



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Third Meeting of APIRG Infrastructure and Information Management Sub Group (IIM/SG/3)
(Virtual Meeting, 12-14 October 2020)

Agenda Item 04: Status of Implementation of the regional projects adopted by APIRG: AFI
Aeronautical Communication Navigation Surveillance, Infrastructure, Spectrum and systems
Regional Projects (CNS)

Works of the Aeronautical Frequency Management Project- SPEC Project

(Presented by Gerald Agaba – Coordinator SPEC Project)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the SPEC project's works- development of policies, systems to protect
Aeronautical Spectrum. The SPECs project is one of the projects identified within the
Infrastructure and Information Management (IIM) subgroup of APIRG. This project aims to
ensure that the Aeronautical frequency spectrum is free from harmful and any form of
interference. A virtual meeting had been set for 10 -11 September 2020 to discuss the initiation
documentation, which includes; the project description, Terms of Reference for the project, and
project organization documentation. The meeting, however, didn't take off due to low corium.

Action by the meeting

The meeting is invited to:

- a. Note the content of this working paper
b. Request state/ administrations present to nominate persons/ experts to form part of this
project before the end of this meeting.
c. Consider the attached draft establishment documentation for review by States and
submission of comments for consideration in its rescheduled first meeting to be held
before the end of October 2020.

REFERENCE(S):

- Report of 21st Meeting of APIRG.
▪ Report of the 2nd meeting of APIRG IIM Subgroup.
▪ Terms of Reference for APRIG IIM Subgroup.

Related ICAO Strategic Objective (s):

Related ASBU KPIs & B0 Modules: All applicable to AIM, CNS, and MET

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The 21st APIRG meeting held in Nairobi in October 2017 endorsed the SPEC project following
development and approval by the 1st IIM meeting and the APIRG Projects Coordination Committee
(APCC) in line with the regional priorities and targets related to ICAO ASBU priorities for the AFI
region.



- 1.2 The second meeting of the Infrastructure and Information Management (IIM) meeting held on 09 - 11 July 2018 developed decision 2/04 to improve the coordination mechanisms of the IIM projects and conclusion 2/05 on the effective coordination of the IIM Spectrum project.
- 1.3 A virtual meeting was scheduled by the SPEC project coordinator for 10-11 September 2020; however, the turn up for the meeting was low. The primary purpose of the meeting was to kick start the project by endorsing the initiation documentation.

## 2. DISCUSSION

- 2.1 The IIM Aeronautical Frequency Management Project was established by the APIRG IIM subgroup meeting with the aim of developing policies and systems to protect the aeronautical spectrum. The project's expected deliverables were tied to ensuring that the regional aeronautical frequency bands are free from harmful interference and any form of interference.
- 2.2 The key objectives of the project, as outlined in the draft project description of the project initiation documentation, are
  - a) To develop a resilient framework for the coordination of Aeronautical frequencies in the region.
  - b) Establish a forum and logical infrastructure to coordinate aeronautical frequencies with State regulators, Sub-regional, and Regional frequency management bodies.
  - c) To ensure States are conversant with ICAO tools on frequency management.
  - d) Establish a forum for coordination and support of ICAO positions for the forthcoming World Radio Conferences (WRC).
  - e) Undertake studies on the effect of possible interferences to aeronautical frequency bands from adjacent bands.
- 2.3 As part of the work programme for projects under the IIM subgroup, some essential tasks were prioritized as the highest priority for the smooth implementation. These were; project coordination framework, Project description documentation, project planning documentation, and project baseline determination. The aftermost task description can be implemented in project initiation documentation, which includes terms of reference for the project, project organization, and project description documentation. The drafts for these documentations are as attached as Appendix A- C to this working paper.
- 2.4 The project initiation documentation was shared with the SPEC project experts whose names and contacts were obtained at the first IIM subgroup meeting held in Nairobi back in 2017 for review and consideration before the scheduled first virtual meeting for the project scheduled for 10 – 11 September 2020. Except for a few responses from a few States, other contacts were unresponsive. The first virtual meeting was also planned but was canceled due to low turn up.



2.5 Due to the low number of expert involvement at the first SPEC meeting and the development of the project initiation documentation, a call can be made at this meeting for states to submit experts' names to form part of the SPEC project. To consider and approve the initiation documentation, a meeting will be called to consider them as may be amended after review before the end of October 2020.

### 3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the content of this working paper.
- b) Request state/ administrations present to nominate persons knowledgeable in frequency matters to form part of this project before the end of this meeting.
- c) Consider the attached draft establishment documentation for review by States and submission of comments for consideration in its rescheduled first meeting to be held from 28-29 October 2020.

3.2 **Draft Decision 3/01:** *Submission of Names of experts to form part of the SPEC project.*

**That;**

***The meeting requests the States represented in this meeting to submit experts' names to form part of the SPEC project and review the draft TOR, Project Description, and Project planning documentation for consideration on the forthcoming SPEC project Virtual meeting to be host before the end of the month.***

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