

**55th CONFERENCE OF
DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
ASIA AND PACIFIC REGION**

*Denarau Island, Nadi, Fiji
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AGENDA ITEM 3: AVIATION SAFETY

ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS OF A FOREIGN ATO

Presented by INDIA

INFORMATION PAPER

SUMMARY

ICAO Doc 9841 has introduced an alternative approval process for foreign approved training organizations. This process of foreign ATO approval has been introduced by Alternate Means of Compliance process method. The main objective of the approach is to streamline the foreign ATO approval process and eliminate duplication of the approval/acceptance of the baseline CAA approval upon meeting of certain conditions.

ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS OF A FOREIGN ATO

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 India is the fastest-growing aviation market in the world and third-largest overall civil aviation market. By 2020, passenger traffic at Indian airports is expected to increase to 421 million.

- As of August 2018, 588 airplanes are inservice in the fleet of Indian Operators with projected 50 aircrafts being added every year.
- Domestic passenger traffic expanded at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 13.91 per cent.
- International passenger traffic posted a CAGR of 9.36 per cent.
- Freight Traffic grew at a CAGR of 7.53 per cent. Freight Traffic is expected to grow at a CAGR of 7.27 per cent to reach 4.14 million tonnes in 2023.
- The Government of India has launched regional connectivity scheme named UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) to make flying affordable for common man.
- The Airports Authority of India (AAI) aims to bring around 250 airports under operation across the country by 2020.
- According to various estimates, India will require investments worth US\$ 46.55 - 62.06 million to achieve a capacity for having a billion trips per year. This has subsequently increased the training and infrastructure requirements.

1.2 Need for Approval:

1.2.1 There is often a need for a Licensing Authority to approve an ATO that is located outside its national territory. This is sometimes driven by cost considerations or simply because the national market is not enough to support locally certain types of specialized aviation training. As per provisions of Rule 133BA of The Aircraft Rules 1937- DGCA, India may accept a foreign approved organization for the purpose of maintenance of aircraft, engine and components or training in accordance with the requirements specified by the Director-General in this behalf.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Advantages of the process:

- Streamlining of foreign ATO approval process and removal of duplication by acceptance.
- Recognizing host state approvals of training programs, instructors and examiners .
- Reduces the oversight requirements by every State while still giving provisions of inspection when needed.
- Increased availability of training centers .
- Improve compliance for training of licensed personnel and ATOs.
- Require ATO to take responsibility and demonstrate continued compliance.
- The three stakeholders i.e. training organization and two CAAs, reach common understanding on differences.

2.2 Objectives:

- Establishes well defined process and procedures for DGCA for granting foreign approval – ICAO Doc 9841 (Granting Host & Foreign Approval)
- To develop Checklists.

- To develop differences matrix for regulatory compliance.
- To ensure oversight and surveillance responsibilities for demonstrating initial and continued compliance.
- Establishes MOU or equivalent Instrument between CAAs, to include what information will be shared and under what circumstances including associated responsibilities.

2.3 **Implementation Strategy:**

- DGCA has developed draft guidance material and check lists for alternate approval process based on Doc 9841 for ATO approval.
- DGCA is framing regulation and guidance material. Important element with the use of the alternative approval process is the option for DGCA and baseline CAA to reach an agreement to collaborate on the overall oversight of the training organization operations. The additional tasks imposed on the baseline CAA are minimal and, for the most part, the additional tasks should be limited to administrative actions.

3. ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE

- 3.1 The Conference is invited to note the information contained in this Paper.

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