



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

**AFI COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR AVIATION
SECURITY AND FACILITATION IN AFRICA (AFI SECFAL PLAN)**

11TH AFI SECFAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Agenda Item 1.1: Status report on the implementation of the Decisions and Recommendations of the 10th AFI SECFAL Plan Steering committee (SC) Meeting.

(Presented by AFI SECFAL Plan Secretariat)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Working Paper presents status of implementation of the Decisions and Recommendations made by the 10th Comprehensive Regional Implementation Plan for Aviation Security and Facilitation in Africa (AFI SECFAL Plan) Steering Committee Meeting, held virtually on 15 July 2021. Details are provided in **Attachment A** appended to this Working paper.

Action by the SC is proposed under **Paragraph 4**.

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 The Tenth Meeting of the AFI SECFAL Plan Steering Committee (SC) was held virtually on 15 July 2021, three Decisions and one Recommendation were made, which required action by the Secretariat and other Stakeholders.

1.2 The meeting was informed that the 2021 Plan Work Programme, was focusing on priorities including implementation of State Specific Projects as approved by the SC, undertaking the Plan Long-term (2021-2023) activities, supporting States efforts to realize the revised Windhoek Targets as aligned with the Global Aviation Security Plan (GASeP) and assistance to aviation recovery from the impact of COVID-19 pandemic.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1. During the period of (July 2021- May 2022), several of the Decisions and Recommendations have been fully implemented and some have their implementation ongoing. Those not completed, have been incorporated in the 2022 AFI SECFAL Plan Work Programme for purposes of implementation continuity. Details of implementation status are highlighted in **Attachment A** of this Working Paper. As mandated, the Secretariat will continue to be update the SC on the implementation status during statutory meetings.

2.2. Since the last meeting, Mr Juan Carlos Salazar took office as ICAO Secretary General and reports on the Plan progress and activities are reported to his office in collaboration with Air Transport Bureau. The ICAO Secretary General and the Chair of the AFI SECFAL Plan through an oral report do subsequent reporting of the Plan activities, to the ICAO Council. The feedback and comments by the Council on the 2021 activities will be addressed through 2022 work Programme and beyond.

2.3. It is worthwhile to note that it is imperative to keep the momentum of the assistance and support of the Plan to AFI Region States. Furthermore, the actions to implement some of the 10th SC meeting decisions and recommendations will go beyond the Plan Long term of 2021-2023, calling for an additional period of the Plan period. It is critical that the SC recommends to the ICAO Council and ICAO Assembly an extension of the Plan programme document for a further period of 8 years.

2.4. The limited resources, lack of data and COVID-19 related restrictions hampered the expeditious implementation of the 2021 Plan work programmes and implementation of some of the 10th SC decisions and recommendations. Nonetheless, advantage was taken of the technological advancements and tools to provide remote assistance, raise awareness and convene the necessary workshops/meetings and seminars.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 The AFI SECFAL Plan secretariat will continue to implement its activities guided by the SC, in line with Programme document, its Work Programme as aligned with GAsEP and Windhoek Targets and Decisions and Recommendations generated from the SC Meetings. The effectiveness of the implementation will be boosted by prudent utilisation of the limited resources, harnessing synergies with partners and stakeholders, sharing of expertise through ICAO Short term experts and AFI CES under AFCAC. Cost effective utilisation of funding under ICAO regular budget, AFI SECFAL Plan Fund and in kind or financial voluntary contributions from States/donors and partners is key to sustainable assistance and support to States. Based on the deficiency needs analysis conducted by the Plan secretariat, it is evident that more resources will be needed to guarantee continuity, effectiveness and achievement of the Plan objectives.

4. ACTION BY THE STEERING COMMITTEE

4.1 The Steering Committee is invited to:

- a) Note the information contained in this paper and in particular the implementation of the Recommendations and Decisions as highlighted in **Attachment A** to this Working Paper;
- b) Provide further instruction, guidance and recommendations for the continued implementation of the Plan;
- c) Continue the advocacy to establish a sustainable funding mechanism of the Plan and
- d) Support the extension of the AFI SECFAL Plan programme beyond 2023.

ATTACHMENT A:

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 10TH SC MEETING DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

<i>Decision/ Recommendation Reference</i>	<i>Decision / Recommendation Text</i>	<i>Action Taken/Current Status</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
<i>SCI0/Dec 01</i>	<i>a) Noted and endorsed retrospectively, the four priority activities included in the work Programme and to be undertaken in 2021 and the 2021 budget estimates;</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of State Specific Projects as approved by the SC is progressing well in Central African Republic, Djibouti, Guinea Bissau, Kingdom of Lesotho and Mozambique. • The Plan Long-term (2021-2023) activities are ongoing with a likelihood of going beyond the Plan period due to pandemic and other unanticipated issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation of the States Specific projects is expected to improve with the easing of COVID-19 restrictions and onsite support. • There is need for the AFI SECFAL Plan programme extension beyond 2023.
	<i>b) Encouraged States to enroll in the new ICAO Annex 9 – Facilitation course and urged them to nominate participants to the FAL Course offered under the Plan.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 250 persons from 40 AFI States have so far participated in the ICAO Annex 9- Facilitation Course sponsored under the AFI SECFAL Plan. • The FAL Course was offered in English, French and Arabic languages. 	<p>The target of training 500 experts is still ongoing.</p> <p>Possibility of presenting the course in Spanish language for Portuguese speaking language is being explored.</p>
	<i>c) Commended States, ICAO Council and Partners for the continued support of the AFI SECFAL Plan, in terms of provision and advocacy of both voluntary human and financial resources; and</i>	<p>Advocacy and resources mobilization and contributions from potential donors/ partners is ongoing and</p> <p>Consultation are ongoing for increased support from ICAO Regular budget.</p>	<p>Sustainable funding through the ICAO Regular budget and other contributions is necessary for an effective implementation of AFI SECFAL Plan.</p>

Decision/ Recommendation Reference	Decision / Recommendation Text	Action Taken/Current Status	Remarks
SCI0/Dec 02	<i>a) urged the African States, partners and stakeholders to support the RASFALG-AFI efforts to improve aviation security and facilitation in Africa and provide financial and in-kind contributions and joint capacity building activities, based on the identified needs.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICAO/AFCAC joint missions have been consolidated and are being conducted; • Collaboration with African Development Bank (AfDB)/ ECAC-AFCAC and CASE II Projects are ongoing. 	
	<i>b) Encouraged AFI States to strengthen cooperation to optimize the use and sharing of available resources through relevant projects and the AFI Collaborative Experts Scheme (CES) in all aspects of aviation security and facilitation oversight; and</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The AFI Experts Scheme (CES) is now operational and being utilized to assist and support States and • The two States with significant Security Concerns challenges have benefited from the assistance provided by the pool of Experts. 	The strengthening of AFI CES to assist States is a priority with the support of an appropriate database and real time information.
	<i>c) Urged African States to designate Aviation Security and Facilitation Experts to participate in the AFI CES orientation workshop Planned for August 2021.</i>	Available information from AFCAC and RASFALG-AFI indicates the pool of qualified AFI-CES experts comprises of a total 97 AFI-CES designated Experts from 33 African member States as at of July 2021.	As the remaining States are encouraged to designate experts to the AFI CES scheme, effective utilization of the existing capacity should be maximised.
SCI0/Dec 03	<i>a) Urged States to provide the resources at the national level and regional level towards the realization of the Plan objectives and the attainment of Windhoek targets thus far aligned to the GASeP;</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICAO continues to engage with member States to provide resources including Short term and Regional Office experts at national and regional level for the realization of the Windhoek targets as aligned with GASeP. 	Much as progress has been achieved in realisation of some targets, significant delays are being experienced in others.

Decision/ Recommendation Reference	Decision / Recommendation Text	Action Taken/Current Status	Remarks
	<p><i>b) Urged States to collaborate with ICAO, and AFCAC to address the challenges identified during missions and audits and support specific States projects activities developed to mitigate the deficiencies;</i></p>	<p>Strong collaboration between AFCAC and ICAO, including alignment of the various work programs and joint planning of assistance activities/missions is ongoing and will be consolidated.</p>	<p>The collaborative efforts are aimed at pooling and optimizing of resources, and increasing capacity building to Member States.</p>
	<p><i>c) Commended States, ICAO Council, ICAO Secretariat, AFCAC and all other Partners for continued support to the AFI SECFAL Plan, including but not limited to advocacy for political will and voluntary contribution of both human and financial resources to plan activities and capacity building.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhanced Coordination is ongoing with partners such as AFCAC, ACI, WCO, EU/ECAC, IATA, and UNCCT • Joint activities and programmes continue to emerge and are encouraged. 	<p>The increased coordination amongst stakeholders and with partners is posed to increase efficiencies and implementation of the Plan programmes, projects and SC decisions and recommendations.</p>
<p>SC10/Rec 01</p>	<p><i>a) Urged States to utilize services and capabilities for border security enhancement and integrity of inter-state border movements provided by INTERPOL to address the undesirable slow participation currently experienced.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INTERPOL has initiated the process of integrating its databases e.g., the Stolen and Lost Travel Documents database (SLTDs) and I-24/7 with systems of other security agencies at the airports though with moderate progress. • Many AFI States are yet to integrate Interpol system at airport border control. 	<p>Direct access to Interpol databases especially SLTDs and i-24/7, should be extended to all airports as well as other border control points by States.</p>
	<p><i>b) Commended the support, contribution continued assistance of ECAC through the CASE II, Programme to the Africa States in the area of AVSEC capacity building; and</i></p>	<p>The implementation of CASE Project by ECAC is continuing in collaboration and with and support of AFCAC.</p>	<p>EU/CASE Projects have been successful and continuation of the same should be promoted and advocated through AFCAC and the AFI SECFAL SC leadership.</p>

<i>Decision/ Recommendation Reference</i>	Decision / Recommendation Text	Action Taken/Current Status	Remarks
	<i>c) Commended the assistance and collaboration with UNOCT towards the establishment and implementation of Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) systems, through its Counter-Terrorism Travel Programme (CTTP).</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UN Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) has scheduled series of assistance to states in the region. • Two States in Africa is currently implementing API, thus increasing compliance with the relevant Annex provisions and SARPs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is an apparent challenge in lack of legislative framework that is hampering the implementation process and • The pace of API/PNR implementation continues to be very low in Africa.