Introduction to accident and incident investigation

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Objectives:

➢ Understand the history of Accident investigation organization
➢ Recognize the best way to benefit from such accident investigation organization
➢ Identify some of successful RAIO in the world
State’s obligations as signatories to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention) signed in Chicago on 7 December 1944, to provide information, guidance on the establishment and management of RAIO (regional accident and incident investigation organization) to assist Contracting States in fulfilling part or all of their obligations pertaining to accident and incident investigation.
The Accident Investigation and Prevention (AIG) Divisional Meeting (2008) (AIG/08) held in Montréal from 13 to 18 October 2008,

Recommendations 6/1, 6/2, 6/3 and 6/4 were adopted on the subject of regional cooperation in accident and incident investigations.

Recommendation 6/2 specifically urged ICAO to develop guidance material for States on how to establish and manage a regional accident and incident investigation system.

Accordingly, ICAO published Doc. 9946.
History 3/5:

- A State has complete and exclusive sovereignty over the airspace above its territory. *(Chicago convention)*

- States must collaborate to the highest degree to achieve standardization and harmonization of regulations, rules, standards, procedures and practices is thus a requirement of the Convention *(Articles 12 and 37 refer)*.

- Article 26 of the Convention specifies that it is incumbent on a State in which an aircraft accident occurs to institute an inquiry into the circumstances of the accident.
Obligation can be met only when an appropriate organization is in place for the investigation of aircraft accidents. Annex 13 to the Convention specifies Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) for the conduct of aircraft accident and incident investigations on the part of States to meet their obligations under Article 26 of the Convention.
ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) audit findings indicate that a number of States have not been able to implement an effective accident and incident investigation system for their aviation activities.

The reasons are:

✓ lack of resources (human and financial); and
✓ lack of appropriate legislation and regulations; and
✓ organization for the investigation of accidents and incidents; and
✓ training system for investigators; equipment to conduct investigations; and policies, procedures and guidelines for accident and incident investigations.
How regional investigation system can provide economies of scale?

- allow sharing of required resources.
- working together.
- Contracting States of a region or sub region can have a more persuasive voice on the world stage and can help secure a more favourable climate aimed at a safer international air transportation system.
Keys of success:

- regional investigation system must be totally impartial.
- should be established in such a way that it can withstand political or other interference or pressure.
- regional investigation authority should be independent statutory body and separate from the civil aviation administration.
- regional investigation authority should report directly to a Congress, Parliament or a ministerial level of the host State’s government.
Story of success 1/2:

- The Interstate Aviation Committee representing: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.
- Established in December, 1991

Story of success 2/2:

- The Banjul Accord Group Accident Investigation Agency (BAGAIA) consisting of: Cape Verde, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone).
- Another group of States in Central America is considering similar action.
Summary:

➢ History of how Doc. 9946 established
➢ Economical scale of accident investigation organization
➢ The best way to establish an efficient RAIO
➢ How RAIO around the world established and how it works
Questions?
More Information?

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