INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP
EIGHTEENTH MEETING (APIRG/18)
Kampala, Uganda (27 – 30 March 2012)

Agenda Item 4: Regional air navigation deficiencies

REPORT ON TACTICAL ACTION GROUP (TAG) ACTIVITIES

(Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY
This paper presents a brief on the actions by TAG since the last meeting of APIRG and it shows in a graphic format the Air Safety Reports (ASRs)/Unsatisfactory Condition Reports (UCRs) trends on an FIR by FIR basis. Action by the meeting is in paragraph 3.
REFRENCE(S): ICAO SP AFI RAN 2008
Related ICAO Strategic Objective(s):A and C

1   INTRODUCTION

1.1   ICAO SP AFI RAN 2008 endorsed establishment of the Tactical Action Group (TAG), and that the group[1], through its by-weekly teleconferences, tactically address any deficiencies or operational errors identified. Since establishment of TAG, the group has had a yearly meeting to review the previous 12 months and to prepare a report with concerns for consideration by APIRG.

2   DISCUSSION

2.1   During the course of 2010 and 2011, due to a high number of Air Safety Reports/Unsatisfactory Condition Report (ASR/UCR), TAG conducted technical assistance missions to a number of States in order to address safety concerns. States engaged in dialogue with TAG and agreed on action plans for implementation of corrective measures for identified deficiencies, unfortunately actual improvements have not met expectations.

2.1.1   In the context of DR Congo, a TAG mission was conducted in December 2009. While feedback on reported ASRs is received from RVA regularly, there are still mobile communication deficiencies in Kinshasa FIR with corrective actions not being implemented. Updated Corrective Action Plan has been submitted to the TAG last January.

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[1] Core AFI TAG members: ARMA, ASECNA, IATA, ICAO, IFALPA, IFATCA, Kenya CAA, NAMA and ATNS

2.1.2   In relation to Zimbabwe, a TAG mission was conducted in December 2009 and found to be effective in addressing safety related issues and lower number of ASRs/UCRs is evidence of improvement.
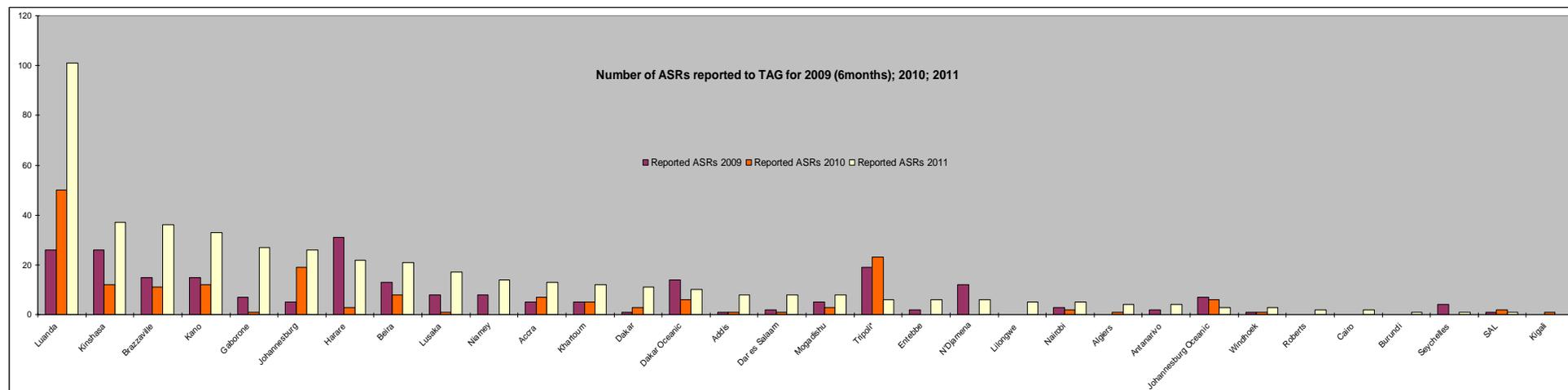
2.1.3   In the context of Angola, a TAG mission was conducted in May 2010. While mobile communication (VHF) has improved, there is still, however, a high number of reported ASRs (Airprox; ATS Incidents; Communications and Aircrafts operating in RVSM airspace without RVSM approval). TAG is very concerned by the lack of feedback from either INAVIC or ENANA. No update on Corrective Action Plan has been received.

2.1.4   In relation to Nigeria, a TAG mission was conducted in May 2011. While feedback on reported ASRs is received from NAMA regularly, there are still mobile communication deficiencies in the NW and NE sectors, as well issues with ATS/DS and AFTN. Updated Corrective Action Plan has been submitted to TAG in February.

2.1.5   In the context of the Botswana and South Africa co-ordination failures and further to the meeting between the Botswana and South Africa ANSP on 18 April 2011, which resulted in the proposal of sharing surveillance information being rejected and the implementation of an AIRAC supplement with additional ATM procedures to mitigate against the co-ordination failures, a TAG mission was conducted in January 2012 due to the continuing high number of coordination issues between Gaborone and Johannesburg ACC's. At the time of writing this WP, TAG could not yet assess the effectiveness of implemented corrective actions.

2.2 Statistics on ASR/UCR since establishment of TAG[2]

2.2.1 Total number of ASRs/UCRs per FIR reported to TAG

Number of ASRs reported to TAG for 2009 (6months); 2010; 2011

Reported ASRs 2009 ■ Reported ASRs 2010 □ Reported ASRs 2011

* No of ASRs as recorded prior to implementation of "No-fly" zone
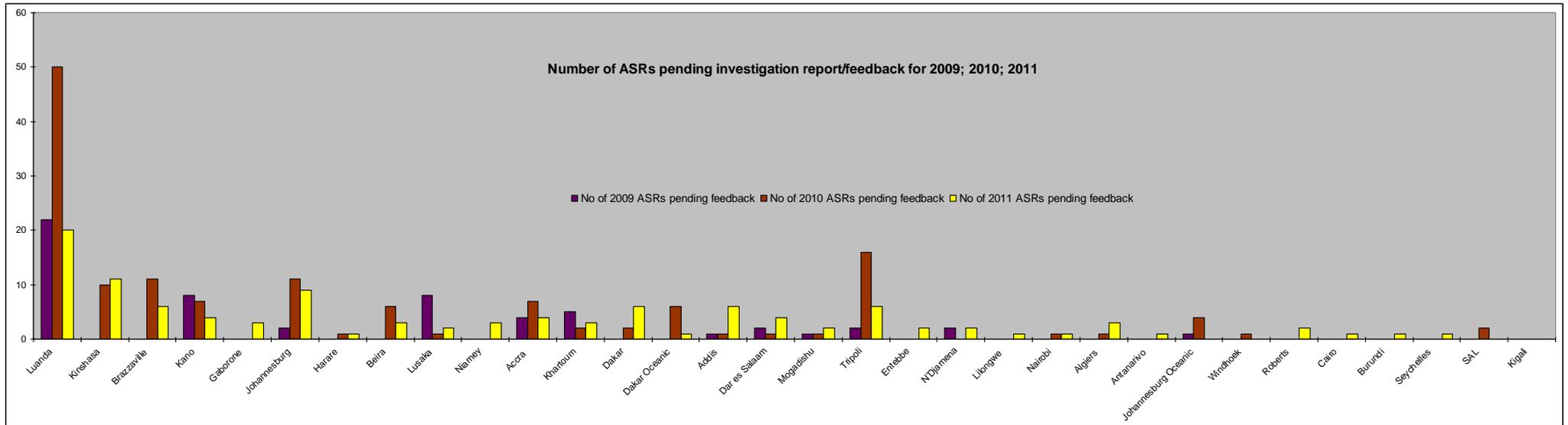
FIRs where 5 or more ASRs/UCRs were recorded in 2011

Luanda	101 ASRs	**Accra**	13 ASRs	**Lilongwe**	5 ASRs
Kinshasa	37 ASRs	**Khartoum**	12 ASRs	**Nairobi**	5 ASRs
Brazzaville	36 ASRs	**Dakar**	11 ASRs		
Kano	33 ASRs	**Dakar Oceanic**	10 ASRs		
Gaborone	27 ASRs	**Addis**	8 ASRs		
Johannesburg	26 ASRs	**Dar es Salaam**	8 ASRs		
Harare	22 ASRs	**Mogadishu**	8 ASRs		
Beira	21 ASRs	**Entebbe**	6 ASRs		
Lusaka	17 ASRs	**N'Djamena**	6 ASRs		
Niamey	14 ASRs	**Tripoli**	6 ASRs		

[2]Cut of date for statistics on ASRs was 20 January 2012

2.2.2 **Percentage of feedback** received from ANSPs on reported ASRs/UCRs by TAG varies from FIR to FIR. It must be noted that due to deadline for submission of APIRG WP, there were no sufficient time for ANSPs to conduct investigation of ASRs that took place in November and December 2011.

Number of ASRs pending investigation report/feedback for 2009; 2010; 2011

■ No of 2009 ASRs pending feedback ■ No of 2010 ASRs pending feedback □ No of 2011 ASRs pending feedback

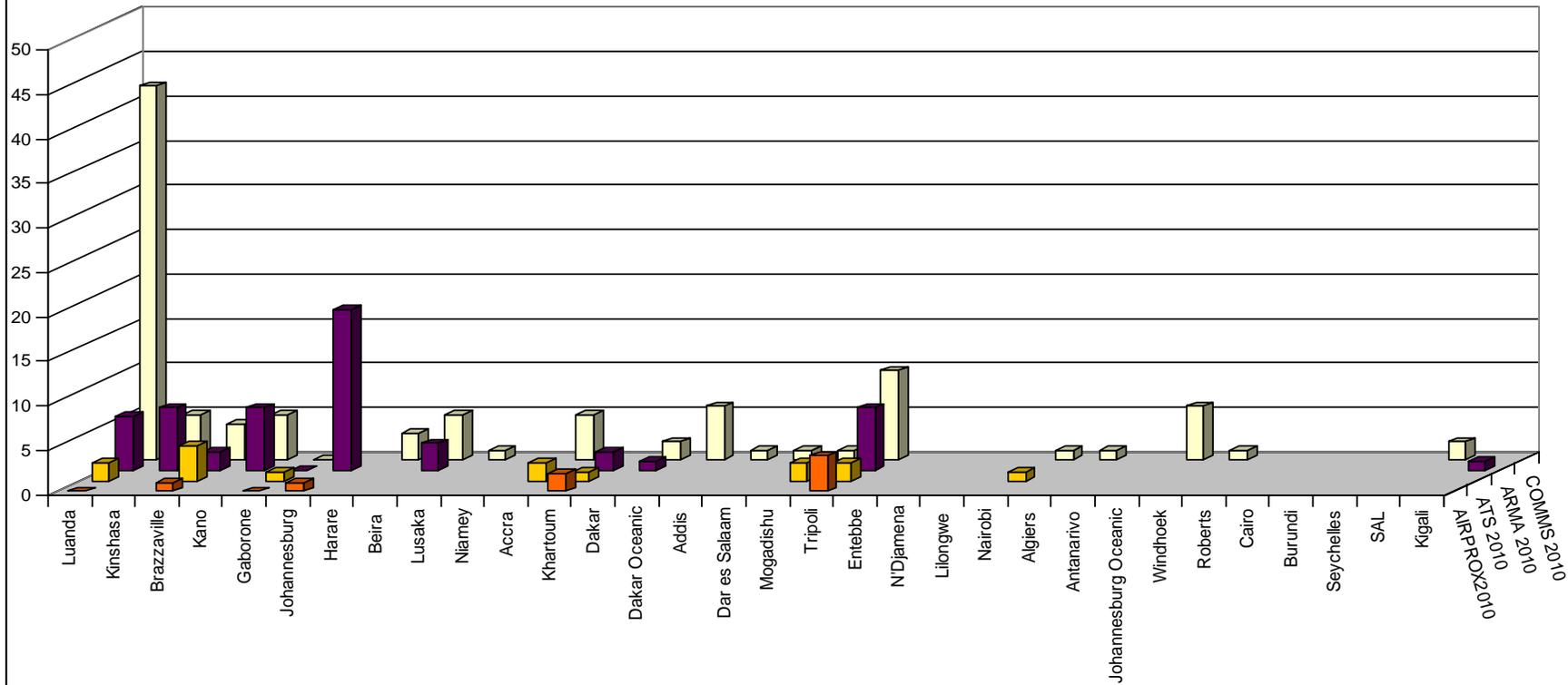TAG is concerned with lack of responsiveness / investigation of ATS reported incidents in 2011 from some ANSPs:

1) Within Luanda FIR 16 ATS related incidents were recorded without single investigation report either from ANSP or State. ARMA queries for 3 aircrafts that were found operating in RVSM airspace without RVSM approval are unanswered.
2) Within Addis Ababa FIR 4 ATS related incidents were recorded without single investigation report either from ANSP or State.
3) Equatorial Guinea did not provide single feedback to ARMA queries for 3 aircrafts that were found operating in RVSM airspace without RVSM approval.
4) Mauritania did not provide single feedback to ARMA queries for 3 aircrafts that were found operating in RVSM airspace without RVSM approval.
5) Tanzania did not provide single feedback to ARMA queries for 3 aircrafts that were found operating in RVSM airspace without RVSM approval.
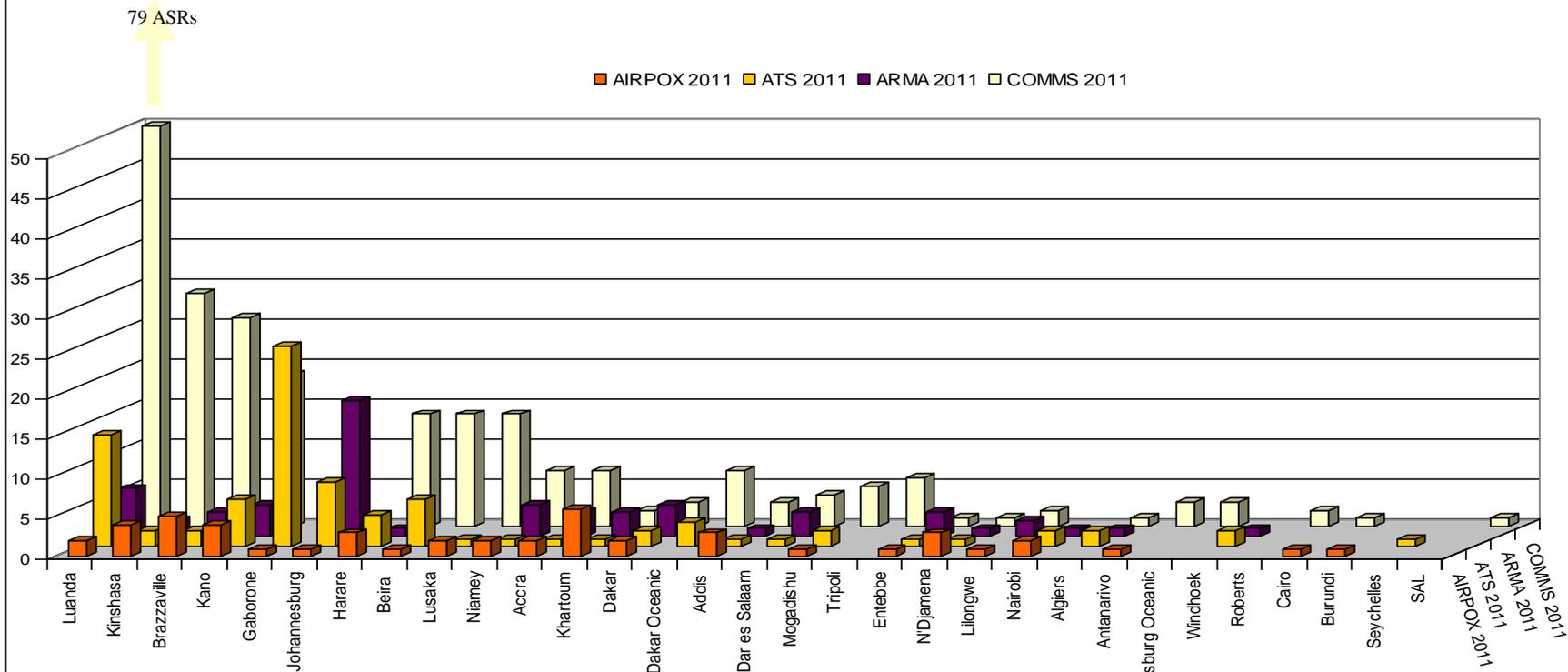
2.2.3   ASRs/UCRs per type

(6 months) 2009 - Reported ASRs per type

Legend: AIRPROX2009, ATS 2009, ARMA 2009, COMMS 2009
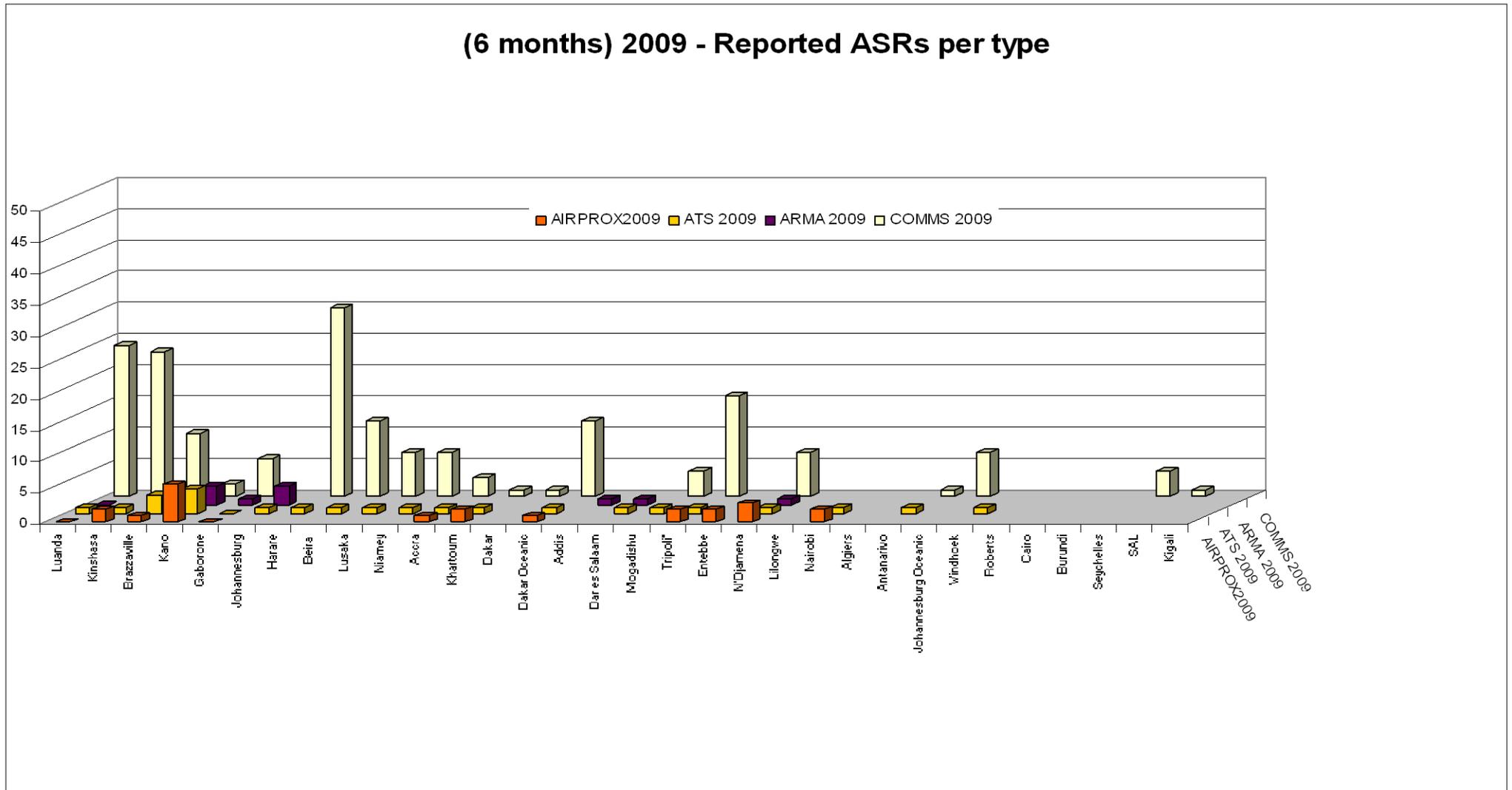
2010 - Reported ASRs per type

■ AIRPROX2010 ■ ATS 2010 ■ ARMA 2010 □ COMMS 2010

2011 - Reported ASRs per type

Legend: ■ AIRPOX 2011 ■ ATS 2011 ■ ARMA 2011 □ COMMS 2011

79 ASRs

Y-axis values: 0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50

Categories (X-axis): Luanda, Kinshasa, Brazzaville, Kano, Gaborone, Johannesburg, Harare, Beira, Lusaka, Niamey, Accra, Khartoum, Dakar, Dakar Oceanic, Addis, Dar es Salaam, Mogadishu, Tripoli, Entebbe, N'Djamena, Lilongwe, Nairobi, Algiers, Antananarivo, Johannesburg Oceanic, Windhoek, Roberts, Cairo, Burundi, Seychelles, SAL

TAG is concerned with safety status for some FIRs
1) Luanda – although mobile communications has improved, there is still high number of ATS related incidents
2) Kinshasa – haven't implemented solar panels as a secondary power supply to remote VHF stations
3) Kano FIR – haven't installed VHF equipment at new site.

2.2.4   Although number of reported occurrences from 2010 to 2011 has doubled, TAG has noted increase of AIRPROX occurrences in 2011 in comparison to previous years.

Number of AIRPOX for 2009 (6 months); 2010; 2011

☐ AIRPROX 2009 ☐ AIRPROX 2010 ☐ AIRPOX 2011
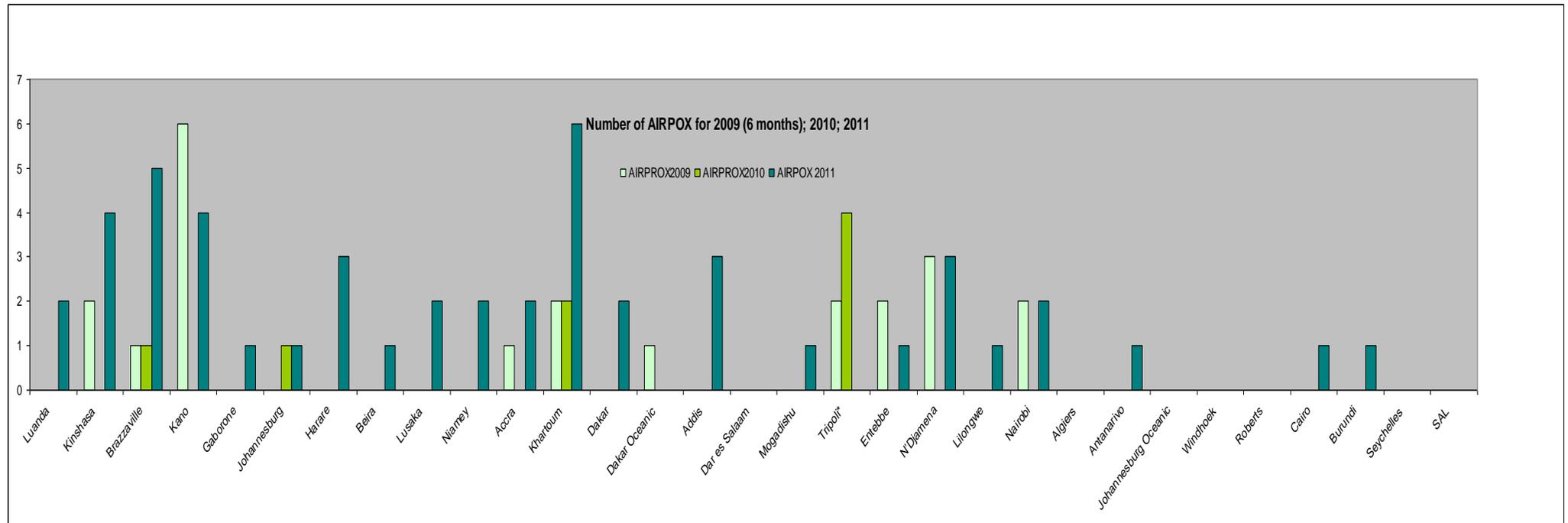
3.   **SUGGESTED ACTION**

3.1   Urge states to provide comprehensive written feedback immediately after completion of the investigation in line with Recommendation 4/6 of the Special AFI RAN Meeting held in November 2008 in Durban. Specifically the TAG would like to request that the APIRG consider endorsing the following requests and to kindly request that the appropriate Regional Offices issue State letters with their request:

3.1.1   That Luanda and Addis Ababa FIRs provide TAG with timely responses to the ATS incidents brought to their attention;

3.1.2   That Luanda, Kinshasa and Kano timely implement Corrective Actions as agreed during TAG missions;

3.1.3   That Equatorial Guinea, Mauritania and Tanzania provide TAG with timely responses to RVSM registration issues brought to their attention.

3.2   In addition the TAG requests that APIRG endorse the following:

3.2.1   Urge States to respond to TAG requests at the earliest available opportunity;

3.2.2   Urge Regional Offices to support TAG missions to certain States as deemed necessary by TAG;

3.2.3   Urge States to implement at the earliest available opportunity the improvement measures agreed upon; and

3.2.4   Take any other action it deems necessary.

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