



**AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP
 TWENTY FIRST MEETING (APIRG/21)
 (Nairobi, Kenya (9 to 11 October 2017))**

Agenda Item 3: Performance Framework for Regional Air Navigation Planning and Implementation

3.2.2 Outcome of the First APRIG Airspace and Aerodrome Operations Sub-Group (AAO SG/1) Airspace Operations

(Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the report of the First Meeting of the APIRG Airspace and Aerodrome Operations Sub-Group (AAO SG/1), held in Dakar, Senegal, from 29 to 31 May 2017.

The Sub-Group elected its Chairperson and Vice Chairperson and reviewed the APIRG Conclusions/Decisions applicable to the AAO/SG, identify those that continue to be valid as well as actions to further facilitate their implementation. The sub-Group also reviewed the status of implementation on areas for which APIRG has adopted specific Projects to facilitate implementation, discussed the Projects definition and links between them as well as aspects between the Projects that necessitate coordinate actions, where applicable. The Sub-Group finally reviewed and updated the AFI Air Navigation Reporting Forms (ANRF), the AFI Air Navigation Deficiencies Database and its Terms of Reference (TOR).

Action by the meeting is at **paragraph 3**

REFERENCE(S):

- Doc 9750, Global Air Navigation Plan
- Doc 7474, Air Navigation Plan — Africa-Indian Ocean Region
- Doc 10007, Report of the Twelfth Air Navigation Conference (2012)
- APIRG Reports
- APCC 1 Report
- AAO SG/1 Report
- AAO SG ToR

Related ICAO Strategic Objective(s):

A – Safety, B – Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency, D – Economic Development of Air Transport, and E – Environmental Protection.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The First Meeting of the APIRG Airspace and Aerodrome Operations Sub-Group (AAO SG/1) was held in Dakar, Senegal, from 29 to 31 May 2017. The meeting was attended by forty-six (46) participants from fourteen (14) States and two (2) Regional and International Organizations. For ease of reference, copy AAO-SG/1 report is provided at **Appendix A** to this working paper

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The following issues were given particular attention by the Airspace and Aerodrome Operations Sub-Group (AAO SG).

2.2 Regarding the review of the APIRG Conclusions/Decisions applicable to the AAO/SG, the Sub-Group noted that the number of Conclusions and Decisions to be addressed, which included those of APIRG/19, APIRG/EO and APCC/1 was of high significance and could not be effectively processed during the three days' period of the meeting itself. In this regard, the meeting established a *small working group (SWG)* to complete the work on the Conclusions.

2.3 Planning and implementation.

2.3.1 Regarding projects in the airspace area specifically, the meeting acknowledged lack of implementation of the ASBU modules and stressed the need to identify the obstacles to implementation and find workable solutions to address them. Recognizing the progress made in the implementation of Module B0-FRTO with respect to efficient en-route trajectories, the AAO/SG acknowledged the need to facilitate the transition to B1-FRTO, with respect to free routing, as a continuation of the Regional progress in the upper airspace optimization. It was noted with appreciation that there were FIRs in the Region which were ready to begin trials free routing trials, and that some experience had been gained in establishing Atlantic Ocean Random Routing Area. The meeting recommended the following:

Action Item 1/4

ICAO to facilitate implementation actions by States and ANSPs that are ready to commence trials on ASBU Module B1-FRTO (specifically Free routing) with respect to coordination between the applicable FIRs

Draft Decision 01/X: Prioritized APIRG Projects under the AAO Sub-Group

Draft Decision 1/2

That, in order to facilitate harmonized introduction of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) into the AFI airspaces, and to address airspace safety risks associate with RPAS operations particularly in non-segregated airspace, APIRG to consider to establishing, as matter of priority, a specific mechanism to more directly guide States in their integration of RPAS in non-segregated portions of airspace in FIRs for which they are responsible for the provision of air traffic services (ATS).

2.3.2 The meeting noted that implementation workshops were held in the ESAF region from which ESAF States and their Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs) as well as some FIRs in the ESAF/WACAF interface were assisted to develop Contingency Plans (CPs) required under Annex 11 to the Chicago Convention, and to coordinate the related contingency routes. The meeting took note on the request made to the ICAO Regional Offices to conduct CP implementation workshops in order to assist States in the WACAF area, that have not already been assisted, to develop and publish their CPs as a matter of priority, and to facilitate completion of the Regional CP. The meeting agreed of the following conclusion:

Draft Conclusion 01/X: Prioritized APIRG Projects under the AAO Sub-Group

Draft Conclusion

That,

- a) States that have participated in the ATS Contingency Plan workshops or otherwise received guidance from ICAO Regional Offices on the development of Contingency Plans (CPs) should publish their CPs by 30 November 2017 to take effect on 2 February 2017;**
- b) States that have not already done so, update their CPs to include Public Health Emergency (PHE) and VA provisions; and**
- c) ICAO is requested to conduct ATM CP workshops in order to assist States in the WACAF area in the development and coordination of the CPs to enable their publication by States, and completion of the Regional CP.**

2.3.3 With regard to projects in the area of aerodrome operations, the meeting noted slow progress in the implementation of the identified projects. Some initiatives such as the aerodromes certification and runway safety programme implementation were progressing under the AFI Plan and other mechanisms. However appropriate action need to be taken to ensure the effective implementation of the projects.

2.3.4 The meeting was informed that there are concerns on the issues of rescue and firefighting services, particularly those related to training of the personnel. The meeting recalled the availability of training centres in the Region, and requested the following to ICAO:

Action Item 1/3:

ICAO to remind States on the availability of Rescue and Fire Fighting (RFF) training centres in the AFI Region and encourage them to take advantage of these facilities to address the deficiencies in the area of RFF

2.4 The Sub-Group completed the projects definition and identified links between them, in order to facilitate coordination of activities and resources. The list of projects as well as links between them is reflected in the Appendix to this report. The meeting noted slow progress in the implementation of the projects. The main challenges faced by the AAO Sub-Group are related mainly to the appointment of Experts in the Sub-Group and in Projects Teams by States, low level of involvement of the industry and lack of resources and commitment by States and the industry. The Sub-Group noted the desire of some States not identified by the Joint Meeting of Sub-Groups Aerodrome Operations Planning (AOP/SG); and Air Traffic Management/Aeronautical and Information Management/Search and Rescue (ATM/AIM/SAR/SG) (JMAASG), held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 5 to 8 July 2016, to be included in the membership of the AAO/SG. The meeting formulated the following:

Action Item 1/5

ICAO to circulate a follow-up State Letter to concerned States and organizations, requesting them to formally nominate members to the SG and Project Teams in accordance with the APIRG Procedural Handbook

Draft Decision 01/X: Prioritized APIRG Projects under the AAO Sub-Group

Draft Decision 1/1

APIRG is requested to adopt modified membership guidelines with respect to the AAO SG, enabling States and organizations to nominate expertise to both technical areas of the Sub-Group (Aerodrome operations and Airspace)

2.5 For the AFI Air Navigation Reporting Forms (ANRF), the meeting r stated that States shall provide information on the status of implementation of ASBU modules using the ANRFs or other reporting tools as may be provided, at least twice a year. The reporting of implementation progress called for under the APIRG Conclusion 20/05 was significantly limited and the level of responses on surveys conducted by the Secretariat to collect information on the ASBU implementation was also significantly low. In view of the above, the Sub-Group acknowledged that a number of planning targets and dates that envisaged for the ASBU implementation had elapsed, and requires to be reviewed and revised to establish new planning targets and dates. In this regard, the Sub-Group established a SWG as reflected to carry out the following:

- a) finalize the update of the ANRF,
- b) consider and adapt available templates/forms for tracking/monitoring implementation of ASBU and Regional Performance Objectives, and
- c) develop a survey based on the abovementioned implementation tracking/monitoring form and upload it on a web-based platform to collect information on status of implementation.

2.6 Regarding the AFI Air Navigation Deficiencies Database, the meeting noted that not much progress had been made in developing the deficiency database, primarily due to lack of reporting of the deficiencies, highlighting the importance for establishment of further or improved mechanisms to encourage reporting. The meeting was informed that a State Letter had been circulated to AFI States and concerned organizations, inviting them to nominate focal points for interaction with the web-based AANDD, so that they could be issued with access credentials. In view of the above, the meeting requested ICAO Regional Office to provide adequately trained AANDD ICT end-user support, ideally prior to the system being availed to States and organizations. Accordingly, the meeting formulated the following:

Draft Decision 01/X: AFI Air Navigation Deficiencies Database**Draft Decision 1/3**

That, in order to facilitate effective and uninterrupted use of the AANDD including effective user support of the web-based system, the ESAF and WACAF Regional Offices are requested to ensure the availability of appropriately trained ICT personnel to provide continued system technical support to concerned users.

2.7 For the Air Navigation Infrastructure Gap Analysis, the meeting was informed that the AAO/SG agreed to contribute to the APIRG conduct of a gap analysis, and in this regard, given the time limitation, established a task force to develop tools for the gap analysis. Regarding the AAO-SG inputs to the APIRG First Annual Report, the meeting established an *Air Navigation Report Editorial Committee* to carry out the following tasks:

- a) identify and develop content for the AFI Air Navigation Report; and
- b) coordinate the inclusion of other resource providers (e.g. industry partners) as necessary to support the report development activities up to publication

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information provided in the AAO SG/1 meeting report.
- b) take action on the proposed draft conclusions and decisions.

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**APPENDIX – LIST OF PROJECTS AND LINKAGE BETWEEN PROJECTS UNDER THE
AAO/SG**

AIRSPACE AND AERODROME OPERATIONS PROJECTS		
Project No.	Project	Priority
AIRSPACE OPERATIONS RELATED PROJECTS		
A1	PBN Airspace Concept (Airspace Design)	1A
A2	AFI Optimized Route Trajectories and Airspace (AORTA)	1A
A3	AFI SSR Code Allocation and Assignment Review (ASCAA)	1A
A4	ATS Competency Study	1A
A5	Contingency Planning and Operational Coordination (CPOC)	1
A6	Assistance on State Safety Programme Implementation (ASSPI)	2
A7	Operational Requirements for CNS (OPREC)	1A
A8	NAVSPEC and Separation Minima Transition (NASMIT)	1
A9	Civil/Military Cooperation & FUA Seminar/Workshops	2
A10	RVSM & Operational Safety in ATS	1A
A11	Estimation, Reporting and Monitoring of Benefits from Operational Improvements (ERMBOI)	2
A12	Development of SAR plans for RCC/JRCC/RSC	2
A13	Develop SAR legislation & Regulation for promulgation	2
AERODROME OPERATIONS RELATED PROJECTS		
G1	Training and qualification of Technical staff (Regulators & Airport operators)	B
G2	Aerodrome data management (determination, reliability and publication)	A
G3	Aerodrome Rescue and Firefighting Services (RFFS)	U
G4	Aerodrome Emergency Planning (AEP), including Public Health Emergencies	A
G5	Wildlife, Environmental & Land use Management/ Obstacle Control	A
G6	Implementation of Runway Safety Programmes at Aerodromes	A
G7	Aerodrome Maintenance and Runway Conditions Reporting	A
G8	Aerodrome Certification (SMS implementation, regulatory framework and operator documentation)	A
G9	Establishment and implementation of A-CDM	2E

	<i>AIRSPACE OPERATIONSNS PROJECTS</i>	Airspace Design	AORTA	ASCAA	ATS Competence	CPOC	ASSPI	OPREC	NASMIT	Civil/Mil FUA	RVSM & OPR Safety	Reporting of Benefits (EMBOI)	SAR Plans for RCCs	SAR Regulations
<i>AERODROME OPERATIONS PROJECTS</i>		A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9	A10	A11	A12	A13
Training & Qualification	G1	X			X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
ADR Data	G2	X			X			X		X		X		
RFFS	G3							X		X			X	X
AEP & Public Health	G4				X	X				X			X	X
Wild Life Control	G5	X			X					X				
Runway Safety	G6	X			X		X	X		X		X		
ADR Maintenance	G7						X	X		X		X		
ADR Cert & SMS	G8	X			X		X			X		X		
ACDM	G9	X			X			X	X	X		X	X	