



International Civil Aviation Organization
Second Meeting of the Asia Pacific Regional Aviation Safety Team (APRAST/2)
(Bangkok, Thailand, 21 – 24 August 2012)

Agenda Item 2: Review APRAST Conclusions, the work of its subsidiary bodies and related safety initiatives

**REPORT ON THE FIRST MEETING OF
THE APRAST-AIG AD-HOC WORKING GROUP**

(Presented by the Chairman of the APRAST-AIG AWG)

SUMMARY

APRAST-AIG AWG/1 was held in the ICAO APAC Office on 6-8 June 2012. The meeting discussed the issues of independence of investigation, investigator training, investigation cooperation, voluntary and non-punitive incident reporting, and accident and incident database.

APRAST-AIG AWG/1 made nine intervention measure recommendations for the APRAST to consider forwarding to the RASG-APAC.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 As a sub-group of the APRAST specialising in accident investigation matters, the APRAST-AIG AWG has the objective of identifying intervention measures in the area of accident investigation systems.

1.2 The First Meeting of the APRAST-AIG AWG (APRAST-AIG AWG/1) was held in the ICAO APAC Office on 6-8 June 2012. The meeting was attended by 41 participants from 15 APAC States/ Administrations and three international organisations/industry partners. Dr. Richard Batt, Manager International of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau, was elected Vice Chair of the APRAST-AIG AWG.

1.3 APRAST-AIG AWG/1 reviewed the performance of the APAC States/Administrations in respect of the AIG related protocol questions in the ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP). Working papers on the following areas were discussed at the meeting:

- Independence of Investigation
- Investigator Training
- Investigation Cooperation
- Voluntary and Non-Punitive Incident Reporting
- Accident and Incident Database

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The key conclusions of APRAST-AIG AWG/1 include the following:

- a) The APRAST-AIG AWG should in the initial phase focus on intervention recommendations that will help States/Administrations address at the strategic level the deficiencies in their accident investigation systems.
- b) The RASG-APAC needs to emphasise to APAC States/Administrations the desirability of having (1) an independent investigation system; (2) an accountable person for AIG matters; and (3) a core group of trained investigators.
- c) APAC States/Administrations which have USOAP deficiency findings in AIG matters need to indicate if they are determined to address the deficiencies and, if so, whether they need assistance.
- d) The APAST-AIG AWG could only render assistance if States/Administrations indicate clearly that they wish to be assisted.
- e) The assistance framework can be enhanced through a Code of Conduct on investigation cooperation and through the formation of an APAC Group of Experts on Accident/Incident Investigation.

2.2 APRAST-AIG AWG/1 made nine intervention measure recommendations for the APRAST to consider forwarding to the RASG-APAC:

Conclusion AIG AWG 1/4

that, AIG AWG recommend to APRAST that RASG-APAC emphasise to States/Administrations the desirability of the following:

- An independent system of accident investigation
- The appointment of an accountable person for accident investigation matters
- The formation of a core group of personnel to be trained as investigators

Conclusion AIG AWG 1/6

that, AIG AWG recommend to APRAST that RASG-APAC encourage those States/Administrations which do not yet have an independent investigation system to consider establishing some form of independent investigation organisation.

Conclusion AIG AWG 1/7

that, AIG AWG recommend to APRAST that RASG-APAC encourage States/Administrations to have a dedicated core of one or more trained accident investigators, lest the effort in training go to waste through frequent changes of investigation personnel.

Conclusion AIG AWG 1/10

that, AIG AWG recommend to APRAST that RASG-APAC develop and implement a written framework, such as a Code of Conduct, that will promote mutual cooperation in accident/incident investigation.

Conclusion AIG AWG 1/11

that, AIG AWG recommend to APRAST that RASG-APAC form a Group of Experts on Accident/Incident Investigation (APAC-ACC) with representation from the investigation authorities, industry partners and professional bodies to institutionalise a network for the exchange of views, practices and experiences.

Conclusion AIG AWG 1/12

that, AIG AWG recommend to APRAST that RASG-APAC encourage States/Administrations to implement a CAIR¹ system.

Conclusion AIG AWG 1/14

that, AIG AWG recommend to APRAST that RASG-APAC encourage States/Administrations interested in setting up a CAIR programme to contact the International Confidential Aviation Safety Systems Group (ICASS) for assistance in designing and implementing new systems.

Conclusion AIG AWG 1/15

that, AIG AWG recommend to APRAST that RASG-APAC encourage States/Administrations to use ECCAIRS database software for their accident and incident database.

Conclusion AIG AWG 1/17

that, AIG AWG recommend to APRAST that RASG-APAC encourage States/Administrations to consider the use of ADREP-compatible systems.

2.3 As a follow-up from APRAST-AIG AWG/1, the ICAO APAC Office is conducting a survey on accident/incident investigation matters in a State Letter dated 18 June 2012 [ref: T 6/13.11.2 – AP086/12 (FS)]. The information requested would be very useful for developing support activities to assist States/Administrations in areas where assistance is most needed as well as for the APRAST-AIG AWG to set its priorities. So far, five States/Administrations have provided inputs to the survey.

2.4 The Second Meeting of the APRAST-AIG AWG (APRAST-AIG AWG/2) is scheduled to be held in Macao, China on 6-7 Sep 12 in conjunction with the ICAO Asia Pacific Regional Accident Investigation Workshop on 4-5 Sep 12. The agenda of APRAST-AIG AWG/2 is as follows:

- Review of the decisions by the APRAST in respect of the conclusions of APRAST AIG AWG/1
- Review of the inputs from the APAC States/Administrations to the survey conducted by ICAO APAC Office on their independent investigation capability and the assistance they would need
- Formulate an action plan of the AIG AWG based on the outcome of the survey conducted by ICAO APAC Office

¹ CAIR = Confidential Aviation Incident Reporting

3. **ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Consider and forward the nine intervention measure recommendations to the RASG-APAC;
- b) Remind States/Administrations that have not done so to provide by 27 August 2012 their input to the survey on accident/incident investigation matters as invited by the ICAO APAC office in its State Letter of 18 June 2012 [(ref: T 6/13.11.2 – AP086/12 (FS))];
- c) Note that APRAST-AIG AWG/2 will be held in Macao, China on 6-7 September 2012; and
- d) Encourage States/Administrations to attend APRAST-AIG AWG/2.

— END —