASPG Procedural Handbook aimed at facilitating the effective and efficient operation of the AASPG, as outlined in APIRG/27 & RASG-AFI/10 Decision 6/02 was endorsed by the APIRG/27 and RASG-AFI/10 meeting held in East London, South Africa, from 4 to 8 November 2024.
- 1.3. The APIRG/27 and RASG-AFI/10 meeting also approved the Future Work Programme of the AASPG and its Contributory Bodies, enabling them to effectively discharge their mandates, as reflected in APIRG/27 & RASG-AFI/10 Decision 6/11.

- 1.4. This paper discusses the Project based approach as defined in the AASPG Procedural Handbook and reviews the mechanisms for the identification and implementation of the Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG) Projects.

## **2. DISCUSSIONS**

- 2.1. The AASPG Procedural Handbook outlines that a project management approach will be followed to carry out the work of the SMO/SG. 'Projects' will be identified and executed by teams of subject matter experts, who will report to the SMO/SG. In certain circumstances, AASPG may, as it deems necessary, agree to a Project Team that does not report to a Sub-Group, but to the Group itself through the Programme Review and Coordination Committee (PRCC).
- 2.2. AASPG, its contributory bodies, ICAO Secretariat, States or the civil aviation industry through its representative bodies, may propose a project or activity to be carried out as a project within the framework of AASPG. All project proposals shall be subject to approval by AASPG. However, under certain circumstances, and to avoid unnecessary delays in activities with critical time implications, the PRCC may, with the guidance of the ICAO Secretariat, endorse a project on behalf of AASPG.
- 2.3. Project proposals submitted to AASPG for approval shall be formulated on a Project Definition Template as defined in the AASPG Procedural Handbook.
- 2.4. To support States in establishing and maintaining a sustainable State Safety management and Oversight System in the region, seven projects have been developed and are currently at different levels of implementation under the AFI Plan. These projects address critical areas, including aerodrome certification, search and rescue (SAR), peer reviews of air navigation service providers (ANSPs), implementation of State Safety Programmes (SSPs), aircraft accident and incident investigation (AIG), the fundamentals of safety oversight (FSO), and aeronautical information management (AIM).
- 2.5. To further enhance aviation safety in the region, new projects or activities in the following areas are proposed for consideration by the meeting:
- Development /updating and implementation of Regional/National Aviation Safety Plan
    1. AFI-RASP Revision for alignment with the current GASP
    2. NASPs Development and Implementation
    3. Safety Data Collection and Processing System (Establishment of Safety data and safety information protection)
  - Safety Management System
  - SMO/SG related Conclusions and Decisions Monitoring
- 2.6. Activities being carried out by various contributory bodies that are foreseen to be impacted by the merging and restructuring of APIRG and RASG-AFI shall, as soon as practicable, be transformed into projects for review by AASPG through a defined transition plan.

### **3. ACTIONS BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Take note of the information provided in this paper;
- b) Consider the projects proposals as outlined in the WP and propose additional projects as appropriate;
- c) Urge /encourage members of the newly nominated SMO/SG Project Teams to collaborate in the development of project documents for PRCC consideration; and the revision and implementation of the existing projects;
- d) Request the ICAO secretariat to circulate SL to invite States to nominate experts to support Project Teams activities; and
- e) Request the AASPG Meeting to urge States to cooperate in the implementation of the SMO/SG projects by releasing their nominated subject matter experts and allocation of other resources as may be considered necessary.

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