Appendix 8- FRA TOR Updates

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE FREE ROUTE AIRSPACE IMPLEMENTATION.

Updated, July 2024

1. Background:

The Free Route Airspace (FRA) is a concept that allows states/ANSPs to overcome the efficiency, capacity, and environmental issues facing aviation, and its full efficiency benefits will only be achieved if it is deployed over large areas and appropriate measures are taken to reduce its safety risks.

The APIRG 22 conclusion 22/36 Free Routing Airspace encourages states with the potential to implement free routing to incorporate the FRA concept into their national airspace concept and Air Traffic Management master plan in line with the B1-FRTO ASBU module.

2. Terms of Reference:

The AFI FRA Project Management Team (PMT) primary responsibility is to work towards FRA implementation in an incremental manner for delivering "route" efficiencies in a project management approach through helping states to:

- Develop the AFI FRA regional concept of operations (AFI FRA CONOPS)
- Develop a gap analysis checklist/tool that will allow PMT to collect information on the capability/capacity of AFI States to implement FRA
- Conduct a gap analysis in order to assess AFI States readiness to implement FRA based on ATM Infrastructure, capabilities and procedures.
- Develop the AFI regional action plan to address the challenges associated with the FRA implementation, such as, but not limited to, air traffic control personnel capacity, Training, Aeronautical Mobile Communication (AMC), surveillance infrastructures, air traffic controller conflict detection tools, airspace structure, and management, etc.
- Support AFI States in the development of their national action plans
- Collaborate with closely related projects such as PBN, flexible use of airspace, civil-military cooperation, capacity and ATFM, etc.
- Work closely with the UPR trials at the continental level as a complementary approach to implementing the FRA
- Collaborate with Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and strategic development partners and aviation stakeholders to ensure the required support, for example, airspace design, the concept of operations, procedures, training, guidance material, standardization of aeronautical publication etc. is provided to each State implementing FRA environment in the region.
- Develop safety case guidance material to be used in the region.
- Encourage the application of Collaborative Decision Making (CDM) principles in the implementation of FRA in order to ensure consistency and harmonization among AFI States
- Collect post-implementation data, monitor performance and adjust targets (defined KPIs) as necessary.
- Facilitate sharing of knowledge, expertise and lessons learnt among member States and air navigation service providers (ANSPs) in order to achieve a seamless FRA across the region.

3. Composition:

States and international organization SMEs can participate in any meeting of the PMT. Any other SME can be invited on an ad-hoc basis to provide specific advice to address specific needs to the project team/meeting

4. FRA Project Management Team (FRA PMT)

The AFI FRA PMT will be composed of experts from the following states and organizations:

ESAF: Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Tanzania and Uganda.

WACAF: Cape Verde, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Nigeria, Roberts FIR, and ASECNA

Organizations: AFRAA, ASECNA, CANSO, EAC, IATA, IFALPA and IFATCA

5. Pilot Projects: Implementation Clusters

ICAO WACAF States

- *West and Central Cluster:* States include ASECNA, Ghana and Nigeria, Cape Verde, DR Congo, Guinea Conakry, Liberia, and Sierra Leone

ICAO ESAF States

- *East Cluster:* States include Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Tanzania, Uganda and, Mogadishu (*)
- *South Cluster:* Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

(*) In the spirit of ICAO No State Left Behind, as much support as possible shall be provided as well to Somalia* and South Sudan*

6. Reporting

The FRA PMT is a working group constituted under the APIRG Airspace and Operational Sub-Group (AAO SG). It will provide status reports for all AAO SG meetings in the form of working papers.

7. Activities and Deliverables

In order to meet the mandate given by APIRG, the project management team will

- Develop the AFI FRA CONOPS.
- Develop a gap analysis checklist.
- Conduct the assessment for each State and report on the agreed scorecard.
- Classify states in terms of their readiness to implement FRA.
- Develop the AFI Regional FRA implementation action plan.
- Develop a Template to be used by AFI States in developing their national action plans.
- Develop guidance material to assist states in conducting national safety cases.
- Share data and outcomes from implementing Direct Routing Operations (DROs) with the states to ensure a smooth and safe transition to FRA.
- Coordinate the implementation process in a timely and safe manner.
- Collect post-implementation data, monitor performance, and review and adjust targets (defined KPIs) as necessary.
- Share and report lessons learned for continuous improvement and development of the airspace.
- Provide status report to AAO SG as required.