INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
Western and Central Africa Office
Second Meeting of the Central Atlantic FIR Satellite Network (CAFSAT) Management Committee (CNMC/2)
(Dakar, Senegal, 06-08 November 2012

Agenda Item 6: Review of the APIRG/18 Meeting Conclusions related to CAFSAT

(Presented by the secretariat)

SUMMARY

The purpose of this paper is to provide the meeting with the conclusions and decisions of APIRG 18th meeting related to CAFSAT and call for remedial actions to clear out the deficiencies and dysfunctions.

Reference
Report of APIRG/18 Meeting

Action by the meeting in paragraph 3

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1. **Introduction**

The 18th APIRG meeting was held in Kampala, Uganda from 27 to 30 March 2012 to ensure in a regional framework the continuing and coherent development of the AFI Regional Air Navigation Plan. APIRG meetings examine among others the report of the fourth meeting of its specialized Communication Navigation and Surveillance Sub Group (CNS/SG/4).

2. **Discussion**

2.1   The last CNS/SG/4 meeting held in Dakar, Senegal, from 24 to 29July 2011 in preparation to APIRG/18 formulated 21draft conclusions and decisions among which 14 are addressing issues related to VSAT provided service and/or performance.

These draft conclusions were submitted to APIRG/18 meeting as presented in **Appendix A.**

2.2   APIRG 18th meeting endorsed these conclusions and formulated Conclusions 18/24, 18/25 & 18/26 related respectively to:
a)   Contingency Planning for AFI VSAT Networks Operations
b)   Best practices for AFI VSAT Networks
c)   Modernization AFI VSAT Networks

These conclusions are presented in **Appendix B.**

2.3   The issues addressing the AFI ATN Architecture Plan, the further investigations on the lack of flight plans and on the loss of AFTN messages in the AFI Region were also discussed and subjected to conclusions.

These issues are directly linked to the architecture and performance of concerned CAFSAT nodes.

3.   Action by the meeting

The meeting is invited to:

   a) Take note of the information here given above;
   b) Encourage CNMC concerned members States/Organizations to implement APIRG/18 Conclusions in particular Conclusions18/24, 18/25 & 18/26 related respectively to:
      1. Contingency Planning for AFI VSAT Networks Operations
      2. Best practices for AFI VSAT Networks
      3. Modernization AFI VSAT Networks
   c) Encourage CNMC concerned members States/Organizations to increase their participation to CNS/SG and APIRG forthcoming meetings.

APPENDIX A

Fourth Meeting of the APIRG Communications, Navigation and Surveillance Sub-group (CNS/SG/4) (Dakar, Senegal, 24-29 July 2011)

SUMMARY OF DRAFT CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS

Draft Conc./Dec. No.	Subject
Agenda Item 4 - Aeronautical Fixed Service (AFS)	
Draft Decision 4/02	**Contingency planning for AFI VSAT networks operated satellites** **That the Secretariat should obtain from the Intelsat Company disaster recovery plans for use by the AFI aeronautical VSAT networks managers as part of their contingency plans aimed at ensuring continuity of service in case of disruption or failure of the operated satellites.**
Draft Conclusion 4/03	**Adoption of best practices for AFI VSAT networks** **That the AFI States and Air Navigation Services Providers (ANSPs) operating aeronautical VSAT Networks should adopt the best practices stated at Appendix C to this report, as well as any other best practices to be developed as required.**
Draft Conclusion 4/04	**Implementation of AFISNET and CAFSAT networks' management and control systems** **That AFISNET and CAFSAT participating States and Organizations should establish common network management and control systems with shared responsibilities, and harmonize their maintenance policies in to enhance systems' availability and reliability.**

Draft Conc./Dec. No.	Subject
Draft Conclusion 4/05	**Modernization of AFISNET and CAFSAT networks** **That AFISNET and CAFSAT participating States and Organizations should pursue their efforts to achieve fully modernized networks that continue to meet regionally/inter-regionally agreed performance requirements.**
Draft Conclusion 4/06	**Management of interconnections between aeronautical VSAT networks** **That the concerned States and Organizations should establish formal arrangements to improve the management of VSAT networks interconnections.**
Draft Decision 4/08	**Establishment of a Task Force for the Regional Project** **That a Task Force be established to address issues related to the development of a regional project aimed to enhance the overall performance of AFI aeronautical VSAT networks, and converge towards a consolidated regional ATN infrastructure, with the terms of reference shown at Appendix D to this report. The Task Force should complete its assigned work by December 2011, and report to APIRG/18 through the CNS Sub-group.**
Draft Conclusion 4/09	**Application of the concept of multinational facility/service to an integrated AFI Aeronautical Telecommunication Network (ATN) infrastructure.** **That the concept of multinational facility/service as defined in the Regional Air Navigation Plan (Doc 7474) is applicable to an AFI integrated IP-based regional/interregional digital communication network, including its evolution towards a consolidated AFI Aeronautical Telecommunication Network (ATN) infrastructure.**

Draft Conc./Dec. No.	Subject
Draft Conclusion 4/12	**VSAT networks – Performance monitoring** That the Secretariat should finalize the performance data collection forms shown at Appendix D and Appendix E to this report; and circulate the finalized forms for use by AFI States and entities operating/managing VSAT networks
Draft Conclusion 4/13	**Need for further investigations on the lack of flight plans** That, considering the high priority to be accorded to the issue of lack of flight plans, AFI Air Traffic Service Units (ATSUs) report and conduct investigations on missing flight plans during the period from 15 to 17 August 2011. The results of their investigations should be compiled using the form attached to the report, and communicated to the relevant ICAO Regional Offices.
Draft Conclusion 4/14	**Investigations on the loss of AFTN messages in the AFI Region** That in order to further analyse and mitigate the loss of AFTN messages, including flight plan messages in the region, AFI AFTN centres carry out a three-day survey on AFTN performance from 15 to 17 August 2011 (inclusive), using the form and model messages attached to the report. In so doing, they should: 1) use the AFTN addresses of their ATSUs correspondents in the AFI Region; 2) provide availability of the AFTN circuit(s) involved, based on the implemented routing configuration; and 3) Provide transit times. Note: The results of the AFTN survey should be sent to the relevant ICAO Regional Office by 25 August 2011.

APPENDIX B

Eighteenth Meeting of the AFI Planning and Implementation Regional Group APIRG/18
(Kampala, Uganda, 27-30 March 2012)

CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS RELATED TO CAFSAT

CONCLUSION 18/24:   CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR AFI VSAT NETWORKS OPERATIONS

That, AFI aeronautical VSAT network managers develop contingency plans in coordination with their space segment provider (Intelsat) to ensure continuity of service in case of disruption or failure of their operated satellites.

CONCLUSION 18/25:   ADOPTION OF BEST PRACTICES FOR AFI VSAT NETWORKS

That the AFI States and Air Navigation Services Providers (ANSPs) operating aeronautical VSAT Networks adopt the best practices stated at Appendix 3.4 G to this report, as well as any other best practices to be developed or adopted by APIRG.

CONCLUSION 18/26:   MODERNIZATION OF VSAT NETWORKS

That AFI States and Organizations adopt and implement strategies to modernize network continue to meet regionally/inter-regionally agreed performance requirements.