

CAAS PARTNERS EASA TO ENHANCE SAFETY OVERSIGHT OF FOREIGN AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS



EASA Executive Director, Patrick Ky and CAAS Director-General, Yap Ong Heng, signed the SAFA Working Arrangement with EU Commissioner for Transport, Sim Kallas, and Minister for Transport, Lui Tuck Yew, witnessing the proceedings.

The Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) and the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) signed a Working Arrangement on 23 September 2013 to establish working procedures for carrying out ramp inspections on foreign aircraft, as well as for the exchange of information on aircraft safety and the harmonisation of approaches to the enforcement of international safety standards.

This arrangement establishes working procedures between CAAS and EASA under the framework of the Safety Assessment of Foreign Aircraft (SAFA) programme of the European Union (EU). Under the SAFA programme, CAAS and EASA will conduct inspections of foreign commercial aircraft operating within their jurisdictions and share information on inspections. These inspections are conducted to ensure that airlines comply with safety regulations.

The SAFA programme enables participating countries to carry out ramp inspections as well as collect and exchange information on the safety of third country aircraft using airports located in the states that participate in the SAFA programme. The provisions of this programme will now be progressively extended to Singapore, paving the way for a full participation of Singapore in the SAFA programme at the end of a transition period during which CAAS will gradually implement SAFA procedures.

This signing of this Working Arrangement follows a long lasting and very positive cooperation between the Singapore and the EU, notably with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between EASA and CAAS in February 2012.