

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
**Sixth Meeting of the APIRG Airspace and Aerodrome Operations Sub-Group (AAO/SG6)
(4-8 September 2023)**
Agenda Item 7: Implementation challenges of the Sub-group
WP 7.1: Implementation challenges of the AAO/SG

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY
<p>This paper presents some of the Challenges that have been experienced by the AAO/SG in the process of trying to achieve the mandate as provided for by the APIRG Procedural Handbook.</p> <p>Action by the meeting is on paragraph 3</p>
<p>REFERENCE(S):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ APIRG Procedural Handbook 6th Edition
<p>Related ICAO Strategic Objective (s): A- Safety, B- Capacity & Efficiency, E- Environmental Protection</p>

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The AAO/SG is established and mandated by APIRG to support the implementation of ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and carry out specific activities aimed to enable APIRG to discharge its functions and responsibilities in the areas of Aerodrome and Airspace Operations

2. DISCUSSION

- 2.1 The APIRG Procedural Handbook provides for the AAO/SG to convene at least once in a year. The handbook further indicates that the subgroup needs to be cognizant of the fact that the State experts contribute to the Subgroup activities as experts while at the same time maintain and recognise the Sovereignty of the States. Therefore, the need to work with minimum formality to facilitate effective delivery is required.
- 2.2 On meetings and activities of the project teams, the Handbook recommends that meetings to as far as possible be held using available telecommunication means and systems. Most of the meetings therefore have been held virtually.

- 2.3 In the recent past, the use of technology has been very effective in meetings and other activities. However, there are some activities especially related to Airspace that would require physical meetings to complete and report effectively on implementation. The subgroup has also not been able to access the services of State experts nominated to support the activities because the experts are engaged in State activities or other international organizations activities. This is also compounded by the lack of experts in the Region making it difficult for the available experts to contribute to the activities of the subgroup. Some experts may be required to provide specific expertise which may not be available among the project team members calling for funding of their participation.
- 2.4 The Project team members are required to embrace a project team approach especially in the definition, generation and development of the projects deliverables including the drafting of the budgetary allocation for project activities.
- 2.5 It may be necessary and where possible, without straining States to require States or organizations to consider hosting some of the activities of project teams and embrace a hybrid format.

3.0 ACTION BY THE MEETING

The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the information provided in this Paper.
- b) Call on States and/or Organizations to consider hybrid meeting formats for subgroup activities, and support through facilitation the participation of Regional Offices
- c) Consider the need to provide Basic Project management skills to project team members.
- d) Provide more proposals on the working arrangements of the subgroup.

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