



**Twenty-Second Meeting of the AFI Planning and Implementation Regional Group
(APIRG/22) & Fifth Meeting of the Regional Aviation Safety Group for AFI region (RASG-AFI/5) – Plenary**

(Accra, Ghana, 29 July – 2 August 2019)

Agenda Item 3: Regional Activities (APIRG/RASG-AFI/AFI Plan)

3.1 OUTCOMES OF THE 22ND MEETING OF THE AFI PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY	
<p>This working paper presents the outcomes of the twenty-second meeting of the Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Safety in Africa Steering Committee (AFI Plan SC/22) which was held on the 15 May 2019 in Kampala, Uganda during the Sixth Africa-Indian Ocean AFI Aviation Week.</p>	
<p>Action: the Meeting is invited to:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Note the information contained in the paper; b) Recognize and encourage the efforts being made by ICAO through this programme to progressively improve safety in Africa; and c) Call on AFI States to maintain full commitment and support in the implementation of the AFI Plan and its objectives including the decisions and recommendations of the SC/22 meeting d) Examine and consider the various Decisions and Recommendations for inclusion in or alignment with the relevant activities in the APIRG and RASG-AFI Work Programmes. 	
<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	<p>This Working Paper relates to the Safety Strategic Objective of ICAO.</p>

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Considering the significant lack of effective safety oversight systems; lack of autonomous civil aviation authorities, qualified skill personnel etc. the Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Safety in Africa (AFI Plan) was created and endorsed by the 36th Session of the ICAO Assembly and established by the Secretary General on 1 January 2008 to address deficiencies in focused areas of a State safety oversight system. Subsequently, in March 2013, the programme expanded to include the additional areas of Air Navigation Services (ANS), Aerodromes and Ground Aids (AGA) and Accident Investigation (AIG), while maintaining

primary focus on the traditional areas of Personnel Licensing (PEL), Operations of Aircraft (OPS) and Airworthiness of Aircraft (AIR).

1.2 The Plan has since been providing assistance to AFI States within a set of targets tailored to specific countries. The effective implementation of the Plans has been contributing to significant improvements achieved in aviation safety in the region.

1.3 The work of the AFI Plan has been directed by a Steering Committee that meets regularly to review progress made in the implementation of the work programme defined by a set of Decisions and Recommendations of the Steering Committee. Accordingly, the twenty-second meeting the Plan (AFI Plan SC/22) was held on the 15 May 2019 in Kampala, Uganda during the Sixth Africa-Indian Ocean AFI Aviation Week.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1. The AFI Plan SC/22 meeting reviewed the assistance provided through the AFI Plan focused on safety oversight capacity-building yielded positive results in increasing safety oversight effective implementation (EI), the resolution of significant safety concerns (SSCs); certification of international airports; establishment and strengthening of regional safety oversight and accident and incident investigation organizations, as well as safety-related training. Through these activities and efforts of States since its 21st meeting, the number of African States with EI above 60 per cent increased by 10 per cent to 32 States; the number of unresolved SSCs declined by half to one SSC in one State; certification of 12 international airports in 11 AFI States; and the membership of the air navigation services provider (ANSP) Peer Review Programme increased from 18 to 35.

2.2 In addition to ongoing projects in the areas of aerodrome certification, search and rescue (SAR), ANSPs peer review, State safety programme-safety management system (SSP-SMS) implementation, accident investigation (AIG), and fundamentals of safety oversight (FSO), the Steering Committee approved a project to support implementation of aeronautical information management (AIM) and workshops on development of national aviation safety plans and the ICAO Integrated Staffing and Training Roadmap for Inspectors (iSTRI).

2.3 In accordance with ICAO Council Decision, C-DEC 214/7, on the implementation of the Declaration and Framework for a Plan of Action for Development of Aviation Infrastructure in Africa, and at the request of the twenty-first AFI Plan Steering Committee meeting, the AFI Plan Secretariat conducted an Aviation Infrastructure for Africa Gap Analysis. The report of the gap analysis validated at a workshop held in Abuja, Nigeria, from 19 to 21 March 2019 was presented to the AFI Plan SC/22 Meeting.

2.4 The objective of the exercise was to carry out a State-by-State evaluation and determination of the status of implementation of aviation infrastructure based on global, regional and national requirements, taking into account existing traffic levels, demand and capacity. It was also to serve as a basis for the preparation of regional and national aviation master plans and to ensure that the development of aviation infrastructure complies with ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs), and to respond adequately to traffic and capacity demands. The report, available on the AFI Plan website (<https://www.icao.int/ESAF/Pages/AvInfra-Africa-GapAnalysis-2019.aspx>), highlights the gaps identified for key high-level elements relating to international airports, air navigation services and airline infrastructure.

2.4. The following Decisions and Recommendations are the key outcomes of the twenty-second AFI Plan Steering Committee Meeting:

- a) requested the AFI Plan Secretariat to finalize the recruitment of the consultant to develop a strategic plan for supporting and strengthening regional safety oversight organizations (RSOOs) in Africa and organize a stakeholders' meeting to validate the final draft strategic plan for presentation at the next meeting;
- b) requested that the Secretariat, in coordination with beneficiary States and partners, continues to implement ongoing AFI Plan projects and approved a new AIM project to be implemented in coordination with the Air Navigation Bureau (ANB);
- c) requested that the Regional Office Safety Teams (ROSTs) and AFI-CIS missions be continued so as to further assist States in the implementation of their Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) Corrective Action Plans (CAPs) and to specifically address the only remaining SSC in the region and improve results of States with low EI scores;
- d) encouraged the ICAO Council President and the Secretary General to continue to engage, at the highest level, authorities of those States that are not cooperating with ICAO and/or sufficiently advancing in addressing their aviation safety deficiencies;
- e) requested the ICAO Secretariat to finalize and make available guidance material on aviation master plans and encourage States and regional economic communities (RECs) to utilize the material for national and regional purposes;
- f) requested the AFI Plan Secretariat to present the results of the 2019 Aviation Infrastructure for Africa Gap Analysis to the ICAO Council; share the same with African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC), AUC, RECs and other partners, and coordinate a similar long-term exercise based on 25 year projections and also determine the human resources and funding necessary for bridging key infrastructure gaps;
- g) approved the draft Aviation Training Roadmap for Africa, prepared and submitted by the Association of African Aviation Training Organization (AATO), and requested the Association, in collaboration with the Global Aviation Training Office (GAT) and other key stakeholders, to implement and continuously update the roadmap;
- h) requested, in addition to the traditional safety-related training workshops and seminars, for the AFI Plan to organize executive training to enhance aviation leadership capacity;
- i) recognized the various support activities of partners and recommended continued and stronger collaboration between sister programmes to continuously improve aviation safety in Africa; and
- j) reviewed and approved the proposed 2019 AFI Plan work programme and budget,

including workshops on national aviation safety plans and the iSTRI to be conducted with the support of ANB.

3 ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the information contained in the paper;
- b) Recognize and encourage the efforts being made by ICAO through this programme to progressively achieve improving safety in Africa; and
- c) Call AFI States continue their full commitment and support in the implementation of the AFI Plan and its objectives including the decision and recommendations of the SC/22 meeting;
- d) Examine and consider the various Decisions and Recommendations for inclusion in or alignment with the relevant activities in the APIRG and RASG-AFI Work Programmes.

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