



# 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 5: Common implementation challenges and way forward**

*(Presented by the Secretariat)*

<b>SUMMARY</b>	
This working paper presents identified common implementation challenges and the way forward. Action by the Meeting is provided in <b>Paragraph 3</b> of this paper.	
<b>REFERENCE(S):</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Doc 9750, Global Air Navigation Plan</li> <li>- Doc 7474, Air Navigation Plan — Africa-Indian Ocean Region</li> <li>- APIRG Procedural Handbook</li> <li>- APIRG 22, 23, 24 and 25 Meetings Reports</li> <li>- APIRG AAO SG/6 and IIM SG/8 Meeting Reports</li> </ul>	
<b>Strategic Objectives</b>	<i>A – Safety, B – Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency, D – Economic Development of Air Transport, and E – Environmental Protection.</i>

## 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 APIRG has established regional priorities, implementation indicators and targets in air navigation capacity and efficiency for the regional implementation of the Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP), to address regional safety and air navigation concerns, as reflected in the Group and its contributory bodies work programmes.

1.2 APIRG and its Contributory bodies have been making progress in the implementation of their activities so far but are still facing some challenges.

## 2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The meeting will recall that the level of implementation of ASBU elements in the AFI region is still low and that States are yet to develop their National Air Navigation Plans. The lack of training, workshops as well as tools and guidance manuals are part of challenges experienced by AFI States in implementing ASBU elements. More specific workshops are needed to support their efforts in the implementation activities.

- 2.2 The meeting may also note with concerns the lack of participation of designated experts from States and Organizations. It is important to recall the need to ensure the effective participation of States and Organizations officials in the APIRG and its contributory bodies activities. Project Team Coordinators should also strengthen collaboration and coordination in the implementation of project activities.
- 2.3 In the area of Airspace Operations, challenges identified are the lack of information on some concepts such as AFI PBCS plan and national regulatory framework template, as well as how to determine ATS Capacity.
- 2.4 Significant Safety Concerns (SSCs), especially in PANS-OPS, were increasing in the region. It was highlighted that the causes of such increase were related to the lack of awareness for Instrument Flight Procedures promulgation and approval process, as well as the calibration of Nav aids.
- 2.5 The status of signed Search and Rescue (SAR) agreements between States was reported to be the lowest in all SAR implementation elements in the AFI region. States and Regional organizations including RECs are encouraged to support joint SAR agreements to optimize the available resources and harmonize SAR procedures and services.
- 2.6 Some States pointed out the current GANP digital format on the ICAO website, which is not practical for their use (some experiencing internet connectivity), and its availability in all ICAO languages such as French which is the official language of half of the AFI States. These factors, which had so far negatively impacted the effective implementation of the ASBU elements in the AFI region need to be addressed.
- 2.7 ICAO will continue to coordinate with all the Partners to avail more specific workshops and trainings as well as tools to support the implementation activities and overcome some of the above-mentioned challenges.
- 2.8 States and Organizations are called upon to increase their support to APIRG related activities through tangible actions including active participation of their experts to all APIRG related activities as well as the commitment in implementing SARPs and APIRG Conclusions and Decisions.

### **3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to:
  - a) Take note of the information presented in this working paper; and
  - b) Request States and Organizations to take actions as appropriate.

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