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Executive summary

Since its inception, the Aviation Safety Campaign in Nepal has been recognized as one of the leading events for promoting aviation safety in the country. The Nepalese Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal, and the Airline Operators Association of Nepal have all acknowledged its significance. The event consistently attracts participation from a wide range of aviation organizations within Nepal, including the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal, the Airline Operators Association of Nepal, and various regional airlines.

The 11th edition of the campaign took place at Princess Dushi in Kathmandu, Nepal, from August 29-30, 2024, with support from the World Food Programme, Nepal Civil Aviation Authority, the Airlines Operators Association of Nepal, and locally registered operators. The event was fully backed and funded by various supporters, including the "Strategic Partners UAE GCAA and Sharjah DCA," as well as Altitude Air, Air Dynasty, Buddha Air, Fishtail Air, Guna Airlines, HeliEverest, Himalaya Airlines, Kailash Helicopter Services, Manang Air, Mountain Helicopter, Prabhu Helicopter, Sita Air Ltd., Saurya Airlines, Shree Airlines, Simrik Air, Summit Air, Tara Air, and Yeti Airlines.

The 1st day of the **11th edition** of the campaign included an **opening ceremony** which was attended by more than **180 delegates** including senior representatives including: Minister - MoCTCA, Director General, CAAN, President, AOAN, WFP Chief, Aviation Safety Unit, Head, Regional Aviation Safety Office of WFP, UAE. Founder of Aviation Safety Campaign, General Secretary, AOAN. The seniors gave heartfelt speeches shedding the light on the importance of such event and how it will make a huge positive difference and effective constructive impact to the aviation safety in Nepal and the region.

Following the officials' speeches, Mr. Mario Sibrian - WFP Chief Aviation Safety Unit briefly introduced WFP effort to promote aviation safety worldwide, the six decades in fighting hunger worldwide, WFP aviation worldwide presence, emergencies & challenges, WFP aviation safety unit, continuous monitoring approach and the support extended to aviation service.

Mr. Mohamed Ismail briefed the attending delegates about the technical session titled "Importance of decision making in avoiding unnecessary risk", followed by brief by Mr. Singh Deo about the technical session titled "Pilot Competence in confined airfields"

The campaign extended for 2 days to cover two technical sessions:



"Importance of decision making in avoiding unnecessary risk", by Mr. Mohamed Ismail



"Pilot Competence in confined airfields", by Mr. Singh Deo

The event was highly appreciated by the authorities and the delegates and were in full support of conducting such campaign to keep on improving aviation safety in the region.

Testimonials

"Implementable knowledge and very related to our day-to-day operations", Participant

"The technical session was absolutely fantastic!", Participant

"I liked the session very much. The instructor's knowledge is commendable", Participant



Brief about the campaign activities

This year's Aviation Safety Campaign agenda included a brief opening ceremony, followed directly by 2 technical sessions. With "Pilot Competence in confined airfields" session extending over the two days and the "Importance of decision making in avoiding unnecessary risk" was one day session and repeated on the second day for a different delegates.

The opening ceremony included a welcoming speech by the master of ceremony Mr. Sudeep Silwal a flight dispatcher from Summit Air who is a one of the campaign supporters' airlines, followed by lighting of the auspicious lamp by Chief Guest Hon'l Badri Prasad Pandey, Minister, MoCTCA

It was then followed by welcome speech from Mr. Manoj Karki - president of AOAN who showed gratitude for the dedication as this year's event marks a milestone for the continuation of enhancing safety standards in Nepal. He underscored that since the inception of the campaign the AOAN has been dedicated to foster of culture through the campaigns. He also emphasized on the topics addressed being of main concerns of the aviation operation in Nepal.



"Safety is not only an individual effort but rather a connective responsibility" – Manoj Karki



Capt. Samir Sajet from WFP highlighted that we are united by a common goal—to enhance the safety and effectiveness of humanitarian aviation in Nepal, he asked all to reaffirm the pledge to aviation safety, harness innovation to enhance operational efficiency, collaborate across sectors to build stronger, more resilient communities, and, above all, to remember that each flight carries not just cargo or passengers, but the aspirations and hopes of those we serve.

Remarks by Pradeep Adhikari, Director General, CAAN was mainly focused on the importance of decision making and the need to ensure that pilots don't take impulsive decisions but rather to ensure that all decisions taken are thoroughly thought of for the interest of flight safety.

"Enough is enough", Pradeep Adhikari



The Minister of MoCTCA, Hon'l Badri Prasad Pandey, highlighted the importance of transparency within all levels of operations especially in reports and investigation outcomes to the public, he also emphasized on the need to perform aviation safety training to all involved stakeholders.



Followed the inspiring speeches from the high delegates brief presentations about the technical sessions and WFP operations, were presented by:

▲ Mr. Mario Sibrian, WFP Chief, Aviation Safety Unite who shed the light on WFP effort to promote aviation safety worldwide including Humanitarian Aviation Campaigns, conferences seminars training among others, as well as the six decades in fighting hunger worldwide and WFP aviation presence including current 21 countries with aviation operations providing passenger and light cargo air transport, with capacity for medical and security evacuation, and ways to strengthening staff, partners and local authorities, airport and airfield rehabilitation, moreover WFP aviation safety unit, continuous monitoring approach and the support extended to aviation service inclusive of List of Registered Operators.

Mr. Mario detailed Air Operator Certificate (AOC) holder's registration process and highlighted that from January – August 2024 the unit conducted **19 safety promotion activities**, and implemented **20 online safety training and Videos** that can be accessed by external users on a free of charge basis using the link below:

https://wfp.eu.crossknowledge.com/sso/connectOrRegisterLearner.php/?group_id=409&verify_email=yes&hash=68270292c2440b87d6066bc3f94e8be0®ister=yes&loginbox=yes

Mr. Mario closed his brief presentation by thanking all delegates and encouraged operators to start their registration process with WFP as service provider and emphasized on the importance of taking full benefit from the knowledge given throughout the campaign technical sessions.

▲ Mr. Mohamed Ismail gave a brief on his technical session titled: **"Importance of decision making in avoiding unnecessary risk"** and explained that the 1 day session which will be repeated for different audience on the second day covers Objectives Overview of Aeronautical Decision Making, Principles of Risk Management, Hazard and Risk in ADM process, Hazardous Attitudes and Antidotes, Mitigating the Risk-The PAVE Checklist "Pilot/ Human, Aircraft / Equipment, environment,

External pressures”, Decision Making Philosophy, the decision making process- 3P model (Perceive, Process & Perform)

Mr. Biroja Shankar Singh Deo briefed the audience on the technical session titled: **“Pilot Competence in confined airfields”**, and highlighted that the 2 day session will tackle various aspects of pilots competencies including: Sterile Cockpit & Operational Briefing, Mountain Operations, Human Factors, Safety concept and Controlled Flight Into Terrain (CFIT), Safety Culture, Avoidance of helicopter wire strikes, and back to basics concept.

The opening ceremony was closed by a short speech from Mr. Subhas Sapkota, General Secretary, Airlines Operators Association of Nepal (AOAN) as he thanked all delegates for their attendance and conveyed his sincere appreciation to the organizers and guest speakers.

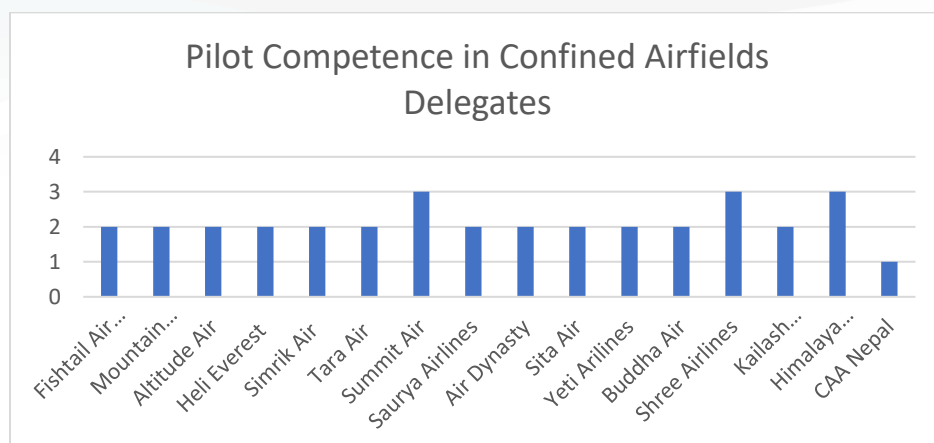


Pilot Competence in confined airfields

- ▲ The session was instructed by Mr. Singh Deo who is Former IAF helicopter pilot, Instructor and Test Pilot, Commercial helicopter pilot, Ops & Safety Manager, Technical Pilot in Malaysian Helicopter Service, Former MD of Bell Helicopter (South Asia), and has 8,000 flight hours in 5 types of airplanes and 14 types of helicopters.
- ▲ Mr. Singh highlighted that pilot competence in operating aircraft within confined airfields is crucial for ensuring safe and efficient operations. These environments often present unique challenges such as short runways, limited maneuvering space, and varying terrain conditions. A skilled pilot adeptly manages these factors, demonstrating precise control during takeoff, landing, and taxiing. Additionally, they must possess sharp situational awareness to assess wind patterns, obstacles, and spatial constraints effectively. Moreover, strictly adhere to the standards and recommended practices, and that proficiency in communication and decision-making is paramount to coordinate with ground crews and manage any unexpected scenarios swiftly. Ultimately, pilot competence in confined airfields underscores the importance of training, experience, and accurate implementation in enhancing aviation safety and operational success.
- ▲ The two-day session covered:
 - Sterile Cockpit & Operational Briefing
 - Mountain Operations
 - Human Factors
 - Safety concepts and CFIT
 - Safety Culture
 - Avoidance of Helicopter Wire Strikes
 - Back to Basics (Helicopters)

Session Delegates

- **Thirty-Four (34) delegates** attended the technical session representing 16 entities mostly airliners with distribution as detailed in the chart below:





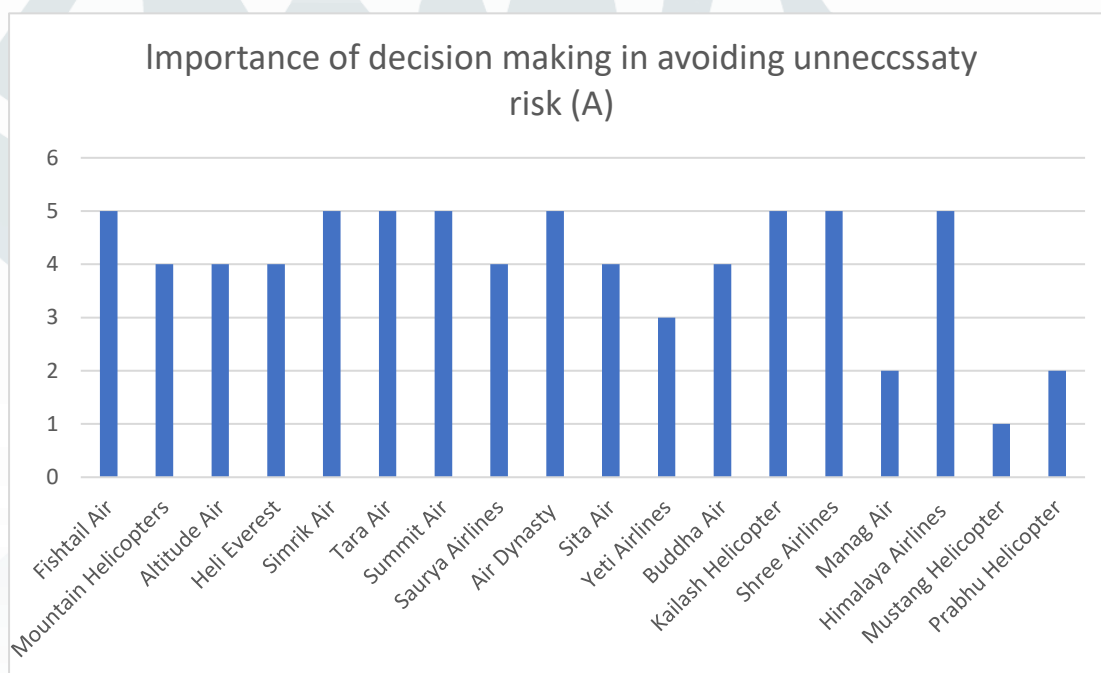
Importance of decision making in avoiding unnecessary risk

- ▲ The session was instructed by Mr. Mohammad Ismail who is a Senior Consultant / Trainer (Avia Safety Consult.), IOSA Auditor/Senior Safety Investigator, Diploma in Risk Management from IATA, Diploma in SMS for Airlines from IATA, Diploma in QMS for Airlines from IATA with 15+ years of experience in Safety Management
- ▲ Mr. Mohammad emphasized that in aviation, the importance of decision-making in avoiding unnecessary risk cannot be overstated. Pilots and crew are constantly faced with dynamic situations where swift, informed decisions are crucial for maintaining safety. By carefully evaluating risks and considering all available information, they can avoid actions that might compromise the safety of the aircraft, passengers, and crew. Effective decision-making helps to mitigate potential hazards, prevent accidents, and ensure that flights are conducted smoothly and safely. Ultimately, strong decision-making skills are essential in aviation to manage uncertainties and uphold the highest standards of safety.
- ▲ He also highlighted that Ego and "macho" attitudes can have a significant negative impact on decision-making in aviation, often leading to dangerous outcomes. When a pilot's ego drives decisions, they may be more inclined to take unnecessary risks to prove their skill or assert dominance, rather than prioritizing safety. This can result in pushing the limits of the aircraft, ignoring weather warnings, or disregarding standard procedures. Similarly, a "macho" mentality, characterized by overconfidence and a desire to demonstrate toughness, can lead to poor judgment, such as underestimating potential hazards or refusing to seek assistance when needed. These attitudes weaken the collaborative and cautious approach that is essential in aviation, increasing the likelihood of errors and accidents. Recognizing and mitigating the influence of ego and macho behavior is crucial for maintaining safe and effective decision-making in aviation.

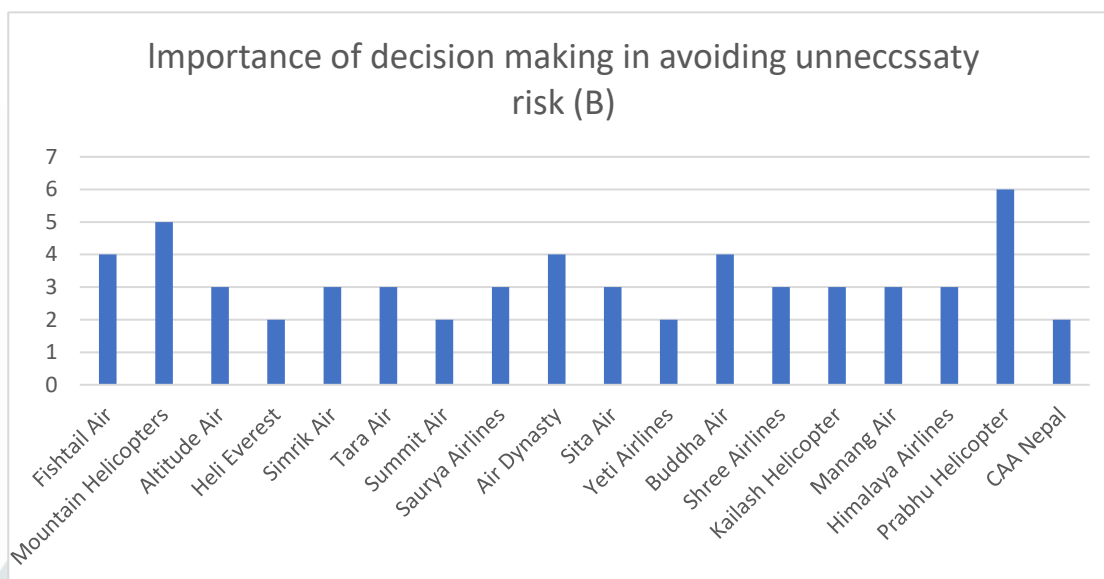
- ▲ The one-day session that was repeated on the second day of the campaign included:
 - Overview of Aeronautical Decision Making,
 - Principles of Risk Management,
 - Hazard and Risk in ADM process,
 - Hazardous Attitudes and Antidotes,
 - Mitigating the Risk-The PAVE Checklist “Pilot/ Human, Aircraft / Equipment, environment, External pressures”,
 - Decision Making Philosophy,
 - Decision making process- 3P model (Perceive, Process & Perform)

▲ Sessions Delegates

- **29 August 2024, Session A: Seventy-Two (72) delegates** attended the technical session representing 18 entities mostly airliners with distribution as detailed in the chart below:

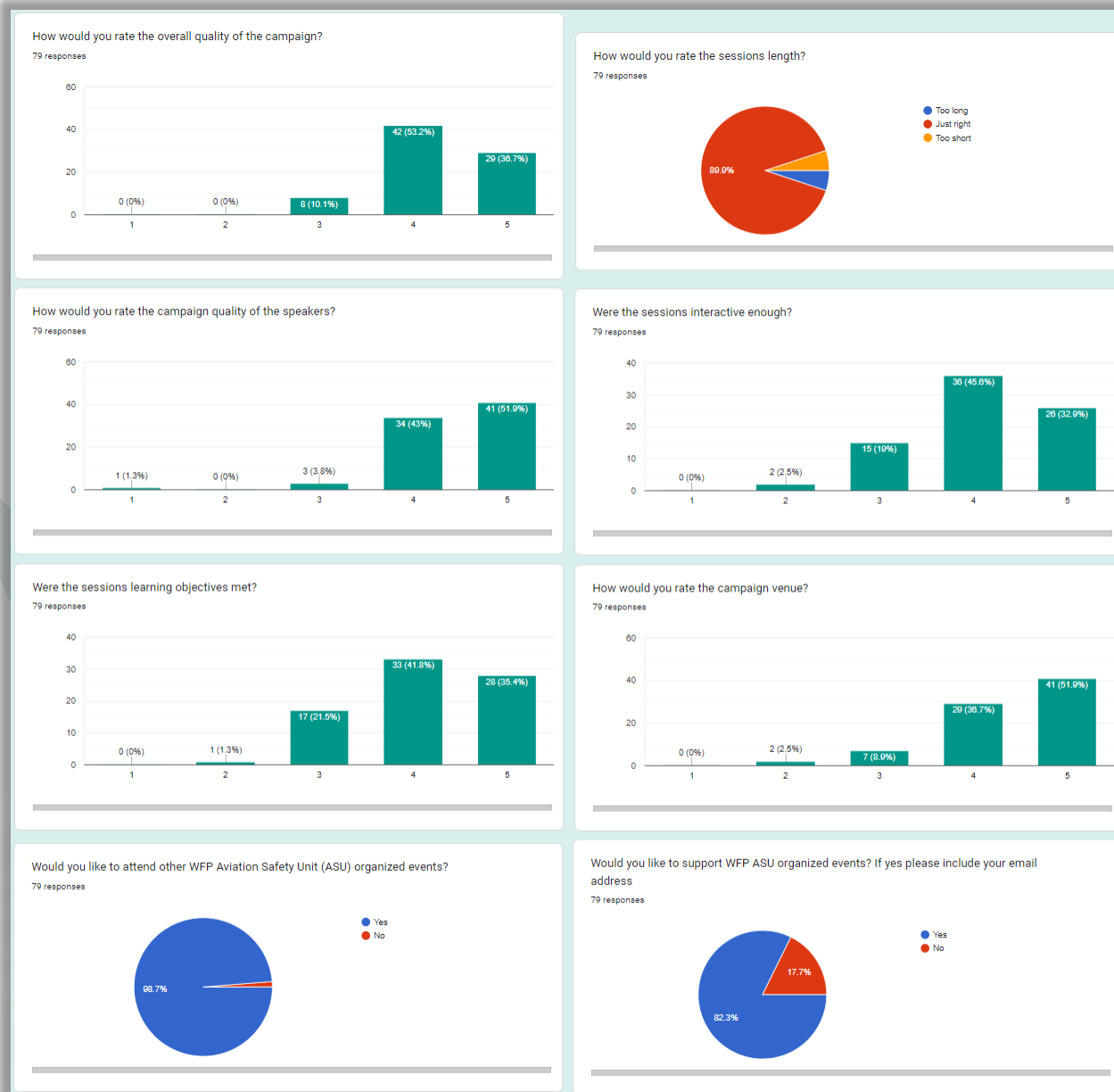


- **30 August 2024, Session B: Fifty-Eight (58) delegates** attended the technical session representing 18 entities mostly airliners with distribution as detailed in the chart below:



Campaign Feedback

Graphs below summarize the feedback 1 = Strongly Disagree and 5 = Strongly Agree



What topic(s) would you like to be discussed in the next Humanitarian Aviation Campaign?

- Aircraft performance and the geographic situation of Nepal, Fixed wing operation and high-level operation
- Human factor

- Accident and Incident Investigations and Risk Assessments
- Documentation management
- Hazard identification & Risk Mitigation
- Emergency Response Planning
- Pilots and engineers' communication and coordination
- Effective implementation of CRM and SMS
- Aviation Meteorology
- Quality assurance
- Safety culture and how to improve it

Conclusion

This year's safety campaign, marking its 11th edition, received significant appreciation from relevant stakeholders, not just through positive feedback but also through tangible actions taken to mitigate existing risks in Nepal's aviation operations. The regulator and operators demonstrated a strong commitment to improving aviation safety practices and adhering to international standards, all with the shared goal of achieving safer aviation operations in the country.

Pictures and Presentations are posted on: www.annualghac.com

