



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICAN OFFICE

Second Meeting of APIRG Infrastructure and Information Management Sub Group (IIM/SG/2)
(Dakar, Senegal, 09-11 July 2018)

Agenda Item 4: Status of implementation of the AFI IIM regional projects adopted by APIRG

Communication Project 3: Implementation of Air/Ground communication aimed at ensuring Air traffic control

(Presented by South Africa)

SUMMARY

This paper provides updates on the progress made in the IIMSG Communication Project 3 and indicate the challenges encountered by the team including possible recommendations.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3:

REFERENCE(S):

- ICAO Letter reference ES AN 13 / 0-584 dated 14 August 2017
- IIM/SG/1 First Meeting Report, Decision 1/03
- APIRG/21 Report, Decision 21/11

Related ICAO Strategic Objective(s): *A – Safety, B – Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency, D – Economic Development of Air Transport, and E – Environmental Protection.*

Related ASBU KPIs & B0 Modules: *ASEP, FRTO, CDO and CCO*

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 During the APIRG Sub-Group on Infrastructure and Information Management (IIM / SG / 1) held in Nairobi, Kenya from 27 to 30 June 2017, the IIMSG Communication Project 3 was recommended as Communication project to assist with the implementation of Air/Ground communication aimed at ensuring Air Traffic Control within AFI region through:

- a) High Frequency/Very High Frequency (**HF/VHF**) voice Communication
- b) High Frequency/Very High Frequency Data link communication (**HF/VHF DL**)
- c) Controller/Pilot Data Link Communication (**CPDLC**).

1.2 All tasks are carried out by COM/ IT experts nominated by AFI States participating in the project, i.e Côte d’Ivoire, Cameroon, Ghana, Seychelles, Senegal, Kenya, Mauritania, ASECNA, IATA, Nigeria, Botswana, Togo, Uganda led by the Project-Team Coordinator (South Africa) and under the supervision of the Project Facilitators (ROs/CNS, Dakar and Nairobi) through the IIM SG working methodology.



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1.3 The IIMSG Communication Project 3 was initiated on 27 February 2018 via a Teleconference and the team has managed to finalise the allocated tasks within two months. This is commendable taking into consideration the individual project team member State/Organization job requirements.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The IIM Sub Group project teams were allocated tasks and expected to deliver as indicated in table 1 below.

2.2 The progress made so far by the IIMSG Communication Project 3 per given task is indicated below:

TABLE 1: IIM TASK

NO	TASK	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	PLANNED DATE	ACTUAL DATE	COMMENTS / STATUS
1	Project team coordinators and experts appointment finalisation	States / Organization	31/11/2017	January 2018	The delay in appointing and finalizing the project team members resulted in missing all project timelines. However, the project team was initiated on 27 February 2018 and has managed to finalise all project tasks within two months. This is commendable taking into consideration the individual State/Organization requirements.
2	Project Team Organization or Plan	Project Coordinators	31/12/2017	28/05/18	Task was led by South Africa; has been finalized and sent to IIM Sub-Group Chair, Vice and Secretariat on 28 May 2018. The project Team Organization is attached as Appendix B.
3	Project ToR and Description	Project Coordinators	31/12/2017	28/05/18	The ToR task was led by Seychelles and Project description task was led by South Africa. Has been finalized and sent to IIM Sub-Group Chair, Vice and Secretariat on 28 May 2018. Project ToR is attached as Appendix A and Description is attached as Appendix C)
4	Project link finalisation	Project Coordinators	31/10/2017	28/05/18	Has been finalized and sent to IIM Sub-Group Chair, Vice and Secretariat on 28 May 2018 (Project link finalisation Appendix D).
5	Project Questionnaire	Project Coordinators	31/12/2017	28/05/18	Task was led by ASECNA and has been finalized and sent to IIM Sub-Group Chair, Vice and Secretariat on 28 May 2018. Project Questionnaire is attached as Appendix E.



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2.3 The project teams are the foundation on the implementation of the APIRG plans and ensuring that Africa is not left behind. Its success is largely dependent on the project team members active participation, commitment and experts in the work of the project team.

There was a lack of IIMSG Communication Project 3 team participation in the beginning of the project due to delay in finalizing project team appointments by ICAO however there's been notable project team active participation. It's crucial that team appointment is finalized as soon as possible to avoid project delays.

2.4 Coordination and communication is key in project management to meet the project deliverables, set the goals, be realistic on time and adjust where needed.

The team experienced technical network connectivity challenges (via Teleconference, GoToMeeting, Skype) thus a decision was taken to communicate via WhatsApp.

2.5 To improve on Communication and Coordination, a meeting program was developed as indicated in the attached Project Organization document (Appendix B: Par.7).

2.6 The project dependencies are listed below with comments:

NO	DESCRIPTION (DELIVERABLE)	DEPENDENCY
1	Monthly Implementation Status report of HF &VHF stations (Voice & data Link)	Projects questionnaires sent to States / Organizations and their response.
2	Monthly Implementation/Operation status of CPDLC Circuits	Projects questionnaires sent to States / Organizations and their response.
3	Monthly Implementation/sharing and operation of Remote VHF and HF systems	Projects questionnaires sent to States / Organizations and their response.
4	Develop HF DL and VHF DL States Requirement Manual / Guidance	-The coordinator to appoint a lead; nominated by the project team members. -Team Participation and Inputs, in the development of HF DL and VFD FL states requirement manual / guidance.



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2.7 The project task deliverables are attached as Appendix A to E for the meeting consideration, i.e:

- 2.7.1 Appendix A: Project Description
- 2.7.2 Appendix B: Project Organization
- 2.7.3 Appendix C: Project Terms of Reference
- 2.7.4 Appendix D: Project Linkage
- 2.7.5 Appendix E: Project Questionnaire

3 ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Take note of the information provided;
- b) Review the above information and provide comments on the project task deliverables (Appendix A to E) document;
- c) Encourage the Secretariat to send the Questionnaire to the AFI States and AFI States to respond to the questionnaire that will assist with the implementation of Air/Ground communication aimed at ensuring Air Traffic Control within AFI region.

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