



ICAO

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North American, Central American and Caribbean Office

WORKING PAPER

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**Seventh Meeting of the North American, Central American and Caribbean Directors of Civil Aviation
(NACC/DCA/07)**

Washington, D. C., United States, 19 – 21 September 2017

Agenda Item 5: NAM/CAR Regional Safety/Air Navigation/Aviation Security Implementation Matters
5.5 Enhancing aerodrome certification implementation and airport safety

ENHANCING AERODROME CERTIFICATION IMPLEMENTATION AND AIRPORT SAFETY

(Presented by the Secretariat)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This working paper presents to the Meeting the activities that the ICAO NACC Regional Office performs in the Aerodromes (AGA) field aligned with the regional objectives of the NAM/CAR Regional Performance-Based Air Navigation Implementation Plan (RPBANIP) and provides information on the status of aerodrome certification in the region and Runway Safety Team (RST) implementation.

Action:	The suggested actions are presented in Section 4.
Strategic Objective:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety
References:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Sixth Meeting of the North American, Central American and Caribbean Directors of Civil Aviation (NACC/DCA/06) Final Report</i>, Nassau, Bahamas, 10-12 May 2016• <i>CAR Regional Aerodrome Certification Implementation Plan (CRACIP)</i> — https://www.icao.int/NACC/Pages/edocs-aga.aspx• <i>Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Aerodromes</i> (Doc 9981)• <i>Fifth North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group Meeting (NACC/WG/5) Final Report</i>, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, from 22 to 26 May 2017

1. Introduction

1.1 A summary of the audit results conducted through the ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Program (USOAP) revealed that a large number of aerodromes of the audited States have not yet certified nor established an aerodrome certification process.

1.2 Most States have not ensured that aerodrome operators implement a Safety Management System (SMS) as part of their aerodrome certification process.

1.3 Other high percentage of non-satisfactory protocol questions stem from weaknesses in a State's surveillance programme, including a lack of formal inspection procedure used for the continuing surveillance of aerodrome certificate holders and a lack of expertise in highly specialized areas, such as rescue and firefighting and wildlife/bird hazard control.

1.4 Also, many States have not provided enough guidance to regulatory staff and aerodrome operators on obstacle control and management.

1.5 A lack of compliance with the provisions, related to runway friction, runway end safety areas, pavement use and the periodic testing and review of aerodrome emergency plans, was shown by a high percentage of the audited States.

1.6 Many of the difficulties currently faced at aerodromes are operational in nature, particularly where is necessary to accommodate larger aircraft and/or where the development of an aerodrome is constrained.

1.7 In accordance with the information received from States and obtained during various events organized by the ICAO NACC Regional Office related to aerodromes, the CAR Region States continue to have problems with the certification of aerodromes, as described below:

- a) Aerodromes built long time ago do not comply with the Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) of ICAO Annex 14, Volume I
- b) Lack of Safety Management System (SMS) implementation
- c) Lack of aerodrome regulations
- d) Lack of expertise in the aerodromes area
- e) Lack of guideline material for staff in charge of aerodrome certification
- f) Lack of training for aerodrome staff to comply with continuous monitoring due to inspectors fulfilling two roles - Air Traffic Management (ATM) and Aerodromes and Ground Aids (AGA)

- g) Lack of training in highly specialized areas: aerodrome operations; rescue and fire-fighting; bird/wildlife management; aeronautical studies; risk assessment; visual aids; marking and lighting; obstacle evaluation; and acceptance of the SMS Manual provided by the airport operator

2. Status of implementation of Aerodrome Certification and Runway Safety Teams (RST) in the CAR Region

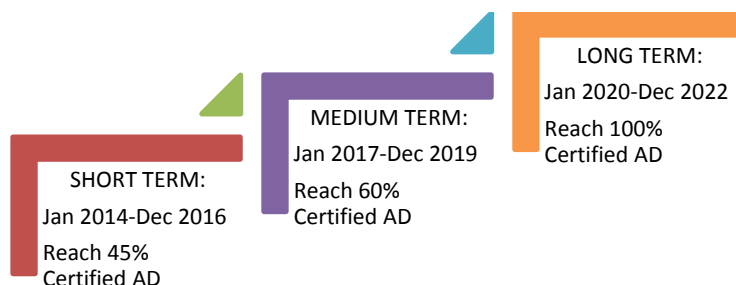
2.1 The aerodrome certification status in the CAR Region shows that from a total of 154 international aerodromes, 74 aerodromes have been certified by May 2017. The number has increased from 43 certified aerodromes, representing 28% (March 2014) to 74 aerodromes certified up to date, representing 48% of the total. In addition, a number of CAR Region aerodromes have either started the certification process or plan to initiate the process in the short-term. By the end of 2017 it is estimated to count with 84 certified aerodromes, which represents 54% of the total.

Number of Aerodromes per AOP Table	Certified Aerodromes (July 2016)	Certified Aerodromes (July 2017)	Current %	Port of Spain Declaration Goal (2016)
154	54	78	51%	48%

2.2 The status of Runway Safety Team (RST) implementation in the CAR region shows that from 154 international airports, 66 airports have implemented RSTs, representing 43% of the total.

2.3 The performance indicator used is the percentage of certified aerodromes based on the selection and information provided by States (CRACIP). This Plan is available at: http://www.icao.int/NACC/Pages/ES/edocs-aga_ES.aspx.

2.4 For the effective implementation of aerodrome certification in the short, medium, and long-term, the following deadlines have been established:



2.5 Within the training activities for the personnel in charge of aerodrome certification, the following seminars and workshops were ICAO NACC Regional Office carried out:

- Meeting with the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) of United States: Planning Future Strategy for Airports NAM/CAR, Washington, United States, 14 January 2016
- Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation (CAPSCA) Americas ICAO-WHO Coordination Meeting NAM/CAR/SAM, Washington, United States, 15 January 2016
- “RLA/09/801 TEAM” Mission on the Implementation of Aerodrome Certification, Assistance Mission to Honduras, ICAO/ACI, San Pedro Sula, Honduras, 30 March to 1 April 16
- ICAO/FAA Workshop for Aerodrome Certification Inspectors, Kingston, Jamaica 24 to 26 May 2016
- No Country Left Behind (NCLB) Multidisciplinary Technical Assistance Mission to Guatemala City, Guatemala, 30 May to 3 June 2016
- Meeting with the General Directorate of Civil Aviation (CAA of Mexico and its Airports Groups, ICAO NACC Regional Office, Mexico City, Mexico, 7 June 2016
- ICAO/FAA Workshop for Aerodrome Certification Inspectors, 14 to 16 June 2016, and Follow-Up Technical Assistance Mission TEAM, Aerodrome Certification Implementation, Dominican Republic, 17 June 2016
- Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation (CAPSCA) Assistance Visit to United States, KATL – Atlanta, 15 to 18 August 2016
- CAPSCA Follow-up Visit to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, 29 to 30 September 2016
- Seventh Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of public health events in Civil Aviation (CAPSCA) Americas Meeting NAM/CAR/SAM, Mexico City, Mexico, 6 to 9 September 2016

2.6 The goals and performance indicators to be accomplished in aerodrome certification in the CAR Region are the following:

- Increase the number of international certified aerodromes based on aerodrome certification plans provided by States of selected aerodromes
- Provide training to personnel in charge of the aerodrome certification process and continuous monitoring tasks
- Develop and implement guidelines including checklists for aerodrome inspectors to conduct internal audits and aerodrome inspections

3. Proposed Solutions for Short, Medium, and Long-Term

3.1 In the Fourth North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group Meeting (NACC/WG/4), held in Ottawa, Canada, from 24 to 28 March 2014, a strategy to support the aerodrome certification process in the CAR Region was proposed, that includes five phases. For the short-term, the certification of aerodromes which meet most of Annex 14, Volume I, SARPs, but require alternative or mitigation measures after completing the five phases of the certification process will be considered and is finalized. For the medium and long-term, the project will focus on those aerodromes that do not meet with some of Annex 14, Volume I, Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and require further evaluation and analysis for the implementation of restrictive operational alternative measures without neglecting safety, after also is required completing the five mentioned phases.

3.2 The aerodromes to be considered for their certification in the short, medium and long-term were determined based on the information provided by States in the CRACIP.

3.3 For effective implementation of the aerodrome certification in the short, medium and long-terms, the following deadlines were established:

- Short-term – 2014 to 31 December 2016. The figure has increased to 70 certified aerodromes representing 45%.
- Medium-term - 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2019. Increase of 60%
- Long-term - 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2022

3.4 The following conclusion was formulated by the NACC/WG/5 meeting:

CONCLUSION **NACC/WG/5/21**

CAR AERODROME CERTIFICATION PLAN

*That, in order to support and assist States/aerodromes in the CAR aerodrome certification process, the CAR States/Territories should send the ICAO NACC Regional Office a Plan for the certification of their aerodromes, by **15 August 2017**.*

3.5 Up to date, the ICAO NACC Regional Office has not received any certification plan from States; therefore, States are urged to send their plan as soon as possible and no later than **30 December 2017**.

3.6 In ICAO document, *Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Aerodromes (Doc 9981)*, Attachment B to Chapter 2, an example of an aerodrome certification plan is included. Such example is presented in the **Appendix** to this working paper.

4. Suggested Actions

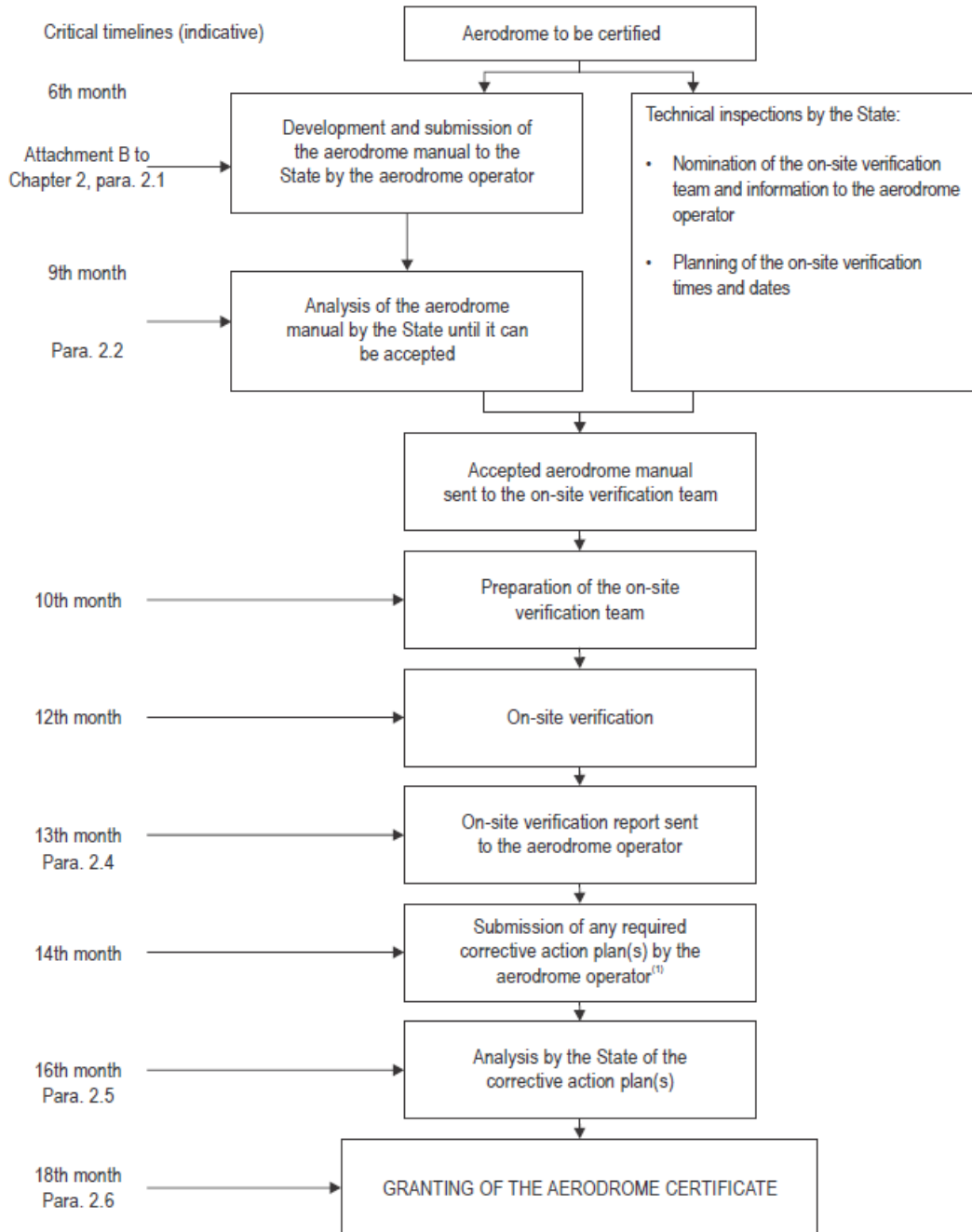
4.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) take note of the information presented in this working paper; and
- b) support the initiative of the aerodrome certification tasks and activities with the participation of AGA experts in ICAO events, as well as provide to the ICAO NACC Regional Office the aerodrome certification plan.

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APPENDIX

AERODROME CERTIFICATION PLAN EXAMPLE



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