



CANSO AFRICA REGION

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SKIES

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The CANSO Africa Region was established in 2012. Its vision is to achieve safe, seamless and harmonised airspace across Africa. It does this by leading the development and implementation of ATM related interventions, working closely with aviation industry partners. These include the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), African States, International Air Transport Association (IATA), Airports Council International (ACI), The African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) and other regional bodies.

The Africa CANSO CEO Committee (AFC3) governs and directs CANSO's work in Africa, within the framework of CANSO's global policies and positions. AFC3 is supported by the Director Africa Affairs together with the operations and safety workgroups, dealing with a wide range of issues.

CANSO's goal in Africa is to help air navigation service providers (ANSPs) provide services that are: universally safe; technically interoperable; procedurally harmonised; efficient; and affordable. CANSO's work in Africa is based on CANSO's strategic framework for the ATM industry as well as ICAO's Global ATM Concept and the Africa-Indian Ocean (AFI) Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG).

There is wide variation among CANSO members in Africa with regard to air traffic density and complexity, and ATM infrastructure. CANSO helps its members and the ATM industry as a whole by providing a platform of collaboration across Africa and by sharing information, best practice and standards of excellence. We also assist the ATM industry to comply with ICAO requirements through organising workshops and seminars on key issues such as implementing safety management systems (SMS), collaborative decision-making (CDM), and implementing ICAO's Aviation System Block Upgrades (ASBUs) through our Technology Working Group.

One of CANSO's flagship projects established by the African States and their ANSPs is the implementation of the Africa ATM Safety Peer Review Initiative. Africa ANSPs formed review groups to assess and support each other and exchange best practice on implementing safety management systems (SMS).



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Since then, the initiative has been adopted by APIRG and the AFI Plan, an ICAO regional implementation plan for aviation safety in Africa. 15 states are currently participating in this multi-year programme and they have seen vast improvements in their safety management systems. In 2019, the African ANSP Steering Group with CANSO as the Secretariat, agreed to seek an all-encompassing approach on Peer Review by bringing together the aspects of the CANSO Standard of Excellence on SMS with the ICAO Manual on Peer Review. This work will be finalised in 2022.

The Key African ANSPs, CAA, IATA, ICAO, CANSO and other key ATM stakeholders developed a strategy to implement collaborative decision making (CDM) and air traffic flow management (ATFM) in the AFI region, named the Mombasa ATFM Roadmap. The roadmap represents an advancement of collaborative capabilities in the region and was endorsed by the 24th AFI Planning and Regional Group Meeting (APANPIRG). This will drive implementation of key continental decisions such as the Single African Air Traffic Market (SAATM) and support regional economic and aviation sector development. Various ANSPs have, despite the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, embarked on their implementation journeys and the plan for the near future is for CANSO to provide a platform for sharing of real world experiences.

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