International Civil Aviation Organization
Eastern and Southern African Office

First Meeting of the AFI Flight Plan Transition Task Force
(FPLT TF/1)
(Johannesburg, South Africa, 13 - 14 September 2010)

Agenda Item 4:   **Review of the FPLT Task Force Terms of Reference (TOR)**

REVIEW AND UPDATE OF THE TASK FORCE TOR

(Presented by the Secretariat)

<table>
<tr><td align="center">SUMMARY</td></tr>
<tr><td>This paper presents the TOR of the FPLT Task Force as adopted by APIRG 17 for review, updating and refinement by the meeting in order to facilitate work programme of the Task Force to best meet its mandate. The paper also calls for development of a work programme based on identified tasks, as well as convening of the next meeting of the Task Force.

Action by the meeting is at **paragraph 3.**</td></tr>
<tr><td align="center">REFERENCES</td></tr>
<tr><td>APIRG17 Report</td></tr>
<tr><td>This Working Paper is related to Strategic Objectives: **D**</td></tr>
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1.   INTRODUCTION

1.1   As part of the overall requirement for a regional and global implementation of the new ICAO model flight plan and in order to facilitate effective and successful transition, the APIRG 17 meeting in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 2-6 August 2010, established the FPLT task force with the objective to coordinate States preparedness, facilitate coordination in the AFI Region and with other ICAO Regions, and provide guidance, in order to enable harmonized implementation of the provisions of Amendment 1 to the 15th Edition of PANS-ATM (Doc 4444). Accordingly APIRG 17 formulated the following Decision:

DECISION 17/61:   *ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AFI FLIGHT PLAN TRANSITION TASK FORCE (FPLT TF)*

That, in order to enable a harmonized regional implementation of Amendment 1 to the Fifteenth edition of PANS-ATM (Doc 4444) in coordination with other ICAO Regions:

a)   *The AFI Flight Plan Transition Task Force (FPLT TF) is established with the terms of reference (TOR) at Appendix 3.4J to this report.*

b)   *The Task Force should, if practical hold its first meeting as soon as possible but no later than September 2010;*

c)   *AFI States are urged to provide to the Task Force information requested with regard to its studies and assessments, with minimum delay; and*

d)   *APIRG noting that its next regular meeting could be in late 2011, directed the ATS/AIS/SAR SG to endorse the Regional strategy and plan including changes thereto, on its behalf.*

2.   DISCUSSION

2.1   The terms of reference of the FPLT Task Force, as adopted by APIRG17 is provided at **Appendix A** to this working paper. Based on the analysis of implications of Amendment 1 to the 15th Edition of Doc 4444 (2012 flight plan), associated global developments (in AFI and other ICAO Regions), and other factors relating to implementation in the AFI Region, the Task Force may wish to review, update and refine its TOR in order to facilitate its work to best meet its mandate

2.2   In order to facilitate its work and to deliver on its terms of reference, the Task Force may wish to develop a work programme reflecting its activities over up to the end of 2012, and if deemed necessary, for a post implementation follow up and monitoring period beyond 2012. As part of its work programme, the FPLT Task Force may wish to identify the dates, venue and tentative agenda for its next meeting.

3.   ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1   The meeting is invited to:

a)   review, refine and enhance the FPLT Task Force TOR;

b)   develop a work programme; and

c)   agree on the tentative dates, venue and tentative agenda for the next meeting.

AFI Flight Plan Transition Task Force (FPLT TF)
Terms of Reference (TOR

Terms of reference:

1)   Conduct a comprehensive review of Amendment 1 to the Fifteenth Edition of the PANS ATM (Doc 4444, effective 15 November 2012) in order to identify, study and address implementation complexities arising from the adoption of amended PANS ATM Chapter 4, Chapter 11, Appendix 2 and Appendix 3 provisions relating to the ICAO Flight Plan and associated ATS Message formats; and

2)   Collect and analyze information on the status of AFI ANSP flight plan processing systems including ongoing upgrades to such systems;

3)   On the basis of the above, and in accordance with relevant additional ICAO provisions and the SP AFI RAN Re. 6/5, develop a coordinated AFI transition strategy and plan with associated timelines to enable the streamlined coordinated implementation of the amended Flight Plan and ATS Message provisions contained in Amendment 1 to the Fifteenth Edition of the PANS ATM.

Considerations:

In addressing these terms of reference, the Task Force should consider, *inter alia,* the following aspects:

a)   Likelihood that changes within the systems in the AFI Region could differ from systems in other ICAO Regions and accordingly provide recommendable Regional action with global goals
b)   Inter and intra regional issues;
c)   Impact on inter-system co-ordination messaging (e.g. ATS AIDC)
d)   Contingency arrangements for States that cannot comply by the due date;
   ➢ How to handle staged implementations by States and/or airspace users,
   ➢ Expectations across ANSPs with different implementation dates, and
e)   Systems that transition early will need to be capable of handling both new and current instruction sets.
f)   Inter-system exchanges need to take account of differing automation capabilities in order to avoid excessive message rejection;
g)   Establishment of an Information Management system to track implementation timelines for various States/systems;
h)   Management of Repetitive Flight Plans;
i)   Implications for presentation formats, including paper & electronic flight progress strips;
j)   Impacts to users (flight planning systems etc); and
k)   Appropriately timed withdrawal of existing State or Regional specific requirements to ensure consistency with new instruction set
l)   Existing ICAO guidance material

Membership

    Core members:

       − ATM specialist and systems engineering experts (CNS) from AFI States and ANSPs with existing and planned automated flight plan processing systems
       − ASECNA, IATA, IFALPA, IFATCA,

    Note:
    Algeria, Kenya, Senegal, South Africa and Tanzania have offered their expertise as core members.

    Other members

    AFI States and ANSPs other than the above
    Expertise from States, ANSPs outside the AFI Region that may be invited by the Task Force based on beneficial inputs they may contribute

    Note:
    Industry participation including systems providers, if required, is to be included under responsibility of State delegations. The Task Force may however, invite specific expertise from international organizations and industry in order to enhance information available for the Task Force to progress its work.

Reporting

The Task Force shall report progress to the AFI ATM/AIM/SAR Sub-Group. However, owing to the limited time available for planning and in some cases acquisition of systems, valuable planning information emanating from the Task Force may, after coordination with Secretary of APIRG be provided to States without waiting for forthcoming meetings of the AFI ATM/AIM/SAR Sub-Group.