



ICAO

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Twenty Sixth Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/26)

7 - 8 November 2023

Agenda Item 3: Implementation of air navigation goals, targets and indicators, including the priorities set in the regional air navigation plan

The Outcome of the FRA Trial Project Kick-Off Workshop

(Presented by AFRAA on behalf of the African Aviation Industry Group – AAIG.)

SUMMARY

The African Aviation Industry Group held from 27 June to 1 July 2022 in Nairobi, Kenya, the first Air Transport Sustainability Laboratory to revamp African air transport development. The said laboratory concluded five projects, including the FRA Trial Project. From 30 October to 2 November 2023, the AAIG conducted a Kick-Off Workshop of the FRA Trial Project at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Latin America facilitators presented how CADENA and CADENCE implement step-by-step the FRA.

This Working Paper presents the outcome of the kick-off workshop and shares its achievements with APIRG.

Action by the Meeting: The meeting is invited to:

- Note the progress status of the FRA Trial Project.
- Urge States, ICAO, CANSO, AFRAA, IATA, and AFI ANSPs to conduct UPR trials to support AFI FRA Project implementation.

<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	Safety, Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency, and Environmental Protection
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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The kick-off workshop on the Free Routing Airspace Trial Project took place at Skylight Hotel in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 30 October to 02 November 2023.

1.2 The workshop's objective was to share experiences on FRA implementation and familiarize AFI stakeholders with CADENA (CANSO AFTM Data Exchange Network for America) and CADENCE (CANSO AFTM Data Exchange Network for Cooperative Excellence) tools developed by CANSO. CADENA has supported FRA implementation in Latin America.

2 DISCUSSION

2.1. In line with the APIRG Conclusion/22 passed at Accra in 2019, the ICAO FRA continental

Project Management Team has been actively working towards FRA implementation. An AFRAA presentation reminded the workshop that the FRA Trial Project, derived from the laboratory conducted by the African Aviation Industry Group (AAIG) from 27 June to 1 July 2022 in Nairobi, Kenya. The data collected from the trials will support the ICAO FRA continental PMT, motivating the coordinated FRA implementation AFI-wide. The representatives of IATA, ICAO, and the PMT Chairperson presented documents specifying the status of progress towards FRA implementation in AFI. In the Region, several Air Navigation Service Providers are applying plannable DCTs, and three ANSPs (Mauritius CAA, NAMA, and CAA Uganda) are implementing FRA within their Flight Information Regions.

2.2 Latin America facilitators explained how CADENA and CADENCE work through the step-by-step FRA implementation. CADENCE OIS (Operational Information System), an information sharing web application, the platform covers several data exchange functionalities. They shared with the participants the steps they followed, from collecting data relating to a User Preferred Route (UPR), the analysis, the assessment, and approvals by the ANSPs to implementing the trials.

2.3 Practicing the methodology learned, participants considered various city pairs submitted by Ethiopian Airlines and Kenya Airways. Receiving the operators' priorities, the project kick-off workshop effectively coordinated with all relevant operational services and secured approvals for two trial flights, ET 935 and KQ 508. On 2 November 2023, ET 935 and KQ 508 operated safely on their UPRs outside the existing routes directly from Addis Ababa to Abidjan and Nairobi to Accra, respectively. Attached is the last-day activity, including the outcome of the workshop.

2.4 The FRA Trial Project Kick-off workshop has established:

- A high-level coordination Team composed of CANSO, AFRAA, IATA, ICAO, and up to 2 ANSP representatives
- A UPR Trial Group.

2.5 The constituted team and group will continue to manage the UPR trials, share the data with ICAO FRA PMT, and ensure that the trial plans feed into the AFI FRA Roadmap.

3 ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the outcome of the AAIG FRA Trial Kick-Off Workshop.

3.2 The meeting is invited to urge States, ICAO, CANSO, AFRAA, IATA, and AFI ANSPs to conduct UPR trials to support AFI FRA Project implementation.

3.3 The meeting is invited to endorse the Coordination Team established at the Workshop.

3.4 The meeting is invited to adopt CADENCE tools and Methodology.