

AviAssist Foundation

Support program to AIS/M in the East African Community

May 2011

AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION

One of the least known and most vital roles in support of international civil aviation is filled by the aeronautical information service (AIS) governed by ICAO Annex 15 & ICAO Doc 8126.

Yet, at the same time, AIS is often seen as a menial and less relevant profession with sometimes few personal development & training opportunities provided to the staff in AIS divisions.

FROM AIS TO AIM

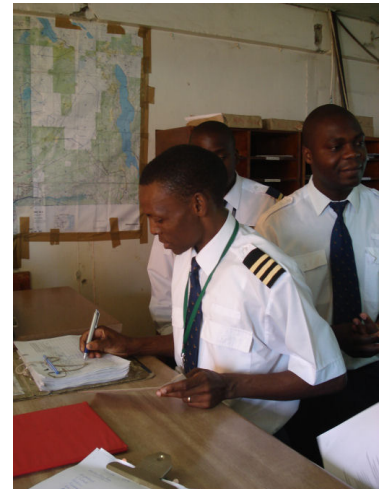
New communication, navigation and surveillance/air traffic management systems (CNS/ATM) will provide improved information exchange between the air and the ground. These future CNS/ATM systems will become much more reliant on data exchange than previously was the case.

As a result, Aeronautical Information Management or AIM will be a crucial component in the implementation of CNS/ATM. This introduces a need for new corresponding AIS requirements on quality and timeliness of information. The role of AIS therefore needs to transition to an information management service. This will require a change in duties, responsibilities and

scope to satisfy the new requirements and to cope with and manage the provision of aeronautical information.

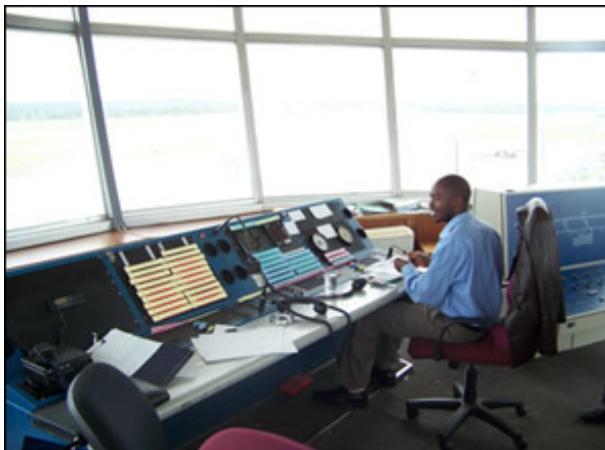
The call for AIS to support a transition to future CNS/ATM systems may be even stronger in Africa than in other areas, considering the fact that such systems are less reliant on ground based facilities. Maintenance of ground based facilities has proven quite burdensome in numerous countries in the region because of factors such as remoteness, lack of resources and political instability.

The activities in this AviAssist program focus on the first two phases of action as defined in the 2009 ICAO 'Roadmap on



the transition from AIS to AIM' Roadmap. The first phase of the roadmap focuses on refining and strengthening existing Standards and ensure their implementation in all five EAC States. This needs to improve the value of current products by improving their quality and availability for users.

The second ICAO Roadmap phase focuses on the introduction of database-driven processes. This will concern mainly the creation of a national database or regional databases to produce the existing products and services, but with better quality and availability.



Promoting professional excellence in African aviation safety



REGIONAL PARTNER

AviAssist focuses this program primarily on the five countries of the East African Community (EAC). The five EAC countries are Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania & Uganda. As part of the mandate of the EAC, the countries have set up a Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Agency CASSOA. CASSOA is emerging as a promising regional organisation with similarities to both the former European Joint Aviation Authorities and EASA. The functioning of CASSOA and its support to this program highly increases the likelihood of sustainable solutions to safety issues addressed in this program.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Recognising that very little (in-region) training is available to operational AIS/M staff, the program will commence with a generic AIS training. This training will ensure that the participants and participating organisations in the rest of the program have the same starting point. The participants can follow the training as ab initio training or (where applicable) as a refresher course.

In line with the tradition of the AviAssist Foundation, it aims to mobilise the required expertise

COMPLEMENT EXISTING EFFORTS

The AviAssist program will continue to monitor the ongoing work of the ICAO Aeronautical Information Services-Aeronautical Information Management Study Group ICAO AIS-AIMSG for possible infusion of decisions into the program.

It will continue the work started in the 2009 Global AIM conference in Johannesburg which was designed to engage African professionals on the transition from AIS to AIM and the enabling of the digital data environment.

LONG TERM SUPPORT

To support sustainable improvements in AIS/M, AviAssist will start and moderate an internet user group for at least 2 years. With no need for internet browsing, this is a valuable instrument to exchange (regional) best practices and experience between professionals in the region. It supports the 'understanding & application' level of

The program specifically aims to complement and support the work of ICAO by creating awareness, understanding and buy-in to ensure that global aeronautical information evolves in terms of scope, time and quality to meet the needs of users.

In short, this program for 2011 & 2012 will assist the AIS/M organizations in the region to evolve from traditional product-centric AIS to the enlarged scope of data-centric AIM.

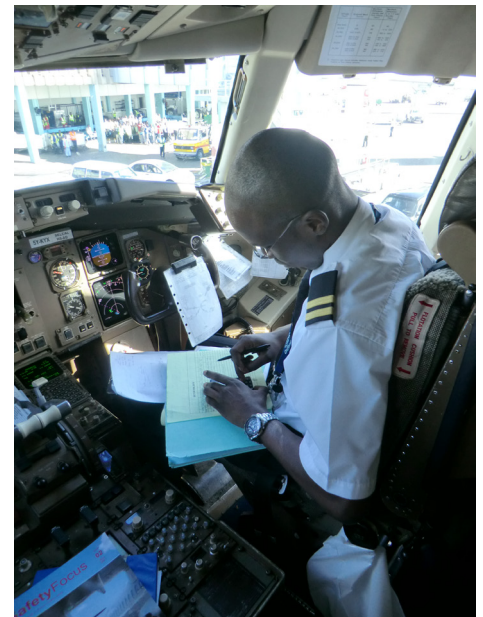
learning. All participants in the training will be connected to this internet user group.

AviAssist's quarterly flagship magazine SafetyFocus will carry regular features on AIM. All participants in the training will be subscribed to the magazine for two years.

and other support along lines of corporate and/or personal social responsibility.

The second training work package will focus on the transition from AIS to AIM and assist participants and their organizations in moving from product centric to data-centric aeronautical information provision.

More details on the set up of this program can be found in the detailed plan of action.



Regional affiliate of



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