

# **The Namibian experience with respect to the protection of Accident and Incident records.**

## **Protection provision in three ICAO Annexes: Annex 6, 13 and 19.**

- **Protection of accident/incident records**
- **Protection of safety data and safety information**
- **Protection of flight recorders used for routine operations**

## **Operational personnel**

**More confident to report their errors**

- **Protection of safety information and sources vs. implementation of safety management.**

- a) **Safety information will not be used for purposes other than maintaining or improving safety**
- b) **Ensure free flow of information without fear of being implicated**
- c) **Encourages reporting and therefore increases data availability**
- d) **Promotes improvement of safety management.**

- **Lack of data vs. safety management and states/service providers.**

**a) Data is essential for understanding the causal factor of the accident and incident Therefore contributes to effective accident prevention.**

**b) Data availability assist investigators/operational personnel during the analyzing of causal factors and how to mitigate contributing factors .**

- **Misuse of safety information**

**Legislation is very important as it sets framework for the investigators and the need to protect safety data. However it is not enough. It is important to have continuous safety education to ensure bad practices are arrested in time and a positive safety culture is constantly embedded . After all safety is a moving target.**



**In conclusion it is fundamentally important to protect safety information against inappropriate use so that it continues to be available in a way that enables States to adopt adequate and appropriate preventative measures. This will help ensure the continued availability of safety data and safety information for maintaining or improving aviation safety. The Protection provisions in three ICAO Annexes 6, 13 and 19 encourages operational personnel to be more confident to report their errors.**