INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP
EIGHTEENTH MEETING (APIRG/18)
Kampala, Uganda (27 – 30 March 2012)

Agenda Item 1.4: **Review the status of implementation of the ICAO SP AFI RAN/08 Recommendations**

FOLLOW-UP ON SP AFI RAN/08 RECOMMENDATION 5/8- AVIATION TRAINING NEEDS AND RESOURCES IN AFRICA

(Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY
This paper presents information on actions taken by the ICAO AFI Regional Comprehensive Implementation Plan for aviation safety in Africa (AFI Plan) with respect to the implementation of recommendation 5/8 of the Special AFI RAN meeting(Durban, South Africa – 24 to 29 November 2008), related to training strategies for safety in Africa.   The paper further provides information on the activities of the Training Experts Working Group (TEWG) and the outcomes of the Third Pan-African Aviation Training Coordination Conference which was held 27-29 July 2011 in Cape Town, South Africa   Action by APIRG/18 is at Paragraph 3.
REFERENCE(S):   • ICAO SP AFI RAN 2008 Report (Doc 9930)
Related ICAO Strategic Objective(s): A, B and C.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 One of the objectives of the Special AFI RAN Meeting (Durban, South Africa, 24 to 29 November 2008) was to assess the implementation of the Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Safety in Africa (AFI Plan).

1.2   Accordingly, Special AFI RAN Meeting recommendations in the area of safety where either directed at the AFI Plan for implementation or required AFI Plan involvement and/or participation for their effective implementation.

1.3   This paper provides information on the status of implementation of recommendation 5/8 related to training strategies for safety in Africa.

2.   DISCUSSION

2.1   Special AFI RAN Meeting Recommendation 5/8 calls for the establishment of a working group of training experts to define a master plan for harmonization of training in the AFI Region.

2.2   The Training Experts Working Group (TEWG) was set up in May 2009 by the training experts meeting held in Johannesburg, South Africa (May 2009) as a follow-up to the First Pan African Training Coordination Conference (Niamey, Niger, 17-19 February 2009).

2.3   The TEWG carried out its activities between July 2009 and June 2011. It collected data from States, aviation services providers and training organizations throughout Africa on aviation training needs and available capacity. It also reviewed the various barriers to the harmonization of aviation training in Africa.

2.4   The TEWG submitted its first report to the Second Pan-African Training Coordination Conference which was held in Cairo, Egypt, 22-24 June 2010. The Conference approved a set of actions to be implemented by ICAO, AFCAC, States, aviation services providers and aviation training organizations in Africa for an effective harmonization of training requirements and rationalization of the capacities.

2.5   The TEWG further pursued the implementation of the conclusions of the Second Pan-African Training Coordination Conference and submitted its final report to the Third Pan-African Training Coordination Conference which was held in Cape Town, South Africa, 27–29 July 2011.

2.6   The Conference adopted a framework for a coordinated approach of aviation training in Africa line with recommendation 5/8 of SP AFI RAN (2008). Appendix A to this paper contains the framework for the harmonization of training in the AFI Region that was adopted by the Conference. It envisages the creation of an "African Aviation Training Association"; establishment of an "African Aviation Training Accreditation Board (TAB)", harmonization of competency requirements and approval processes of training organizations; and establishment of criteria for mutual recognition of credits, certificates, diplomas, and degrees.

2.7   The Constitutive Assembly of the Association of African Aviation Organizations (AATO) is scheduled to take place in Nairobi, Kenya, 2 to 4 April 2012.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1   The meeting is invited to:

a)   note the current status of implementation of SP AFI/08 RAN Meeting recommendation 5/8;

b)   invite training organizations to participate in the Constitutive Assembly of the Association of African Aviation Organizations (AATO) to be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 2 to 4 April 2012 and join the AATO; and

c)   invite States, training organizations, and aviation services providers in the AFI region to participate in the activities of the envisaged framework for the harmonization of aviation training in the AFI Region and contribute towards the implementation of the ICAO SP AFI RAN/08 Recommendation 5/8

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APPENDIX A

Framework for the harmonization of aviation training in the AFI Region

A. Background

Pursuant to recommendation 5/8 of Special AFI-RAN meeting (2008), the first Pan-African Aviation Training Coordination Conference was held in Niamey, Niger, 17-19 February 2009. As recommended by the first Pan-African Aviation Training Coordination Conference, the Training Experts Working Group (TEWG) was established in Johannesburg, South Africa, in May 2009 with a mandate to review training needs and available capacity in Africa.

The TEWG submitted its report to the Second Pan-African Aviation Training Coordination Conference which was held in Cairo, Egypt, 22 – 24 June 2010.

Based on the TEWG's report, the Second Pan-African Aviation Training Coordination adopted a Common strategic framework and action plan for African States, aviation training organizations, and aviation services providers on the implementation of Recommendation 5/8 of Special AFI RAN meeting (2008). The Second Pan-African Aviation Training Coordination Conference also enlarged the Training Experts Working Group (TEWG) with the participation of States authorities, services providers and training institutions in Africa and extended its mandate to include the implementation of the recommendations from the Conference.

The third Pan-African Aviation Training Coordination Conference was held in Cape Town, South Africa, 27-29 July 2011 to review the implementation of Action Plan and recommendations of the 2nd Pan-African Aviation Training Coordination Conference.

B. Framework for the harmonization of aviation training in the AFI Region

The Conference adopted the following framework for the harmonization of training in the AFI Region:

   a. Basic guidelines and implementation plan for the creation of the African Aviation Training Association;
   b. Basic guidelines for the designation of centers of excellence;
   c. Basic guidelines and implementation plan for the establishment of an "African Aviation Training Accreditation Board (TAB)" and ;
   d. A draft regional training policy and the requirements for a common African Aviation training accreditation system recognized around the world.

The detailed framework is presented in section C below.

C. **DETAILED FRAMEWORK FOR A COORDINATED APPROACH TO AVIATION TRAINING IN AFRICA**

C.1 - Cooperation between aviation training organizations ATOs
Document approved by the third Pan-African Aviation Training Coordination Conference   • Basic guidelines [Objectives, functions, General structure and governance] for the creation of African Aviation Training Association.
Objectives   • Fast-track the creation of the African Aviation Training Association
Actors   • Aviation Training Organizations   • Regional and International Organizations: ICAO, AFCAC , AFRAA and ACI Africa
NEXT STEPS   • Develop a draft constitution for the African Aviation Training Association based on the framework approved by the Conference   • Call for Constitutional assembly of the African Aviation Training Association
Activities   (1) **End of August 2011**: ICAO to develop a draft constitution based on the approved framework, provide estimates of the funds required and send the proposal of draft constitution to aviation training institutions in Africa for comments
(2) **End of September 2011**: Deadline for comments on the draft constitution
(3) **Mid October 2011** : Formal call for the constitutive Assembly
(4) **January 2012** : Constitutive Assembly of the African Aviation Training Association

C.2 – Rationalizing Training Capacities in Africa
Document approved by the third Pan-African Aviation Training Coordination Conference
• Basic guidelines [Criteria and procedures] for the designation of centers of excellence.
Objectives
• Improve availability of quality aviation training in Africa;
• Enhance usage of aviation training centers in the continent by multi States;
Actors
• States • Approved training Organizations (ATOs) • African Aviation Training Association & African Aviation Training Accreditation Board • Regional and International Organizations: ICAO, AFCAC , AFRAA and ACI Africa
NEXT STEPS
• Provide guidance to African Aviation Training Association and African Aviation Training Accreditation Board in the implementation of the framework
Activities
(1) ICAO to create awareness to all ATOs by first quarter of 2012 and communicate the details of the entity in charge of the process of designating the centers of excellence
(2) Initial accreditation of centres of excellence in the fourth quarter of 2012
(3) Continue with the accreditation of more centres in 2013 and beyond

C.3 – Creation of a African Aviation Training Accreditation Board (TAB)
Document approved by the third Pan-African Aviation Training Coordination Conference
• Basic guidelines [Objectives, functions, General structure and governance] for the establishment of the African Aviation Training Accreditation Board.
Objectives:
• Fast-track the establishment of an African wide accreditation and monitoring system of aviation training.
Actors
• States
• Approved Training Organizations (ATO), African Aviation Training Association
• Regional and International Organizations: ICAO, AFCAC , AFRAA and ACI Africa
NEXT STEPS
• Finalize the draft constitution for the African Aviation Training Accreditation Board (TAB) based on the framework approved by the Conference
• Coordination with AFCAC and stakeholders on the appropriate arrangements for establishing the TAB
Activities
(1) **End of August 2011**: ICAO to develop a draft constitution based on the approved framework, provide estimates of the funds required and send the proposal of draft constitution to States and identified stakeholders in Africa for comments
(2) **End of September 2011**: States and identified stakeholders send back any comments on the draft constitution to ICAO.
(3) **Mid October 2011** : Transmission of the revised constitution to States and identified stakeholders for establishment of the TAB

C.4 – Harmonization and standardization of training
Document approved by the third Pan-African Aviation Training Coordination Conference
• Draft training policy
• Draft criteria for the approval of training organizations
• Basic guidelines on Competencies requirements for key aviation specialists skills/jobs/functions
Objectives:
• Fast-track the approval and implementation of a common training policy for ensuring that aviation professionals are adequately trained for better achievement of safe and secure aviation operations in Africa, through standardised and harmonised training requirements
Actors
• States • Approved Training Organizations (ATO), African Aviation Training Association • African Aviation Training Accreditation Board • Regional and International Organizations: ICAO,AFCAC • Regional Safety Oversight Organisations • Educational Accreditation Bodies
Activities
(1) **End of August 2011**: ICAO Aviation safety Section to provide comments on the draft policy and competencies requirements and advise on the stakeholders and the process of adoption of the policy using existing platforms;
(2) **End of September 2011**: States and identified stakeholders send back any comments on the draft policy to ICAO.
(3) **End of November 2011**: Convene a meeting using current platforms for approval of policy
(4) **1 January 2012:** Effective implementation of policy

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