INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

FIFTH MEETING OF THE SAT FANS I/A INTEROPERABILITY TEAM
(SAT FIT/5)
(Lisbon, Portugal, 17 to 18 May 2010)

Agenda Item 3:   Review of ADS-C/CPDLC programme and implementation activities in SAT FIRs

Global Operational Data Link Document (GOLD)

(Presented by South Africa)

SUMMARY

THIS INFORMATION PAPER PRESENT INFORMATION CONCERNING THE GLOBAL OPERATIONAL DATA LINK DOCUMENT (GOLD) AND ENCOURAGES ASIOACG AND AIRLINE OPERATORS WITHIN THE REGION TO ADOPT THIS DOCUMENT AS THE BASIS FOR THEIR DATA LINK PROCEDURES

1.   INTRODUCTION

1.1   CPDLC was first introduced in the South Pacific in the late 1990s. At the time, there was no data link procedures documentation available, and in order to standardize procedures within the region, States from ISPACG (Informal South Pacific ATS Coordinating Group) produced the South Pacific Operations Manual (SPOM). Over the years a number of offshoot documents were produced for other regions - namely the North and Central Pacific Operations Manual (NCPOM), and the Indian Ocean Operations Manual (100M).

1.2   In October 2002, the SPOM and NCPOM were merged into the POM (Pacific Operations Manual), this document subsequently being subsequently merged with the 100M into the FANS Operations Manual (FOM) in March 2004.

1.3   During this period, the North Atlantic States were developing their own data link programs, with their procedures being documented in the "Guidance Material for ATS Data Link Services in NAT". While much of the theoretical content was similar between the FOM and the North Atlantic GM documents, there were some differences in both content and procedures.

1.4   During 2004 and 2005, an attempt was made to merge the FOM and the NAT GM document into the ILDM (International ATS Data Link Services Operations Manual), but for various reasons, this attempt was not successful.

1.5 To prevent the continued divergence of procedures, an ICAO-sponsored Ad Hoc Working Group was formed to develop a global operation al data link document (GOLD). The North Atlantic Systems Planning Group (NAT SPG) and Asia-Pacific Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APANPIRG) endorsed this work program in June and September 2008, respectively.

1.6 The purpose of the GOLD is to facilitate the global harmonization of existing data link operations and resolve regional and/or State differences impacting seamless operations. As well as specific data link procedures, GOLD will include required communication performance (RCP) and surveillance specifications, and guidelines on post-implementation monitoring and corrective action to address issues with satellite data communication services,

1.7 The GOLD is intended primarily for those who are involved in planning and implementation of data link services, and day-to-day operations, and will be a key to harmonizing oceanic and continental (domestic) data link operations worldwide.

1.8 The GOLD will effectively replace the Guidance Material for ATS Data Link Services in North Atlantic Airspace (NAT Data Link GM) and the FANS-I /A Operations Manual (FOM) for the Asia-Pacific, South American and African-Indian Ocean Regions. The GOLD also includes provisions for the aeronautic al telecommunication network (ATN) implementation in the European Region

2. DISCUSSION

2. 1 Parties that have been involved in the coordination process for the GOLD include:

 a) ICAO Headquarters and Regional Offices: Montreal, Bangkok, Paris, and Lima;
 b) Air traffic service providers (ATSPs) in the North Atlantic (NAT), Asia-Pacific (APAC), South American (SAM), African-Indi an Ocean (AFI), and European (EUR) Regions;
 c) Ground system developers and manufacturers;
 d) International organizations, such as the International Federation of Airline Pilot's Associations (IFALPA), International Air Transport Association (lATA), and International Business Aviation Council (IBAC);
 e) Aircraft operators, airframe manufacturers, and avionics suppliers;
 f) Communication service provider s (CSPs) and satellite companies; and
 g) Other interested parties.

2.2 The latest version of GOLD is available for download on the following public web sites:

 a) http://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/heudquarters_offices/ato/service_units/enroute/oceanic/data_link/ ; and
 b) http://www.ispacg-cra.com

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

a) Note the information in this paper;

b) Support the introduction of the GOLD, as well as adopting the procedures contained within it