



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

Agenda Item 6: Any Other Business

ACI APEX IN SAFETY PROGRAM

(Presented by Airports Council International)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the progress that Airports Council International has made on its new aerodrome safety enhancement initiative, Airport Excellence (“APEX”) in Safety Program, since it was presented to APRAST/1 in February 2012. It also highlights the role that APEX in Safety plays in the promotion of runway safety. At the conclusion of the paper, States and international organizations are invited to support the program.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The APEX in Safety Program is an ACI initiative announced at the ICAO Global Runway Safety Symposium in Montreal in May 2011. The aim is to assist aerodrome operators with the improvement of level of safety and compliance with ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices.

1.2 The Program was also presented to APRAST/1 in February 2012 in WP/9.

1.3 Under the APEX in Safety Program, ACI dispatches Safety Review Teams, typically comprised of safety experts from ACI Offices, ICAO Regional Secretariats and Safety Partner Airports, to conduct on-site Safety Reviews at Hosting Airports. The aim of the Safety Reviews is to identify gaps in aerodrome safety and to draw up an action/implementation plan for the Host Airports concerned to address these vulnerabilities. ACI also assists the Host Airports throughout the implementation phase by providing technical support, training and access to a global network of airport safety expertise.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Much progress has been made in the development of the APEX program since APRAST/1. ACI has since then conducted Safety Reviews at four more airports and garnered support from other organizations by signing two agreements: one with ICAO, another with the Airports Authority of India.

2.2 On 15 June 2012, ACI signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (“MoC”) with ICAO to provide a framework in order to jointly pursue the highest possible levels of safety at airports worldwide. The MoC, i.e. the Memorandum of Cooperation between ICAO and ACI for Enhanced Cooperation to Improve Safety Standards at Airports Worldwide was signed by ICAO Council

President, Mr. Roberto Kobeh González and ACI Director General, Ms. Angela Gittens during a ceremony at ICAO Headquarters in Montreal. The objectives of the MoC are to:

- Support the development of the ACI APEX in Safety Program, designed to help airports worldwide to identify and address safety vulnerabilities;
- Perform joint technical assistance projects;
- Exchange regularly safety-relevant information and data and by providing mutual access to databases;
- Exchange experts and providing training; and
- Promote regional cooperation.

2.3 ACI has also signed an agreement with one of its members on the provision of technical expertise and the hosting of Safety Reviews. On 24 May 2012, on the occasion of the 7th ACI Asia Pacific Regional Assembly, Conference & Exhibition held in Singapore, ACI and the Airports Authority of India (“AAI”) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) on ACI’s APEX in Safety Program. Under the MOU, ACI will conduct Safety Reviews at airports operated by AAI, and in return, AAI will provide safety experts to assist with Safety Reviews at other ACI member airports. The first four AAI-operated airports that are scheduled to benefit from APEX Safety Reviews in 2013 will be Kolkata, Chennai, Ahmedabad and Guwahati.

2.4 Since the launch of the program in 2011, ACI has conducted Safety Reviews at the following airports. The dates of the Safety Reviews, their Safety Partners, the ICAO offices participating in the Safety Reviews and are listed in brackets.

- Lomé-Tokoin, Togo, (09/2011, Geneva International Airport, ICAO WACAF)
- San Pedro Sula, Honduras, (02/2012, Quiport, Ecuador, ICAO NACC)
- Maputo, Mozambique, (03/2012, Airports Company South Africa (“ACSA”))
- Lusaka, Zambia, (04/2012, Vancouver Airport Authority)
- Soekarno-Hatta, Jakarta, Indonesia, (05/2012, Incheon, AAI, ACSA, ICAO APAC)
- Cluj-Napoca, Romania, (07/2012, Amsterdam Airport Schiphol, Bangalore International Airport, ICAO EUR/NAT)

2.5 Depending on the size and complexity of the Host Airport, the on-site Safety Reviews are usually completed in one to two weeks.

2.6 Other than the four AAI airports mentioned in paragraph 2.3 above, Safety Reviews at airports in Saudi Arabia and Romania are already being planned for Q4 2012 and 2013.

2.7 APEX Safety Reviews typically covers runway safety as well as other key areas concerning aerodrome safety such as wildlife management, safety management system, and airfield signs, lightings and markings. APEX could therefore be a useful vehicle for promoting the implementation and exchange of best practices in runway safety, e.g. the establishment of local Runway Safety Teams (“RSTs”), that ICAO, and in particular, APRAST, have been arduously

advocating. The MoC signed by ACI and ICAO mentioned in paragraph 2.2 lays the groundwork for furthering the collaboration between ACI and ICAO on the promotion of runway safety.

2.8 The establishment of local RSTs is one of the key safety enhancement measures that APEX for Safety promotes and recommends to Host Airports. It is also a priority for ICAO, as attested by the numerous Regional Runway Safety Seminars that ICAO has organized around the world since last year, e.g. the RRSS held in Bali, Indonesia from 21 to 24 May 2012.

2.9 Airports that have so far hosted APEX Safety Reviews unanimously agree that they benefit immensely from the altruistic sharing of safety expertise. Safety Partner airports and other members of the Safety Review Teams also expressed great appreciation for the opportunity to learn from the reviews since every airport has its unique problems arising from its characteristic operating environment.

2.10 APEX for Safety would also potentially offer great benefits to civil aviation regulators in Asia & Pacific, international organizations and other stakeholders given that the Program helps identify safety hazards and recommends mitigation measures and regionally relevant solutions, e.g. RSTs, that these organizations have been advocating.

2.11 ACI would like to invite States and international organizations to support the ACI APEX in Safety Program. States are specifically invited to encourage their aerodrome operators to participate in this program, either as Host Airport or Safety Partner.

2.12 For more information on APEX in Safety, please contact Mr. SL Wong, Senior Manager Technical and Industry Affairs – ACI Regional Office APAC, at sl@aci-asiapac.aero, or Mr. Adrian Cioranu, Project Manager APEX – ACI World, at ACioranu@aci.aero, or visit www.aci.aero/apex.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the progress in the implementation of ACI APEX in Safety Program and its potential role in the promotion of runway safety under the aegis of APRAST;
- b) Support the program; and
- c) Encourage aerodrome operators to participate in the Program.

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