



**The Fourth Meeting of ICAO AIS-AIM Implementation
Task Force (AAITF/5)**

Beijing, China, 25-26 June 2010

Agenda item 9: Any other business

New AIRAC Effective Time of Republic of Korea

(Presented by Republic of Korea)

SUMMARY

Republic of Korea is going to apply new AIRAC effective time and date as soon as practical, but no later than end of this year, in order to improve operational efficiency and to seek regional harmonization.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 At the AAITF/3 in 2008, the lack of AIRAC effective time harmonization issue among Asia Pacific States has been raised for the first time.

1.2 A study by Republic of Korea presented to AAITF/4 in February 2009 showed five (5) States are applying different time or date from UTC0001 because it is the time when their airports or airways are congested, or start to be congested, and is not appropriate for them to commence complex implementations.

1.3 Discussions to find a single AIRAC date/time among the concerned States had been placed during the 20th APANPIRG Meeting in June 2009, but a rigid specific time to suit all States' circumstances was not achievable. Immediate dialogue among the concerned States to find a solution was urged by the meeting.

1.4 To follow up this urgent request, Republic of Korea had held series of internal and external meetings to find a best way to bridge the time gap.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Among the five (5) States applying different AIRAC application time, Republic of Korea is the only one that issues AIRAC later than UTC0001 of the AIRAC date.

2.2 Understanding that even Republic of Korea still meets the AIRAC date on DOC 8126, the way of its application could bring unexpected disorder, Republic of Korea decided to move its application date to one day earlier.

- 2.3 As to application time, Republic of Korea learned from its study presented to AAITF/4 that no single time satisfies the concerned State's needs. Specially, considering geographical location of the Republic of Korea, neither UTC1500 nor UTC1600 can present a perfect harmonization at the Korea-China-Japan region.
- 2.4 In this light, Republic of Korea looked on traffic volume statistics and the contents of recently issued AIRAC amendment in order to choose the right time which can improve operational efficiency as well as secure safety.
- 2.5 The results showed that Incheon FIR's traffic volume of UTC1500 for the last six(6) months is 193% larger than that of UTC 1600. Moreover, the recent AIRAC amendments were on complex implementation such as new airport open, TMA lateral/vertical adjustment, TWR frequency change and SID changes.
- 2.6 Operational authorities including ATC facilities, flight procedure design divisions and safety management sections expressed their severe concern about applying these important and safety-concerned changes at UTC1500 which is busier than UTC1600.
- 2.7 In this regards, new AIRAC effective time of Republic of Korea was decided as UTC1600 of one day earlier than AIRAC date. And this new AIRAC date and time will be into forced as soon as possible, but no later than end of this year.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to note this information.