INTERNATIONAL CIVIL **AVIATION ORGANIZATION**

ORGANIZACIÓN DE AVIACIÓN CIVIL INTERNATIONAL



ORGANISATION DE L'AVIATION CIVILE INTERNATIONALE

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11 August 2004

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Ref:

ES AN 4/44 - 0618

Subject:

Regional Monitoring Agency and Safety Assessment

Sir,

I have the honour to draw your attention to APIRG/14 meeting held in Yaounde, Cameroon, from 23 to 27 June 2003. APIRG/14 Conclusion 14/21 and AFI RVSM Task Force/4 meeting Conclusion 4/1 and 4/4 inter alia advocated as follows:

Conclusion 14/21: Implementation of RVSM in the AFI Region:

That:

States do their utmost to implement RVSM in selected airspaces, as per plan by AIRAC cycle date of 20 January 2005 concurrently with the CAR/SAM Region.

Conclusion 4/1:

Safety assessment

That AFI RMA undertakes safety assessment as a matter of urgency, recalling that it was supposed to commence on 1 June 2004.

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The Director General: Transport

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Conclusion 4/4: Reporting of data for monitoring and/or carrying

That All States institute procedures for reporting of data, incidents and conditions necessary for performing the collision risk calculations prerequisite for RVSM implementation to the AFI monitoring agency.

As you are aware, the introduction of RVSM must be done in conjunction with a thorough assessment of the safety implications that will result from this change of operation within the Region. An AFI RVSM Pre-Implementation Safety Case is therefore required to provide the assurance that the objectives stated in the AFI RVSM Safety Policy are met.

During AFI RVSM Task Force (TF) 2 held in Dakar, Senegal, 28 November 2003, South Africa accepted the responsibility to establish a Regional Monitoring Agency and to complete the required ICAO Safety assessment for the AFI Region by 31 March 2004. Both of these activities were delegated to Air Traffic and Navigation Services (ATNS) and are funded by IATA.

AFI TF/3 agreed to a revised Target Date of 1 June 2004 for commencement of this project. During Task Force 4 meeting held in Lagos, from 29-30 July this year, concern was raised that no contractual agreement was reached with an identified company to complete the Safety Assessment. The Safety Assessment will affect the RVSM implementation date and we now require assurance that this project will be completed by December 2004 and that the RMA will meet the set Terms of Reference.

I would be grateful if you could provide us with a response as soon as possible but not later than 30 August 2004.

Accept, Sir the assurances of my highest consideration.

Regional Director