



*International Civil Aviation Organization*  
**Twelfth Meeting of the Regional Aviation Safety Group**  
**– Pan America (RASG-PA) Executive Steering Committee**  
**RASG-PA ESC/12**



Montego Bay, Jamaica, 14 to 15 March 2012

**Agenda Item 7: Other Matters**

**BIRD STRIKE RISK REDUCTION PROGRAM**

(Presented by ALTA/IATA)

**SUMMARY**

IATA and ALTA have been working closely on a Bird Strike Risk Reduction program for airports based in the Latin America & Caribbean Regions.

Twenty five Airlines have provided IATA/ALTA their historical bird strike data in order to produce a data-driven approach for the program and create awareness of the problem in the region.

ALTA/IATA have partnered with the FAA and USDA to use their expertise in our region with a pilot program. Two airports were selected for the pilot. Based on the pilot results, the model will then be exported to other airports in the region applying any lessons learned and best practices found.

***Strategic Objective***

*This working paper is related to Strategic Objective A – Safety*

**1. Introduction**

1.1 During the last ALTA Safety Summit held in Mexico City, airlines were presented with the compilation of historical bird strike data from 25 carriers to highlight the current situation (**Appendix**). The collaborative program between IATA and ALTA, with expertise from FAA and USDA, was presented to the participants. After general discussion the initiative was accepted.

1.2 A Bird Strike Sub-committee was created to drive the program, headed by IATA and ALTA, with the participation of representatives from COPA, Avianca and LAN.

## **2. Program Activities**

2.1 The Sub-committee met four times (conference call and as a group) to share experiences with bird strike programs and to design the Bird Strike Risk Reduction Program. The meeting was attended by representatives and bird strike experts from the FAA, USDA, Boeing, Airbus, IFALPA, ACI-LAC, LACSA, LAN Airlines, LAN Peru, LAN Ecuador, Avianca, Copa, Copa Colombia, ALTA and IATA.

2.2 After considering the proposal of the FAA/USDA and the available data, it was decided that a pilot program would be initiated at Panama's Tocumen and Ecuador Guayaquil International Airports. They were chosen based on their high bird strike incident rates, support from airlines and aeronautical authorities, and the similar situation of their natural environments.

2.3 A tentative schedule for the pilot program was presented and accepted by the participants (**Appendix B**).

2.4 A team of local champions was created to help drive current and future initiatives in key airports that will benefit from lessons learned during the pilot program. The list of champions is listed in **Appendix C**).

2.5 The FAA and USDA have allocated funds for this project in 2012 and letters signed by the FAA, USDA, ALTA, IATA & ACI-LAC were sent to Guayaquil and Panama DGCAs and airport concessionaires to present the program.

2.6 The local DGCAs, airport concessionaires and Local Airlines Association of Panama and Guayaquil approved the project and provided the necessary support and funding to carry out the first phase of the project.

## **3. Next Steps**

3.1 The FAA and USDA are working on schedules for their bird strikes experts in order to set a date for the first visit to the two airports. Once a date is agreed upon, initial preparations will commence to supply all the necessary data to the experts prior to their visit and arrange the logistics.

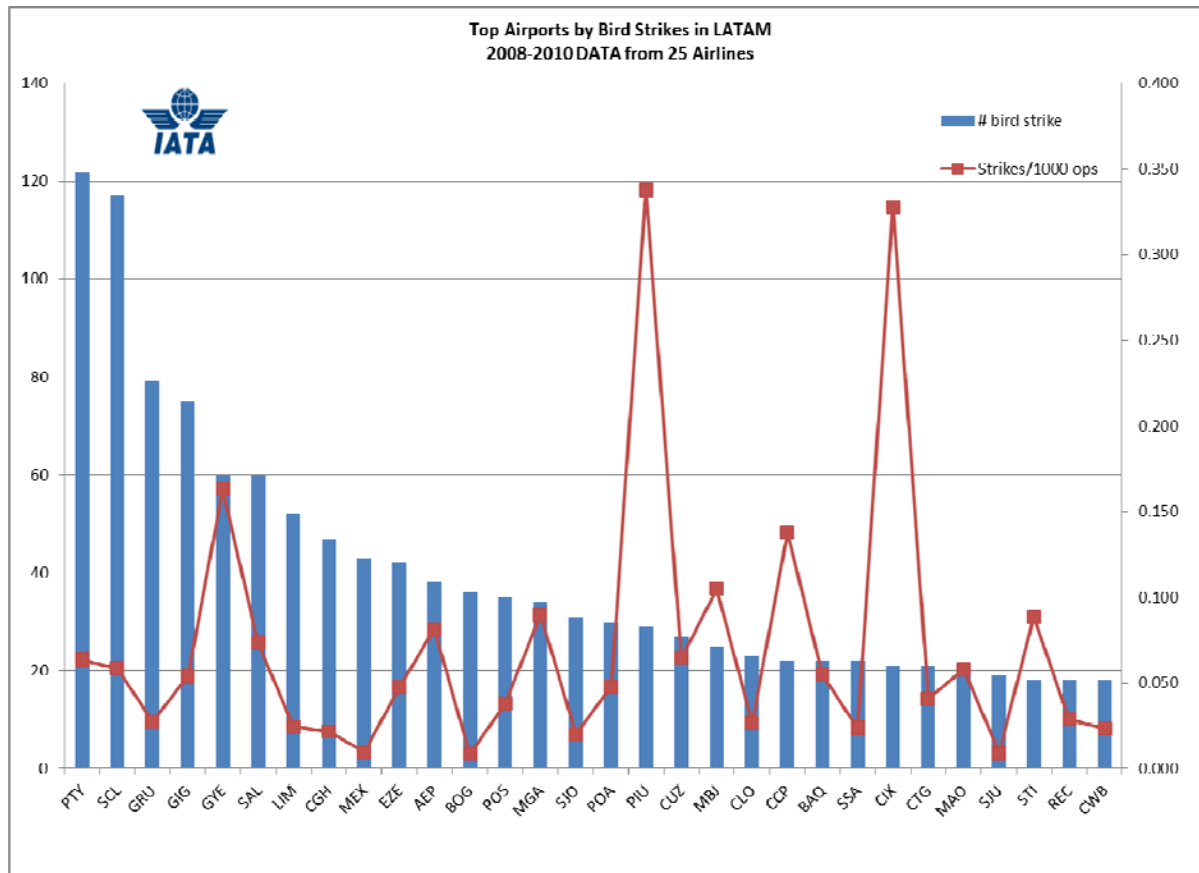
## **4. Suggested Action**

4.1 The RASG-PA ESC/12 is requested to:

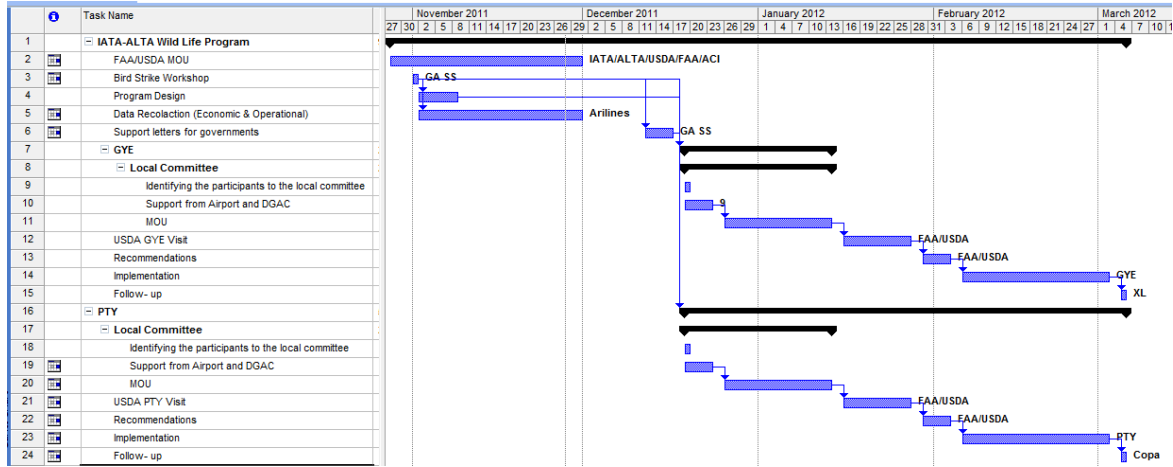
- a) take note of the information provided in this working paper;
- b) to make this an official RASG-PA project and invite its members to join the projects Sub-committee; and
- c) provide assistance and/or identify potential resources in order to ensure the success of this initiative.

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## APPENDIX A / APÉNDICE A



## APPENDIX B / APÉNDICE B



**APPENDIX C / APÉNDICE C**

Country or region	Airports	Airline Leader		Airline support	
Panamá	PTY	Copa Airlines	Adriana Molina	N/D	
Ecuador	GYE	LAN	Octavio Perez	AviancaTaca	TBC
Chile	SCL	LAN	Raul Cuadra	N/D	
Colombia	BOG	AviancaTaca	Edickson Santamaria	Copa Airlines	Adriana Molina
Perú	LIM, PIU, CIX	LAN	Jaime de Souza	N/D	
Centro América	SJO, MGA, SAL	AviancaTaca	Cesar Miranda	Copa Airlines	Adriana Molina

— END / FIN —