INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Sixth Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean Regional Aviation Safety Group (RASG-AFI/6)

Agenda Item 3.2: **Update on the safety initiatives by States, Regional Organizations, Industry and Partners**

ICAO Government Safety Inspector Course Conversion to Virtual Delivery

(Presented by the United States of America)

SUMMARY
This information paper provides an update that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), working with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), is converting ICAO endorsed Government Safety Inspector (GSI) training courses from classroom to virtual.

Strategic Objectives	A – Safety guidance

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The FAA, in collaboration with ICAO, has developed and maintained a series of model training courses for Flight Standards inspectors to address Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) training deficiencies found during ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Program (USOAP) audits. The desire of ICAO for development of this training is to provide a harmonized, ICAO compliant process of certification and oversight for flight operations, continuing airworthiness and personnel licensing actions that could be used by CAA inspectors world-wide.

1.2 The ICAO GSI training program, developed by FAA for the ICAO TRAINAIR Plus program, is now over 20 years in existence and its courses taught on a regular basis in training centers world-wide.

1.3. At present, there are four courses in the ICAO GSI training program, which address air operator certification, maintenance organization certification, air cargo operations and personnel licensing. A fifth course on system safety is planned to be developed in 2021.

1.4. The air cargo course has already been converted to virtual delivery and two courses have been scheduled by ICAO to be delivered in December 2020. The FAA and ICAO will begin conversion of the remaining courses into virtual delivery offerings, beginning with the air operator certification course.

1.5   The ICAO endorsed GSI training courses are supported by the Model Civil Aviation Regulations, which are used by over half the ICAO Contracting States as the basis for their own regulations or to update them.

2.0   DISCUSSION

2.1   As a result of COVID-19, ICAO received an increase in requests from Member States to convert their training courses from classroom to virtual. ICAO concurred with the request and asked the FAA to begin the conversion for its ICAO GSI training courses into virtual delivery offerings.

2.2   In October 2020, the ICAO GSI Air Cargo Certification Course 18702 became available for virtual delivery. This course provides aviation safety inspectors with the information and skills needed to effectively certify, evaluate and perform oversight of cargo operations including dangerous goods and human factors.

2.3   ICAO and FAA will begin work in late November 2020 to convert the remaining ICAO GSI courses into virtual delivery offerings, starting with ICAO GSI Air Operator Certification Course 18700, and followed by ICAO GSI Personnel – Personnel Licensing Course 18710, and ICAO GSI Airworthiness – Air Operator and Approved Maintenance Organization Course 18701. Each of these course conversions will take about eight weeks, followed by a validation course offering.

2.4.   All future courses developed for the ICAO GSI training program will either be virtual delivery offerings or web based instruction.

3.0   ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1   The meeting is invited to review the information paper, and encourage the Member States to review the training program for their inspectors and consider taking the newly converted ICAO GSI courses.