



Rationalising AFI RSOO Membership

RSOO Study Follow-up – Validation Workshop 28-30 April 2025, Kampala, Uganda







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RSOO Constituting elements







RSOO Constituting elements

➤ Size of Membership

- RSOO Organisation should be manageable: institutionally, technically, resource wise
- Have a critical size: not too small, not too big
- Optimal size between 6 and 15

Language

- Common working language is key for allowing smooth collaboration
- Cultural commonalities

➤ National legal system

Sufficient legal homogeneity should exist between Member States







RSOO Constituting elements (Cont'd)

- Combining Strengths
 - Avoid addition of weaknesses
 - ➤ Look for complementarity among Member States
- ➤ Commonalities
 - Common problems and challenges
 - Aviation industry
- ➤ Proper articulation with Regional Economic Communities
 - Political and institutional approach
 - Regional funding capacities









Specific case of AAMAC







Specific Case of AAMAC

- ➤ Covering several AFI sub-regions
 - Appear to duplicate with other RSOOs: ASSA-AC and URSAC/ACSAC
- Dedicated to ANS Domain (Scope should nevertheless be clarified)
- ➤ No real duplication
 - If disciplinary scope is respected: tripartite agreement with ASSA-AC and URSAC/ACSAC
 - Challenge of new entrants: Rwanda, Gambia?,...
- Challenge of common regulatory structure with other disciplinary domains
- ➤ Still a question on ANS for non-common ANS services
- A challenge in assuring independency from common ATM operator: ASECNA







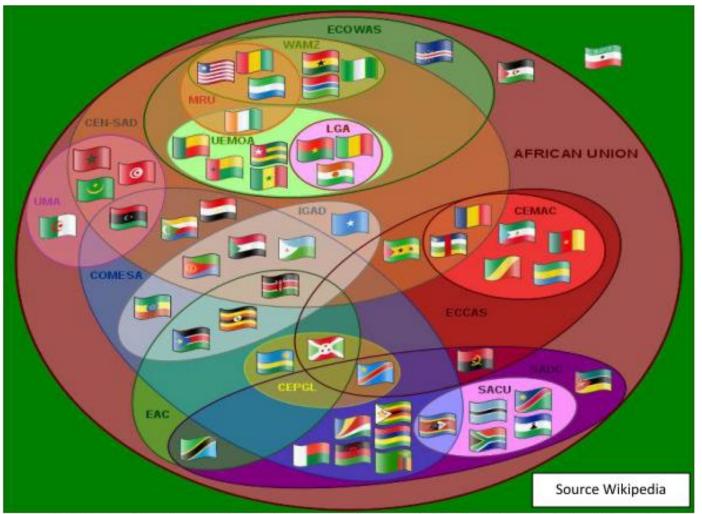
Non-duplication of membership





AFI Regional Economic communities







Note: This map is a Wikipedia Map to illustrate how REC do potentially mix membership in the AFI region. Rwanda is part of ECCAS, EAC has 8 Member States the original 5 plus DRC, Somalia and South Sudan





Non-Duplication of Membership

- Except specific case of AAMAC, duplication essentially linked to overlap of Regional Economic Community membership
- For political and economic reasons, States may not wish to leave some REC
 Necessity to find alternatives
- > Proposal: Differentiating RSOO institutional Membership and Operational Membership
- RSOO Operational Membership shall be unique
 - Regulatory framework
 - Delegated Safety oversight activities
 - O ...
- ➤ Institutional Members could duplicate even if not suitable
 - Duplication of Member contribution
 - Participation to training sessions, workshops and other not regulation-related activities
- Proposal
 - Tanzania: Institutional Membership to SASO and CASSOA, Operational Membership to CASSOA
 - > DRC: Institutional Membership to SASO, CASSOA and ASSA-AC, Operational Membership to ASSA-AC







Management of States with no RSOO Membership

► Associated States

- Offer them the capacity to join
- Sao Tome and Principe to ASSA-AC
- Mauritania to make a choice between MENA and URSAC/ACSA

► Isolated States

- Avoid new creation of AFI RSOO
- States of the horn of Africa to associate then join CASSOA?

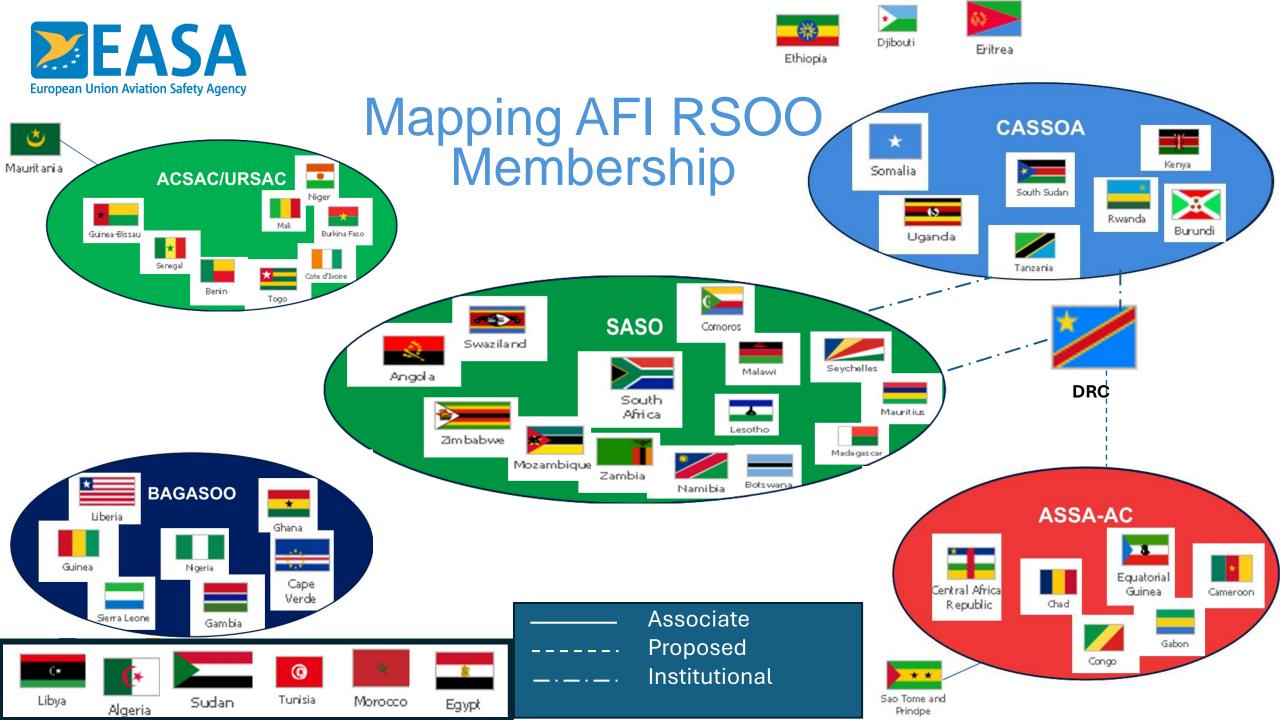


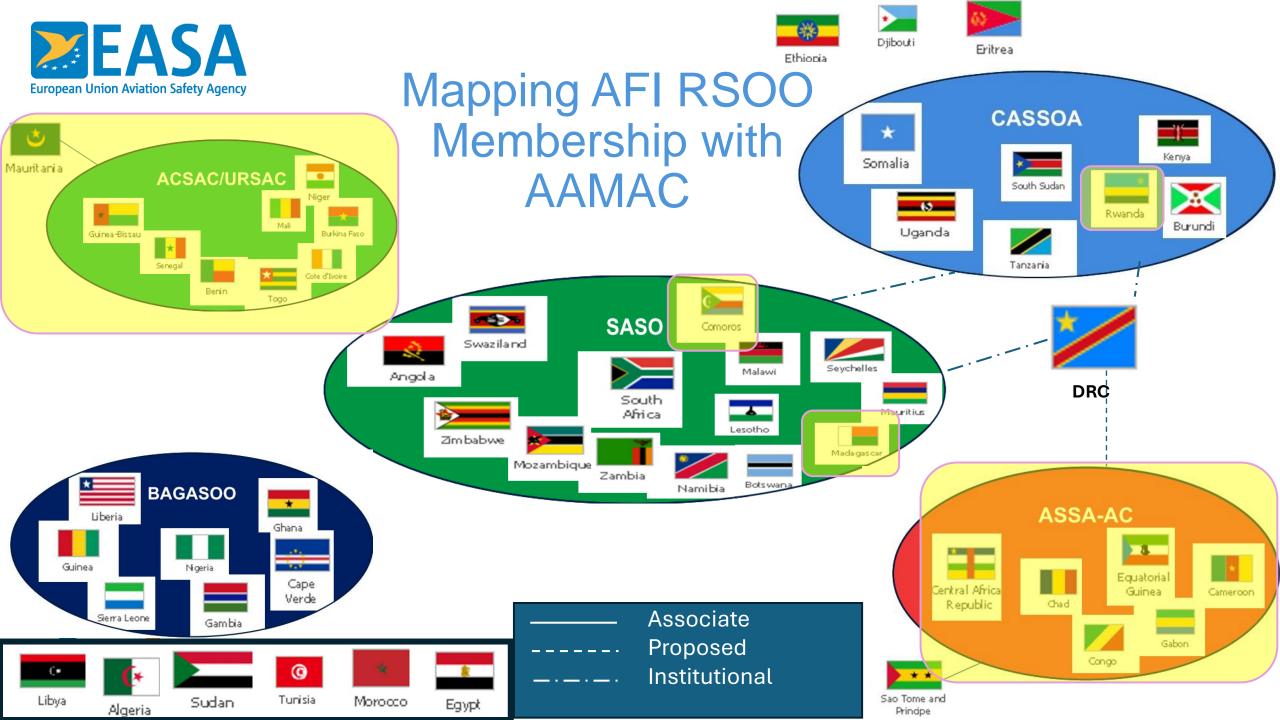




Scenarios for potential merge









Different Options or Scenarios to be analysed

> From Previous Study

- Option 1 (7 RSOOs): Six (6) existing RSOOs plus a new one for non-RSOO States
- Option 2 (6 RSOOs): Six (6) REC based RSOOs and non-RSOO States to join existing ones
- Option 3 (5 RSOOs): Reduction to four (4) AU recognized RECs plus AAMAC
- Option 4 (4 RSOOs): Reduction of six (6) RSOOs to four (4) (i.e. one each for ECOWAS, ECCAS, SADC, and EAC)

From present Study

- Scenario 1: Merge of URSAC/ACSAC and ASSA-AC;
 - o a. Without AAMAC
 - b. Including AAMAC.
- Scenario 2: Merge of URSAC/ACSAC and BAGASOO under ECOWAS umbrella,
- Scenario 3: Merge of CASSOA and SASO,
- Scenario 4: Extension of AAMAC to non-ASECNA States.



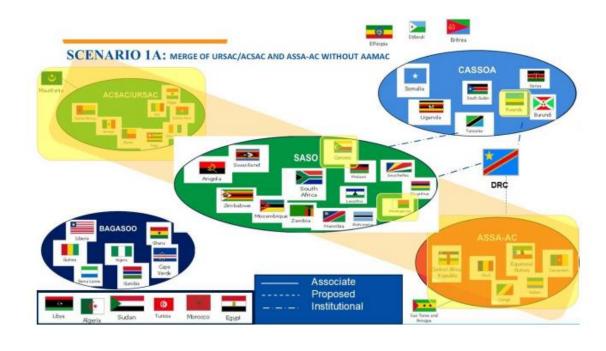


Scenario 1a:



European Union Aviation Safety Agency Merge of URSAC/ACSAC and ASSA-AC without AAMAC

- **Commonalities:**
 - French Speaking States
 - Same basic legal framework
 - Similar aviation and technological level
 - Similar USOAP profile
- > Differences:
 - Different Regional Economic Communities
- Due to institutional constitution, merging would be a long and critical way which may fragilize on-course consolidation





Scenario 1b: European Union Aviation Safety Agency Merge of URSAC/ACSAC and ASSA-AC with AAMAC



➤ Commonalities:

- French Speaking States
- Same basic legal framework
- Similar aviation and technological level
- Similar USOAP profile
- Would solve the question of apparent duplication with AAMAC

> Differences:

- Different Regional Economic Communities
- Not including new ASECNA and AAMAC Member States
- > Due to institutional constitution, merging would be a long and critical way which may fragilize on-course consolidation and impede further integration of new ASECNA and AAMAC Members



Scenario 2:

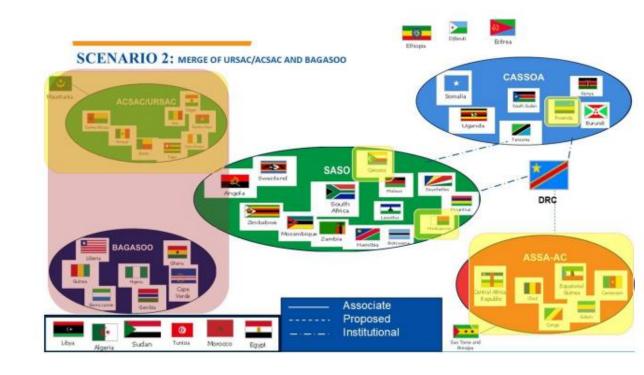
Merge of URSAC/ACSAC and BAGASOO under ECOWAS umbrella

Commonalities:

- Common REC ECOWAS
- Same basic legal framework
- Similar aviation and technological level
- Similar USOAP profile

> Differences:

- Different basic legal framework
- Different Monetary Union
- Different working language and culture
- Different balance in terms of aviation industry
- > Hazardous scenario that would jeopardize dynamic development process
- ➤ Big RSOO
- > Politically nice. Very challenging in practice

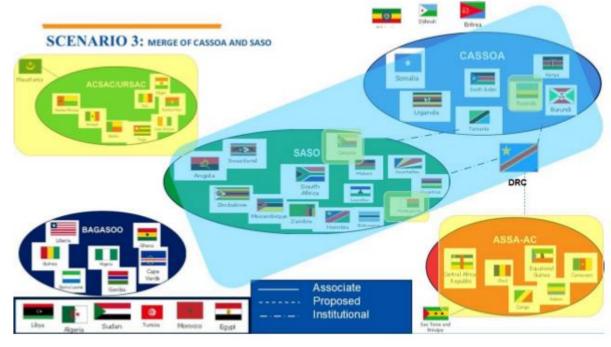








- ➤ Commonalities:
 - Solve duplication of Membership
- > Differences:
 - Different REC
 - Different balance in terms of aviation industry
 - CASSOA relatively homogeneous, not the case of SASO
 - Not the same USOAP profile
- ➤ Theoretical scenario: very big RSOO difficult to manage
- ➤ Favor inter-RSOO cooperation

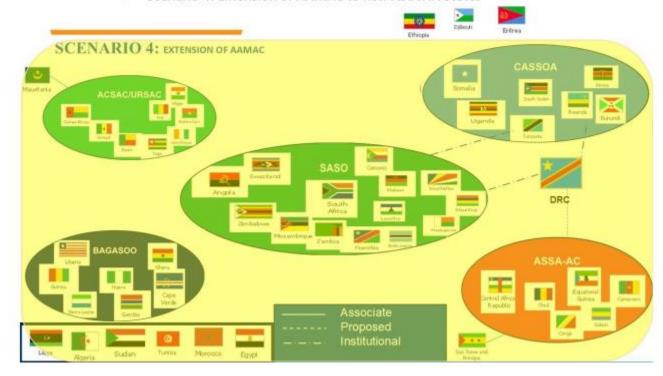








Scenario 4: Extension of AAMAC to non-ASECNA States



- > Benefit:
 - Would create an homogeneous Oversight in ANS
- > Relatively innovative. Not analysed in detail
- ➤ Possible progressive and cooperative approach:
 - > AAMAC to oversee AFI regional common services for ANS: satellite services, SBAS, RVSM monitoring, SAR,
 - ➤ let ATS services and associated components under States or other RSOOs with possible on-demand support of AAMAC.





Comparison of options from previous study

	Difficulties	Advantage	Comments
Option 1	 Equivalent to recreate the 7-partner- States initiative (under one RSOO) which collapsed 	Offer a solution for States of the east horn of Africa	Not realistic
Option 2		- The strength of CASSOA, - The States in the horn of Africa could take advantage of the existing RSOOs structure.	More realistic Equivalent to status quo
Option 3	 Difficulties of merging processes, Some RECs could not support RSOOs, Some States could belong to different RECs, which could be challenging, Differences in cultural aspects (legal basis, different languages,) 	Economies of scale, Institutional attachment to RECs with some caveats.	Difficult to be realised. Equivalent to scenario 2.
Option 4	 Difficulties in merging processes, Some States could belong to different RECs, which could be challenging, Differences in cultural aspects (legal basis, different languages,) No solution for ASECNA common services 	Economies of scale Institutional attachment to RECs with some caveats	Difficult to be realised.



Table 8: Discussion of the different merger Options (from previous study)





Inter-RSOO cooperation



European Union Aviation Safety Agency

Inter-RSOO appears as a positive alternative to achieve economies of scale

- > It is already existing practice that can be reinforced
- Common activities
 - Training,
 - Safety promotion
 - 0
- > Addressing new regulatory challenges: drones,...
- > Harmonisation
 - Regulatory structure
 - Practices, tools and working methods
 - Sharing of experience
- > Resource sharing
 - Punctually or on specific questions
 - Clear modalities to be defined







Recommendation







Conclusion from the merge Options and Scenarios analysis

- ➤ Status-quo (Option 2 from previous study) appears as the only one that could be workable currently.
- ➤ Consolidation of AFI RSOO System should be the priority
- The possibility for non-RSOOs states to join an existing consolidated RSOO should be left open
- ➤ No creation of new AFI RSOO should be envisaged
- If some economies of scale shall be looked for, scenarios 1a and 4 should be worth to be explored.
- Inter-RSOO cooperation could be the path for potential future merge after consolidation and maturation phases







Thank you for your attention

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