INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

TENTH MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION OF THE AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN REGION (AFI-DGCA/10)

Libreville, Gabon, 15-16 July 2024

Agenda Item 3: Review and follow-up on the outcomes of previous DGCA meeting & updates on the AFI DGCA Championships

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY
This working paper provides a status report on the implementation of the main outcomes of the DGCA/9 Meeting held in Abuja, Nigeria, on 16 May 2022; and updates on AFI DGCA Championships. Action to be taken by the Meeting is provided at paragraph 3 of the Paper.

REFERENCE(S)	DGCA/9 Report
Strategic Objective(s)	This working paper is related to all ICAO Strategic Objectives

1. **INTRODUCTION**

1.1. The Ninth Meeting of Directors General of Civil Aviation Authorities of the Eastern & Southern and Western & Central African States was held in Abuja, Nigeria, on 16 May 2024. It was well attended by more than 165 participants from Contracting States, international and regional Organizations.

2. **DISCUSSION**

2.1. The main outcomes of the DGCA/9 meeting covered the following:
   a) Update on outcome of the ICAO 2021 High-level Conference on COVID-19 and post-COVID-19 air traffic recovery;
   b) Performance status – ICAO report (All ICAO Strategic Objectives);
   c) Update on APIRG/RASG-AFI meetings and priorities; and
   d) Champion States' activities status, European Union collaboration with Africa on Aviation, Enhancing Aviation Development, Innovation and Sustainability in the African Region.

2.2. The status of implementation of the outcomes of DGCA/9 meeting is provided at **Appendix A** to this paper.

2.3. The Sixth Meeting of Directors-General of Civil Aviation Authorities of the Africa-Indian Ocean Region (AFI-DGCA/6) held in Brazzaville, Congo, from 2 to 4 November 2016 at Hotel Concorde, Kintele, adopted priority actions for implementation; and designated corresponding Lead and Support Champion DGs for coordination and follow up:

A-Safety:
1) Lead Champion: DG, ANAC Togo
2) Support Champion: DG, Botswana CAA

B-Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency:
1) Lead Champion: DG, ANACIM-Senegal
2) Support Champion: DG, Sudan CAA

C- Aviation Security and Facilitation:
1) Lead Champion: DG, South Africa CAA
2) Support Champion: DG, ANAC-Burkina Faso

D- Economic Development of Air Transport:

1) Lead Champion: DG, ANAC-Cote d'Ivoire
2) Support Champion: DG, Ethiopia CAA

E- Environmental Protection:
1) Lead Champion: DG, KCAA
2) Support Champion: DG, ANAC-Gabon

2.4 The terms of reference of reference (TOR) of the Champion Directors General for the implementation plan of priority actions for the improvement of the civil aviation system are provided at **Appendix B** to this paper.

2.5 The Seventh Meeting of Directors-General of Civil Aviation Authorities of the Africa-Indian Ocean Region (AFI-DGCA/7) held in Niamey, Niger, on 20 July, 2018 noted the great strides taken by the Champion States in rendering assistance to other States. However, the meeting urged the Champion DGs to improve coordination with other DGs to ensure coverage of the whole AFI Region. With the advent of COVID-19 Pandemic, which seriously disrupted aviation operations and diverted the focus of the aviation community to addressing the challenges posed by the outbreak, activities of the Champion DGs were not pursued as envisaged.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to note :

a) the status of implementation of DGCA/9 outcomes and provide further guidance as appropriate; ; and
b) the update on the AFI-DGCA Championships with the view to re-focus concept of Champion DGs, and formulate a strategy for delivery of an effective and efficient support to States in the Region.

Appendix A

Status of implementation of the outcomes of DGCA/9 meeting

	Outcomes	Responsibilities	Status of Implementation/Remarks
Update on outcome of the ICAO 2021 High-level conference on COVID-19 and post-COVID-19 air traffic recovery	States to enhance their commitment to the HLCC Ministerial Declaration with a view to restore and revitalize the aviation sector.	States	
	States to open borders through application of updated risk management and vaccination approaches to support the recovery of air transport	States	Currently all States have opened borders after the COVID 19 Pandemic. No detailed recorded procedures and process followed. There is need for continuous sensitization and/or implementation of harmonized risk-based approach to management of public health events in aviation through the CAPSCA framework.
Performance status - ICAO report (All ICAO Strategic Objectives)	States are commended for the tremendous efforts made to improve aviation performance in the region despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. States are encouraged to improve their effective implementation of the Critical Elements (CEs) of State safety systems and security oversight as well as the implementation of the State Safety Programme SSP and ASBU elements. Furthermore, States are encouraged to request for support from ICAO Regional Offices, RSOOs, RAIOs, and other Partners.	States	Only 12 States out of the 48 from ESAF & WACAF regions achieved the 75% EI target of the GASP. The average Safety Oversight EI in the RASG –AFI Region has increased from 55.2 per cent in 2019 to 59.5 per cent in 2023 which is positive progress. However, three SSCs have been identified in the Region in the area of Air Navigation Services (ANS) related to non-calibration of Navigational Aids and non-validation of Instrument Flight Procedures. While there has been progress, SSP implementation in the RASG -AFI Region has remained a challenge. For USAP-CMA the achievements are as follows, 27 States with EI >65%; 11 States with EI > 80% and 3 States with EI>90%.

Outcomes	Responsibilities	Status of Implementation/Remarks
		The Aviation Security Oversight EI has increased from 60.5% in 2019 to 65% in 2023 in the AFI Region. However, the number States with SSeC has increased from 2 in 2019 to 6 at the end of 2023.
States to increase their efforts in the capacity building with the support of ICAO-GAT and other approved Training Organizations.	States	States are participating in the ICAO capacity building activities including training, workshops, seminars and iPACKs and also Aviation professional capacity building study conducted under the AFI Plan and implementation of the training programme is going on.
States to improve and/or establish data collection and processing systems to facilitate the exchange and sharing of information, thus enabling data-driven decision-making processes	States	States still having a challenge in the establishment of data collection and processing systems to facilitate the exchange and sharing of information.
States are commended and further encouraged to facilitate the release of their Experts, in coordination with the ICAO Regional Offices, to support the assistance activities conducted in other States.	States	States experts are efficiently supporting regional assistance activities and projects.
Cooperation and coordination between ICAO Regional Offices, AFCAC, RSOOs, RAIOs, RECs, other international/regional organizations, industry and partners, should be strengthened in order to optimize the impact of assistance activities and initiatives and avoid duplication of efforts in the AFI Region.	ICAO AFCAC RSOOs RAIOs RECs	ICAO ESAF and WACAF Regional Offices organize an annual coordination meeting between ICAO, AFCAC, RSOOs, RAIOs, RECs, other international and regional organizations, industry, and partners to optimize the impact of assistance activities and initiatives and avoid duplication of efforts in the AFI Region. However, there is a need for establishment of a mechanism to monitor progress on implementation of the actions agreed on by the meeting.

	Outcomes	Responsibilities	Status of Implementation/Remarks
	States are encouraged to liberalize their air transport markets in accordance with the provisions of the Yamoussoukro Decision: and if not already done so, expedite the process to join the SAATM.	States	Promote and advocate SAATM during ICAO Regional Directors High level missions to Angola, Comoros Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Liberia, Kenya, Rwanda and Sao Tome and Principe. ICAO is supporting the AUC/AFCAC Technical Working Group in the conduct the aviation infrastructure gap analysis. ICAO is playing the leading role from the design of the questionnaire, the collection and analysis of the information, and the production of the report.
	States that are yet to develop their State Action Plans on CO_2 emissions reduction from International Aviation and volunteer to participate in the CORSIA to consider doing so.	States	79% (38 States) of ESAF and WACAF States have developed their SAPs while 52% (25 States) have volunteered to participate in the CORSIA.
	States to promote policies for the development and deployment of Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAFs).	States	More than 50% of AFI States have signed the ACT SAF Terms and Conditions.
Update on APIRG/RASG AFI meetings and priorities	Consultations required between States and stakeholders on the delineation of the AFI Region	ICAO States	The subject of the delineation of the AFI Region was discussed during the joint meeting of APIRG25&RASG-AFI/8. States agreed through conclusion 4/03 that the delineation of the AFI Region be based on the current area of accreditation of ICAO ESAF and WACAF Offices which is made of 48 States. The APIRG/26&RASG-AFI/9 meeting was updated on the ANC consideration. The meeting was informed that the ANC considered this to be an item related to Governance. It was discussed by the Committee on Governance (COG), and by the Council during its the 230th Session. The meeting was informed that it expects the Council to instruct on the next steps shortly, to expedite the completion of the definition.

	Outcomes	Responsibilities	Status of Implementation/Remarks
	States, that have not yet done so, are urged to nominate focal points in PIRGs related areas to support the required coordination for the implementation of the Air navigation plan	States	26 AFI States out of 48 (54%) have formally nominated their national coordinator for planning and implementation as well as their technical focal points in all ANS areas. States are regularly kept updated and reminded on this request.
Champion States activities' status, European Union collaboration with Africa on Aviation, Enhancing Aviation Development, Innovation and Sustainability in the African Region	ICAO Regional Offices to convene a meeting to evaluate the relevance of the Champion States' mechanism and improve its functioning if required	ICAO	Coordination ongoing.
	States are encouraged to take advantage of innovation to support the development of the aviation industry; and consider the civil society in the decision-making process	States	ICAO organized and conducted webinars and workshops on Innovation with the objective of creating a learning opportunity for the aviation community at large about innovative practices in aviation and generate further thinking within the organizations on how to incorporate new technologies in support of a sustainable civil aviation system Incorporation of Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) in the APIRG Work Programme

- END -

Appendix B

Terms of reference (TOR) of the Champion Directors General for the implementation plan of priority actions for the improvement of the civil aviation system.
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1. Context

1.1 The AFI DGCA/6 meeting held in Brazzaville resulted in the adoption of a priority implementation plan that contains actions grouped under each ICAO Strategic Objective (SO). In addition, two Champion Directors General (a lead and Support DG) have been identified for each SO. This is in order not only to increase States' involvement, but also to coordinate and facilitate the implementation of the aforementioned actions through peer-motivation and in line with the deadlines set by the meeting. To overcome the challenges encountered by AFI States in complying with ICAO SARPs, the plan gathers and summarizes targets and priorities adopted at the regional and global levels in all areas of civil aviation.

1.2 These TORs aim at providing guidance on the expected role of the Champion DGs as well as on the coordination mechanism for the effective implementation of the plan.

2 Terms of reference

2.1 Each pair of Champion DGs, as a team and under the leadership of the lead DG, will develop an implementation strategy for the SO it has been assigned to ensure continuous monitoring of its implementation throughout the AFI Region.

2.2 The Champion DGs will, in close collaboration with the relevant ICAO Regional offices, and the Chairman of the AFI DGCA/6 meeting (in the person of the DG-ANAC, Congo), carry out the following activities:

   2.2.1 Promote the exchange of information between the CAA-DG of the States of the Region on the implementation of the agreed actions, by correspondence, electronic mail, and teleconference as well as during sub – regional, regional or international meetings;

   2.2.2 Report on a quarterly basis on activities conducted under the relevant SO using a template (provided by ICAO) as well as simple and measurable performance indicators;

   2.2.3 Identify (common) challenges faced by States and determine their assistance needs;

   2.2.4 Coordinate /support the development of means of assistance;

   2.2.5 Coordinate the implementation of the actions aimed at addressing challenges faced by States;

   2.2.6 Promote the exchange of information on available assistance and funding mechanisms; and

   2.2.7 Report to the next AFI DGCA meeting.

2.3 The respective ICAO Regional Offices will provide the necessary support to Champion DGs in carrying out the above-mentioned activities. For this purpose, each Regional Office will designate a focal point, by SO, and will share its annual strategic plan for assistance to States.