

# **INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION (ICAO)**

## **Support to NEPAD**

**Period of Report: August 2005 to August 2006**

### **Support for areas relevant to the implementation of NEPAD**

ICAO provides support to air transport development, particularly in the area of aviation safety, through various technical cooperation projects, among which is the Cooperative Development of Operational Safety and Continuing Airworthiness Programme (COSCAP). COSCAP is a capacity building programme in aviation safety oversight being implemented with the support of sub-regional organizations – the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC), the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). Three of the COSCAP projects will be fully operational by August 2006.

Also, ICAO continues to provide technical support in civil aviation infrastructure and institutional development to individual States as well as to the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC).

In addition, the objective of the ICAO Universal Security Audit Programme (USAP) is to promote global aviation security by auditing States' aviation security systems, and providing recommendations for improvement. Although the activities of USAP have not been specifically aimed at NEPAD, six aviation security audits of African States were conducted under the Programme during the period end-August 2005 to end-June 2006, and four audits are scheduled in July and August 2006. This will bring the total number of audited African States to 35 since the Programme was launched in November 2002. The ICAO audits continue to make a positive contribution to the enhancement of aviation security measures and the development of national aviation security expertise in audited States. Improved aviation security in turn supports the NEPAD priority areas of peace and security, encourages the use of aviation in the NEPAD priority area of tourism to enhance Africa's integration into the global economy and nurtures increased investment in improving infrastructure in the transport priority sector.

### **Innovative approaches for funding the priorities of NEPAD**

The COSCAP projects mentioned above are typically funded by the participating States, with support from funding agencies and other donors. ICAO is assisting in the mobilization of resources for the COSCAP projects from the ICAO International Financing Facility for Aviation Safety (IFFAS), the European Commission (EC), the African Development Bank (ADB), the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Development Cooperation, as well as industry partners.

## **Challenges and constraints in mobilizing financial resources to support NEPAD**

In spite of the strong commitment to the improvement of the safety, security and efficiency of air transport, the competition among various sectors for development funds constitutes a major challenge in the mobilization of funds. However, the participation of multiple donors in regional programmes proved to be an effective source of funding for the projects.

### **Advocacy and awareness-raising**

The involvement of ADB and other multilateral and bilateral funding partners in the funding of COSCAP projects in West and Central Africa has contributed significantly to the efforts made to raise awareness on the implementation of NEPAD in support of African development.

Moreover, advocacy work and steps to raise the awareness in support of African development are taken during missions to States, contacts with other United Nations agencies, visits to the ICAO Regional Offices in Dakar and Nairobi by officials from civil aviation authorities, government agencies and other relevant organizations, and during attendance at meetings in which the Regional Offices represent ICAO.