



International
Civil Aviation
Organization

Organisation
de l'aviation civile
internationale

Organización
de Aviación Civil
Internacional

Международная
организация
гражданской
авиации

منظمة الطيران
المدني الدولي

国际民用
航空组织

Eastern and Southern African Regional Office/Bureau régional Afrique orientale et australe

Ref.: ES AN 1/6 - 0238

10 April 2014

Subject: Extraordinary Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean (AFI) Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/EO) (Lusaka, Zambia, 3-4 July 2014)

Action Required: Reply to confirm participation not later than 30 May 2014

Sir/Madam

I have the honour to inform you that the AFI Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG) will hold an Extraordinary Meeting (APIRG/EO) from 3 to 4 July 2014 in Lusaka, Zambia, at the kind invitation of the Zambia Department of Civil Aviation. Your Administration/Organization is invited to participate at this meeting.

2. As you may recall, at its nineteenth meeting, (APIRG/19, Dakar, Senegal, 28-31 October 2013), APIRG formulated Decision 19/48 which reads as follows:

DECISION 19/48: RE-ORGANIZATION OF APIRG

That:

- a) **The APIRG review its working methods and organization using project management principles and other methodologies as and when necessary, and consider making adjustments to better support the ICAO performance framework in its planning and implementation activities aligned with the Aviation System Block Upgrades (ASBUs); and**
- b) **The Secretariat:**
 - i) **develop a revised structure of the APIRG taking due account of best practices/benchmarking, established regional targets and priorities, and the need for synergies between similar or complementary activities; and**
 - ii) **Accordingly call for an APIRG extraordinary meeting on this issue in 2014.**

3. It was also recognized that the APIRG schedule needs to be revised in order to be effectively synchronized with the annual reporting schedule in accordance with the ICAO Global Air Navigation Plan (Doc 9750). Similarly, as the standardization effort is completed at the global level, APIRG needs to rationalize its Sub-Groups away from technologies and towards operational performance.

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4. In view of the above, the Extraordinary Meeting of the APIRG will review the current structure and discuss the proposals developed by the Secretariat for a revised structure and the new working methods of the Group. The Draft Agenda for the meeting is provided as an **Attachment** to this letter. An Information Bulletin providing relevant information to participants will be sent to you separately.

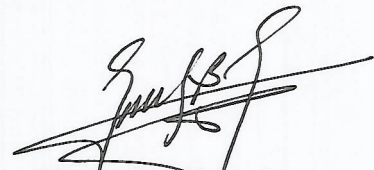
5. The ICAO Council and the Air Navigation Commission (ANC) have in the past emphasized on the need and importance of members of ICAO bodies to endeavour to meet their obligations by attending meetings of the respective bodies. In recognition of the need for all States to make a contribution to the work of the Planning and Implementation Regional Groups (PIRGs), the Council agreed that all ICAO Contracting States that are service providers in an air navigation region and part of that region's air navigation plan (ANP) should be included in the membership of that region's PIRG. Furthermore, user States are entitled to participate in any of the PIRG meetings as non-members, while International Organizations recognized by the Council may be invited as necessary to attend such meetings as observers. It is therefore, expected that all AFI States will attend this particular meeting.

6. The meeting will be conducted in English and French languages, and documentations will also be issued in the same languages. The relevant documents for the meeting will be posted on the ICAO websites (<http://www.icao.int/esaf> and <http://www.icao.int/wacaf>) as soon as they are available.

7. No working papers in hard copy will be distributed during the meeting. Participants are therefore advised to download the working papers from the websites and bring with them electronic devices to facilitate access to the Internet.

8. Kindly advise us of your Administration's/Organization's intention to participate at the Extraordinary APIRG meeting as soon as possible but in any case not later than **30 May 2014**, giving the names and functions of your participant(s), and request them to register online at <http://www.icao.int/ESAF/reg/Pages/default.aspx>

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Meshesha Belayneh
ICAO Regional Director
Eastern and Southern African Office
and Secretary of the APIRG

Attachment: Tentative Agenda



ATTACHMENT

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

**EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING OF THE AFRICA-INDIAN OCEAN PLANNING AND
IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP
(Lusaka, Zambia, 3-4 July 2014)**

DRAFT PROVISIONAL AGENDA

AGENDA ITEM	SUBJECT
1.	Introduction
2.	Review of the current Structure of the APIRG
3.	Presentation and Discussion of the Proposals developed by the Secretariat for a revised Structure and new Working Methods of the APIRG
4.	Transitional Arrangements
5.	Date and Venue for the future meeting of the APIRG
6.	Any other business