



INFORMATION PAPER

**SPECIAL AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN (AFI)
REGIONAL AIR NAVIGATION (RAN) MEETING**

Durban, South Africa, 24 to 29 November 2008

Agenda Item 6: Development of a set of comprehensive work programmes in the air navigation field, aimed at improving efficiency of the air navigation system (Efficiency Committee)

**NECESSITY FOR A COOPERATIVE APPROACH TO RESOLVE
IMPLEMENTATION PROBLEMS OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS**

(Presented by Senegal)

SUMMARY

This paper highlights certain requirements for which AFI States experience difficulties for their implementation and, therefore, presents a proposal for the establishment of a cooperative approach to address concerns related to conformity compliance.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 States are required, within the framework of their sovereign mission, to establish a civil aviation system with the capability to efficiently oversee the safety of all aviation related activities.

1.2 The WP/24 published by the secretariat contains the results of the USOAP audits for 38 AFI States. The results clearly indicate areas for which States must emphasize in order to improve the rate of conformity of effective implementation of the critical elements.

1.3 The highest rates of lack of effective implementation of the critical elements are found in areas related to « technical personnel qualification and training » and « resolution of safety concerns.

1.4 It may be necessary, within the cooperation framework, to group states together so as to improve the availability of qualified personnel and to enable the implementation of other correlated critical elements.

1.5 There are existing States regroupings for air navigation provision (for example, ASECNA, the FIR Roberts Organization). Such groupings have improved the level of service provided to the users.

2 DISCUSSION

2.1 One of the main concerns encountered by States for ensuring an effective safety oversight system in the AFI region is the lack of adequate human and technical resources within Civil Aviation Authorities.

2.2 The Meeting of Directors General of Civil Aviation in 2006 recommended various solutions to overcome these concerns, such the exchange of safety information, pooling of human and technical resources and, especially for some key competencies, the pooling of experts from various States.

2.3 The WP/12 published by the secretariat highlights the need for cooperation among States in order to overcome the lack of resources for the conception of instrument flight procedures. The establishment of a regional entity, such the Africa ICAO Flight Procedure Office, as proposed in WP/12, would have a significant advantage as it will provide States with required technical expertise at a low cost.

2.4 The entry in force of new standards relating to the provision of terrain and obstacles electronic data will require qualified personnel and significant resources. In order to implement these requirements, AFI States need to pool their resources.

2.5 At APIRG/16 meeting, the States noted the lack of determination and reporting of runway pavement bearing strength and friction characteristics and were invited to consider cooperative approach for activities related to the evaluation of runway pavement characteristics and the acquisition of associated measuring equipment, if appropriate.

2.6 The APIRG/16 meeting also noted the low level of implementation by AFI States of the requirements for aerodrome certification and safety management. APIRG/16 meeting recommended the establishment of a regional cooperation.

2.7 The pooling of human and technical resources could be implemented, within the cooperation framework of the Civil Aviation Authorities. For this reason, States should be encouraged to use this way in order to be able to face present and future challenges such as the implementation of plans related to PBN, surveillance and safety level monitoring, with respect to RVSM implementation.

3 CONCLUSION

3.1 There are many challenges induced by the implementation of numerous obligations which require more experts and significant resources. Therefore, AFI States cannot face these challenges without pooling their resources.

3.2 For this reason, a cooperative approach must be developed. The following recommendation is proposed:

Recommendation 6/ : Cooperative approach with a view to implementing obligations which require high level expertise and significant resources.

It is recommended that:

- States adopt a cooperative approach in resolving concerns related to implementing obligations which require a high level expertise and significant resources.

- ICAO and AFCAC, to the extent possible, provide States with experts to assist them with implementing requirements;

- ICAO and AFCAC assist States to facilitate the establishment of cooperation framework in areas requiring technical expertise.