General Authority of Civil Aviation

GACA SMS Effectiveness

GACA SMS Effectiveness

Agenda Items

- **Introduction**

- **GACA SMS Effectiveness Assessment Tool**

- **Purpose & Benefit**

- **Performance Based Oversight (PBO)**

- **Questions?**

GACA SMS Effectiveness

Introduction

The General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA) has made continuous improvements in the effectiveness of its Safety Management System (SMS) over the years to address the growing complexities and safety risks of Saudi Arabia's expanding aviation industry. As the sector has evolved, the need for a more comprehensive approach to safety risk management has become critical. In response, GACA not only enhanced its SMS but also established the State Safety Program (SSP) in alignment with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) standards, which marked a significant milestone in Saudi Arabia's aviation safety journey. The SSP marked the beginning of a more structured, state-level safety oversight framework, ensuring that safety is managed proactively across the entire aviation ecosystem. Through strengthened monitoring and evaluation processes, GACA has built a robust system capable of effectively managing risks and maintaining high safety standards within the Kingdom's aviation sector.

GACA SMS Effectiveness

GACA SMS Effectiveness Assessment Tool

GACA SMS EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT TOOL

Safety Policies and Objectives (Component 1)
Management Commitment (Element 1.1)

Evaluation

	Indicators of compliance and performance	P	S	O	E	How it Achieved	Comments
1.1.1	There is a safety policy, signed by the Accountable Executive, which includes a commitment to continuous improvement; observes all applicable legal requirements and standards; and considers best practices.	☐	☐	☐	☐		
1.1.2	The safety policy includes a statement to provide appropriate resources, and the organization is managing resources by anticipating and addressing any shortfalls.	☐	☐	☐	☐		
1.1.3	There are policies in place for safety critical roles relating to all aspects of Fitness for Duty (for example, Alcohol and Drugs Policy or Fatigue).	☐	☐	☐	☐		

Guidance

What to look for

- Interview the Accountable Executive to assess their knowledge and understanding of the safety policy.
- Check that the safety policy is reviewed periodically for content and currency.
- Confirm that the safety policy meets the requirements.
- Interview staff to determine to what extent the safety policy is known, as well as how readable and understandable it is.
- Review available resources including personnel, equipment, and finance.
- There are sufficient and competent personnel.
- Review planned resources versus actual resources.
- Check how a positive safety culture is encouraged and impacts the overall effectiveness.

Present	Suitable	Operating	Effective
There is a safety policy, signed by the Accountable Executive, which includes a commitment to continuous improvement; observes all applicable legal requirements and standards; and considers best practices. The safety policy includes a statement to provide appropriate resources.	The safety policy is easy to read. The content is customized to the organization. There is a process for assessing resources and addressing any shortfalls.	The safety policy is reviewed periodically to ensure it remains relevant to the organization. The organization is assessing the resources being provided to deliver a safe service and taking action to address any shortfalls.	The Accountable Executive is familiar with the contents of the safety policy and endorses it. The organization is reviewing and taking action to address any forecasted shortfalls in resources.

Purpose & Benefit

- **Why did we develop the checklist?**

1- The current checklist is an acceptance and compliance checklist.

2- The current checklist is purely for the SMS documentation process.

3- No effectiveness assessment methodology is currently in place.

- **Benefits**

	Current Situation	Future Situation
Effectiveness Assessment	❌	✅
Maturity	❌	✅
SMS Performance Level	❌	✅

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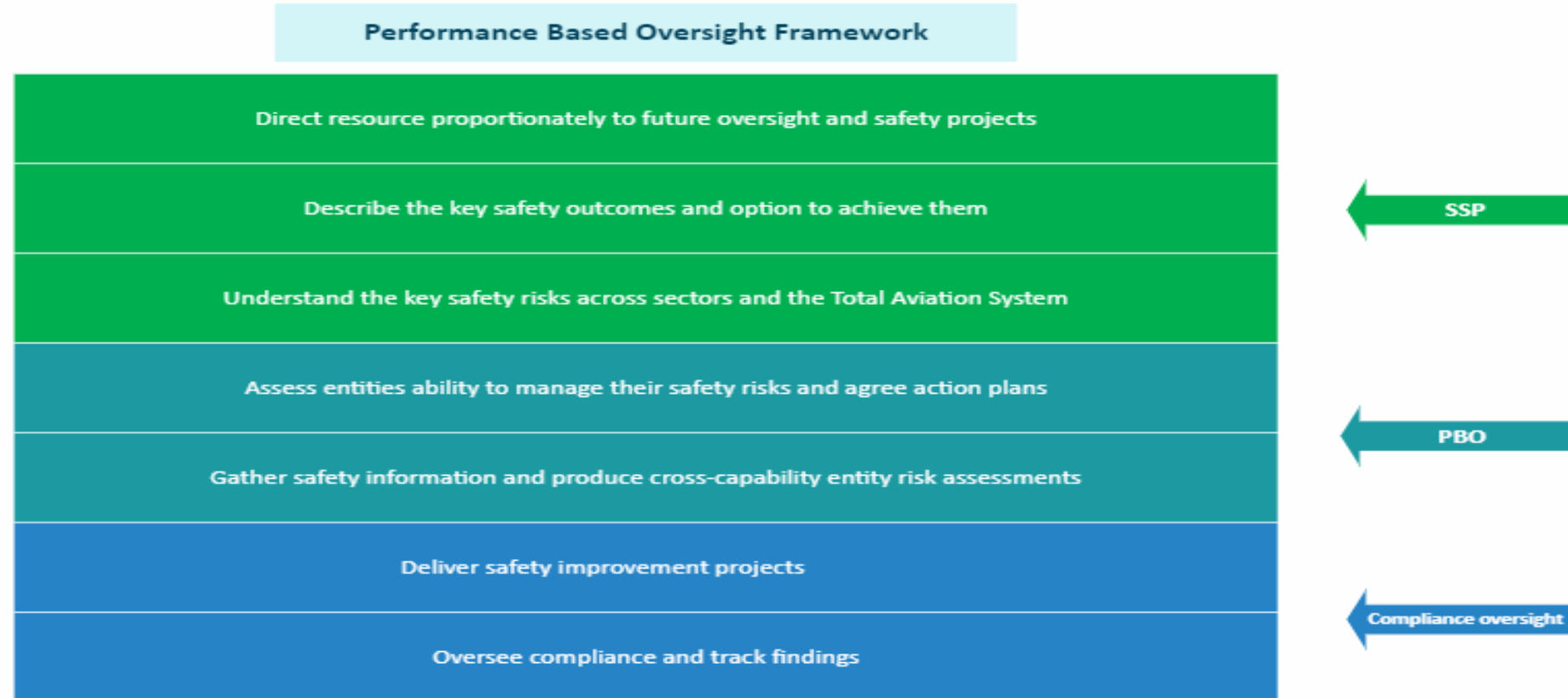General Authority of Civil Aviation

GACA SMS Effectiveness
Performance Based Oversight (PBO)

- GACA have developed the Performance Based Oversight (PBO) process.

- The Principles of Performance Based Oversight (PBO) include a modernised regulatory approach that emphasises proactive risk management, continuous improvement and collaboration between stakeholders to improve safety outcomes.

- PBO is a shift from the focus on compliance with prescriptive regulations to a focus on organisational performance.

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■ Performance Based Oversight (PBO)

Performance Based Oversight Framework

- Direct resource proportionately to future oversight and safety projects
- Describe the key safety outcomes and option to achieve them — **SSP**
- Understand the key safety risks across sectors and the Total Aviation System
- Assess entities ability to manage their safety risks and agree action plans
- Gather safety information and produce cross-capability entity risk assessments — **PBO**
- Deliver safety improvement projects
- Oversee compliance and track findings — **Compliance oversight**

GACA SMS Effectiveness
Questions?

Thank You