

IBAC Technical Report Summary

Subject: Aviation Safety Coordination

Meeting: Asia Pacific DGCA Conference

IBAC File: ICAO PIRGS

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Summary:

The annual Asia Pacific Conference of Directors General was held in Indonesia December 4 - 8, 2006. IBAC was represented by Don Spruston. This was the fourth year for which business aviation has been invited to this Conference.

The meeting provides an invaluable opportunity to discuss and to resolve issues with the Directors General of all Asian States. The meeting is becoming more action oriented and results of decisions are now much better tracked.

This year's conference was dominated by safety issues, although security, environment and CNS/ATM were also prevalent in the approximate 200 Papers. A number of Papers addressed SMS implementation with much encouragement given to States to implement SMS for both safety and security.

IBAC presented two Papers. The first dealt with the benefit of using industry standards for both rulemaking and regulatory oversight. The second provided an overview of the changes to Annex 6 Part II and encouragement of Asian DGCAs to receive and review the State Letter positively. Some interventions included an appeal to DGCAs to ensure business aviation was treated equitably in provision of ATS services.

A Report on the meeting is provided below, showing a short summary of all Discussion Papers presented at the meeting. Contact IBAC to obtain copies of Papers.

Implication for Business Aviation:

The meeting represents an important opportunity for business aviation to help influence the ongoing development of aviation in the Asia Pacific Region. All DGCAs of Asian States attend, and as such this presents the industry with a forum to discuss issues both within the formal session and outside. This year, a number of significant issues were discussed. Of particular interest for business aviation was the briefing by Australia, and supported by others, to use industry standards in regulatory oversight. The concept of a 'safety case' approach fits well with the IS-BAO industry standard. Business Aviation was given good exposure for its industry standard.

Decisions Required:

The importance of attending this meeting on an annual basis is re-confirmed. Follow-up is required with the Australian CASA regarding the new rules for corporate aviation and with Chinese CAAC regarding flight level clearances. Next year's Conference will more significantly address SMS for safety and security, so Papers regarding the business aviation initiatives should be prepared.

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Asia Pacific DGCA Conference Bali, Indonesia 4-8 December 2006

Introduction

The 43rd meeting of the Directors General of Civil Aviation for the Asia Pacific Region was held in Bali, Indonesia on 4 to 8 December 2006. IBAC attended the meeting on invitation, for the fourth time. D. Spruston was the only IBAC representative. The meeting had approximately 200 attendees from all Asia Pacific nations plus three international organizations (IBAC, IATA and CANSO). The meeting was opened with remarks made by the Indonesian Minister of Transport.

IBAC presented two Papers, one on the application of industry standards and the other on the modernization of Annex 6 Part II. Both Papers appeared to be well received.

A short summary of each Paper is provided below. The number shown represents the DP number. Please advise IBAC if you would like a copy of any of the Conference Papers.

Agenda 1 – Sustainable Practice for Enhanced Safety Oversight and Security

- 1/1. ICAO outlined problems with safety oversight delivery when resources are scarce. It proposes a method of resource sharing.
- 1/2 IATA presentation on the airline IOSA audit program.
- 1/3 IBAC presentation on the application of industry standards for rule development and regulatory oversight (Paper on IBAC website).
- 1/4 IBAC presentation on modernizing Annex 6 Part II (Paper on IBAC website).
- 1/5 US FAA status of SMS implementation. Encouraged APAC States to implement SMS.
- 1/6 Nepal safety enhancement initiatives.
- 1/7 US proposes that ICAO audit focus more on safety issues when the new audit cycle starts.
- 1/8 US presented a case for opposing an ICAO DGCA Conference resolution regarding the proposal to have airlines audited by expert pools, with ICAO support, and then have sanction by other States even though the ICAO audit of the host State is bad.
- 1/9 UK Paper on the need to change the ICAO process for declaring differences to the SARPS. States are having difficulty in determining what the differences are.

- 1/10 Korea presentation on their SARPS Management and Implementation System (SMIS), which tracks all 10,000 SARPS for currency, history, dates etc.

Agenda 2 – Review Actions from the 42nd Conference

- 2/1 ICAO provided a detailed report on responses to action items from the previous Conference.
- 2/2 Australian Paper on the Consultative Link, which is applied to the way the Asia Pacific States link with the relevant APAC member on Council (the Montreal Group).
- 2/3 Paper on means to extend the Consultative Link process (per Paper 2/2). General agreement that the Consultative Link process works and should be continued for the short term.

Agenda 3 – Air Navigation Planning and Implementation

- 3/1 Presentation on the APANPIRG status report. (Note – IBAC intervention made regarding altitude issues).
- 3/3 ICAO Paper on the implementation of Annex 14 re provisions for airport certification and SMS.
- 3/12 Thailand briefed on project in Bay of Bengal to improve aircraft flow into the Kabul FIR (operational trial called Bobcat) aimed at reducing restrictions in Kabul FIR.
- 3/2 ICAO reported on Air Traffic Flow Management in the region including ATFM operational trial in the Bay of Bengal and South China Sea.
- 3/13 US briefed on SMS implementation for certified airports. Change in Part 139 to require SMS for airports.
- 3/5 Announces an ICAO ANS Symposium in 2007. Background given on reasons for the Symposium and impact for APAC. ICAO related that APAC did not have a particularly good safety record.
- 3/7 Nepal Paper on proposed new route structure in Nepal. Proposes trans Himalayan and Himalayan routes. Requests cooperation of bordering States such as China, India, Myanmar etc.
- 3/9 China outlined a program to implement RVSM before the Olympics in 2008. Will be a metric system which introduces a large number of safety issues to be resolved due to the conversion factor required. China is still working on conversion to an imperial FL system, but there are considerable problems so a change is not imminent.

Agenda 4 – CNS/ATM Implementation Activities

- 4/1 Regional cooperation for deploying GNSS. Australia is proceeding with GBAS and GRAS and is encouraging regional cooperation in equipment purchase and sharing.
- 4/15 Japan presented a Paper on economic cooperation (APEC) with GNSS implementation. Reference APEC GNSS Implementation Team (GIT).
- 4/17 Report on GNSS activities in Indonesia.
- 4/18 Thailand presented a Paper on the preliminary performance analysis for GNSS data.
- 4/2 Nepal provide an update on progress in implementing CNS/ATM in that country.
- 4/3 ICAO presented proposal for support for WRC 2007.
- 4/12 Indonesia made a presentation on an initiative for sharing of networked ADS-B surveillance across FIR boundaries.
- 4/13 French presentation on SESAR and its role in ATM. Definition phase for 2 year study is awarded and has a target of 2008. Characteristics of SESAR were presented.

Agenda 5 – Aviation Safety

- 5/3 ICAO presented a Paper on SMS Implementation in the APAC region. Extensive work has been completed on a “train the trainer” approach. Expertise now exists in the region and is primarily run through the COSCAP programs.
- 5/4 Interesting Paper by Australia titled “Beyond SMS”. It advocates a “Safety Case” concept which puts the onus on the operator to prove to the regulator that the goal of a safe operation has been achieved. (Similar to the Exposition concept of EASA).
- 5/5 ICAO Paper on the Safety Monitoring Services in the Asia Pacific. Outlined in ICAO HQ policy but yet to be implemented in the region. RASMAG to be set up for Asia and another for Pacific. Dedication remains a problem. A Task Force is to be set up to establish the two RASMAGs, but States must support the TF with expertise.
- 5/2 ICAO presented a Paper on language proficiency, which summarized an ANC review. A survey in the APAC region now complete.
- 5/10 Australia presented a Paper on modernization of the licensing of maintenance personnel. There was universal agreement the industry can and does move faster than the regulators. The Paper is in line with 5/4 and explains further the concept of an Exposition.
- 5/4 ICAO report on the progress on regional cooperation in accident investigations.
- 5/25 Korean Paper on regional cooperation in accident investigation. Promotes a regional database of resources and the need to explore ways to extend regional cooperation.

- 5/12 Australian Paper on different approach to accident investigation methodology.
- 5/29 French presentation on collaboration between States on major investigations.

Agenda 6 – Security

- 6/1 ICAO presentation on the Security Audit Programme. Outline of some weaknesses.
- 6/6 Thailand Paper on Best Practices for a Security Management System.
- 6/5 China report on experience gained in managing unruly passengers. New laws were introduced including provision for air marshals.
- 6/11 Korean Paper on the need for a template MOU between contracted States on the deployment of in-flight security officers.
- 6/15 Singapore presented a Paper on the need to internationally harmonize rules for liquids and gels in hand baggage. As it stands, the EU allows duty free material on aircraft but won't allow transit material purchased duty free outside the EU.

Agenda 7 – Air Transport

- 7/2 ICAO presentation on implementation of enhanced travel documents.
- 7/13 UK Paper on the need to liberalize ownership and control of airlines.
- 7/15 IATA Paper on managing environmental challenges. Expressed a need to better transfer the message to the public that aviation is very fuel efficient and only contributes 2% of global greenhouse gases.

Agenda 8 – Technical Cooperation

- 8/1 ICAO briefing on the Technical Cooperation Programme.
- 8/2 ICAO presentation on Technical Cooperation initiatives in the APAC region. Report on the Regional Safety Teams in each of the APAC sub-regions.
- 8/3 Cooperative arrangements for the prevention of the spread of communicable diseases through air travel. A project team is working on proposals.
- 8/5 Korean paper on the fellowship training programme for developing countries.