

17th STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
Hong Kong and Macau Membership in COSCAP-NA
Discussion Paper 6
(Introduced by Captain Jin Yibin – Executive Chairman COSCAP-NA)

SUMMARY

The purpose of this paper is to seek the views of COSCAP-NA Members regarding the inclusion of Hong Kong and Macau as Members of the COSCAP-NA programme.

1. Background

- 1.1 The current COSCAP-NA member States are China, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK), Mongolia, and Republic of Korea.
- 1.2 The Minister Administrator or Directors General of the North Asian States approved the Programme Document for the Cooperative Development of Operational Safety and Continuing Airworthiness Programme – North Asia Area (COSCAP-NA) with the intent to co-operate in strengthening their flight safety oversight capabilities in association with ICAO.
- 1.3 The Programme implementation commenced in February 2003 with the arrival of the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) in Beijing, China. At the first Steering Committee Meeting held in April 2003 at Beijing, the Programme objectives addressing the areas of flight safety, flight operations and airworthiness of aircraft were consolidated as follows:
 - (a) Establishing North Asia Regional Aviation Safety Team (NARAST) under the umbrella of the Programme;
 - (b) Professional development of inspectors;
 - (c) Harmonization of policies and procedures;
 - (d) Supplemental inspections and surveillance assistance;
 - (e) Coordination of Technical Assistance;
 - (f) Implementation of ICAO SARPs; and
 - (g) Preparation for USOAP audits.
- 1.4 The COSCAP-NA developed and approved the Institutional Framework and Administrative Procedures Manual (IFAPM) which contains the policies and procedures of COSCAP-NA.

- 1.5 Under Article 8 of the COSCAP-NA IFAPM, the Steering Committee is to review any requests for Membership and take a decision at its next Steering Committee meeting.

Article 8 Joining COSCAP-NA

8.1 Any ICAO Member State in the North Asia sub-region or adjoining area would be eligible to join COSCAP-NA by submitting a request to the Steering Committee, which shall decide on the matter at its next meeting. However, this shall not preclude the Steering Committee from considering requests by other ICAO Member State to join COSCAP-NA.

2. Current Status

- 2.1 The Executive Chairman Captain Jin Yibin received formal requests from Hong Kong China and Macau China seeking to join the COSCAP-NA programme.
- 2.2 Members of COSCAP-NA received a letter from the Executive Chairman in February 2017 asking that they consider the requests from Hong Kong and Macau and be prepared to take a decision as to their Membership in the COSCAP-NA at the 17th Steering Committee meeting.
- 2.3 If the requests for Membership are supported by the Steering Committee the Project Document, IFAPM and NARAST Terms of Reference as well as any related documents will need to be amended accordingly in coordination with ICAO.

3. Actions of the Meeting

- 3.1 Member are invited to comment on the requests from Hong Kong and Macau and express any objections or concerns regarding the inclusion of Hong Kong and Macau as part of the COSCAP-NA programme.
- 3.2 It is recommended that in anticipation of moving into Phase IV in February 2018 that any changes to the project documentation be completed during the transition into Phase IV and signed accordingly.
- 3.3 In the interim, if Members support the addition of Hong Kong and Macau to COSCAP-NA, it is recommended that the CTA work with the appropriate officials in both authorities to identify immediate needs and develop a revised work plan that will be delivered over the remainder of this year as part of the COSCAP-NA programme 2017-18 Work Plan.