

Carlos Menéndez de Solas
International Cooperation Officer
EU-SA APP II project manager
Strategy & Safety Management Directorate

To: Director-General / Chairman / Executive Director
Civil Aviation Authorities in South Asia

CME/SM3

Cologne, 04 February 2024

Subject: Invitation for international activities

**EU-SA APP II – SARI Steering Committee Meeting (SCM) and
Project Management Board Meeting (PMBM)
EASA – 8th International Cooperation Forum (ICF)**

**Sri Lanka, 18 – 21 March 2024
Hilton Colombo Hotel**

The EU – South Asia Aviation Partnership project phase II (EU-SA APP II), an EU funded project implemented by the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), and EASA are organising three pivotal events aimed at propelling aviation cooperation and standards in the South Asian region and also globally.

1. SARI Steering Committee Meeting (SCM) – Sri Lanka, 18 March 2024, 11:00 to 14:30 (SLST)

On 18 March, from 11:00 to 14:30 (SLST), esteemed Directors-General and key stakeholders will convene for the South Asian Regional Initiative (SARI) Steering Committee Meeting (SCM). This pivotal gathering will propel forward the transformative journey of SARI, advancing harmonisation in aviation regulations across airworthiness, flight operations, flight crew licensing, and air navigation. Your insights and active participation will steer the region towards a unified aviation landscape.

The SARI SCM will focus on ensuring the sustainability of the initiative, even in the absence of a follow-up project. Central to this discussion is deliberating potential financial contributions from the States to maintain the momentum of our shared objectives and the initiative itself, with the ultimate goal of adopting EASA regulations in the South Asian region.

2. Project Management Board Meeting (PMBM) – Sri Lanka, 18 March 2024, 14:30 to 18:00 (SLST)

The Project Management Board Meeting (PMBM), scheduled for 19 March, from 14:30 to 18:00 (SLST), brings together the Directors-General of South Asian partner countries, focal points, EU Services representatives, and the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA). This strategic meeting will guide the technical steering of the EU-SA Aviation Partnership Project II (EU-SA APP II) and endorse the Annual Work Plan. EASA will chair and facilitate the discussions, joined by co-Chairs from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) and the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI).



This PMBM is particularly significant as it will include discussions on the project's extension and, more importantly, the exploration of a potential follow-up initiative. We seek direct support from the States, and your presence and input will be invaluable in shaping the future of our collaborative efforts.

3. EASA's International Cooperation Forum (ICF) – Sri Lanka, 19-21 March 2024

To join forces for a safer and greener aviation worldwide, the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) is organising the 8th International Cooperation Forum from 19/03/2024 to 21/03/2024 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

The International Cooperation Forum (ICF), first held in 2008, is an international platform for aviation authorities and regional organisations interested in regional cooperation and the EASA system. It provides an opportunity to share experience and best practice, discuss the latest developments in safety and environmental standards, and promote safe and sustainable aviation worldwide.

This year, the ICF/8 will cover a broad portfolio of topics such as regulating technological innovation and emerging risks, meeting environmental requirements, upholding public trust in aviation safety and furthering regional and technical cooperation. It will build upon the experience gained since the last ICF back in 2019 and the close cooperation developed between EASA and its partners worldwide.

Target participants for the three meetings include highest dignitaries from the Civil Aviation Authorities in South Asia, such as Directors-General, Chairmen and Chief Executives, with a relevant focal point for international cooperation.

The EU-SA APP II project will fully sponsor travel, accommodation and meal plan for the following representatives:

- Two representatives from each CAA: the highest dignitary and the international cooperation focal point.

Additional representatives might be accepted on a case-by-case basis and upon agreement of the EU-SA APP II team. Partial sponsorship could be offered in those cases.

Yours sincerely,



EASA
European Aviation Safety Agency

Carlos Menéndez de Solas 