



International Civil Aviation Organization

**FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS/NAVIGATION/SURVEILLANCE AND
METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP (CNS/MET SG/15) OF APANPIRG**

Bangkok, Thailand, 25 – 29 July 2011

Agenda Item 7: Aeronautical electromagnetic spectrum utilization

2) review result of the various Regional Preparatory Group Meetings

**BRIEF REPORT ON 3RD AND 4TH APT CONFERENCE
PREPARATORY GROUP MEETINGS FOR WRC – 2012**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

Third meeting of APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-2012 was held in Bangkok from 8 to 12 March 2010 and the fourth meeting of the Group was held in Hong Kong, China from 13 to 18 December 2010. This paper briefly discusses significant outcome of the two meetings.

This paper relates to:

Strategic Objectives:

A-Safety

C-Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of Air Transport

Global Plan Initiatives:

GPI – 23 Aeronautical radio spectrum

1. Introduction

1.1 Third Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) Conference Preparatory Group Meeting for the ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2012 (APG2012-3) was held in Bangkok, Thailand from 8 to 12 March 2010. The meeting was attended by 283 participants representing Members, Associate and Affiliate Members of APT and International/Regional Organizations. About fifteen participants representing aviation related agencies, with eight participants from State civil aviation authorities attended the meeting.

1.2 Fourth meeting of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) Conference Preparatory Group for WRC – 2012 (APG2012-4) was held in Hong Kong, China from 13 to 18 December, 2010. Meeting was attended by 342 participants representing Members, Associate and Affiliate Members of APT and International/Regional Organizations. Participants included representatives from 25 National Frequency Spectrum authorities in the Asia/Pacific Region as well as representatives of ITU, CEPT, CITEL and industry and their representative bodies.

2. Discussion

APG2012 – 3

2.1 Main objectives of the APG2012-3 meeting were to review the result of the APG2012-2 meeting, to undertake a review of issues associated with each WRC-12 Agenda Item and to continue preparation of draft APT Preliminary views, where considered appropriate. APG2012-3 also undertook initial review of issues related to activities of the Radiocommunication Assembly (RA) and reviewed the APG work-plan for the work items. Meeting was informed about the 30th the Anniversary of APT organized with the Ministerial Meeting on the subject “Strengthening Regional Collaboration towards Broadband Economy” held on 12 and 13 November, 2009 in Bali, Indonesia.

2.2 ICAO was represented in the meeting by a Technical Officer from Headquarters and two Regional Officers from the ICAO Asia/Pacific Office.

2.3 Two ICAO Information Papers, one on ICAO position on WRC-2012 Agenda Items of interest to civil aviation and the other bringing out ICAO contribution to ITU-R WP4C on WRC-2012 Agenda Item 1.7 (*AMS(R)S*) were presented to the meeting. Views presented in the Information Paper were taken into account while reviewing APG preliminary position on the relevant items. APG2012-3/INF-06 covered a number of issues and major concerns on sharing of spectrum by other services with aeronautical safety service applications. The need to eliminate harmful interference to aeronautical services by stations of other services operating in these aeronautical bands was emphasized. A general concern was to have sufficient spectrum available for the different aeronautical services, including the emergency services. It was emphasized that there should not be any change in the existing aeronautical allocations. APT Administrations were requested to support ICAO preliminary position while developing APT preliminary views/draft proposals on matters of interest to aviation.

2.4 APT preliminary views on various agenda items developed in the Second meeting were reviewed by the six working parties and the related drafting groups. With the limited number of available aviation representatives, attending all the relevant drafting group meetings became little difficult (many times, such meetings were being held simultaneously). However, aviation concerns were raised at the most of the relevant drafting group meetings.

2.5 On Agenda Item 1.7, the relevant drafting group was informed through an Information Paper (APG2012-3/INF-05) about the contributions made by ICAO to the ITU WP4C. It was informed that the main thrust was given to Method ‘b’ in ICAO contribution. Method ‘b’ was also supported by New Zealand and Japan.

2.6 In addition to contributing towards the drafting of APG views on Agenda Item 1.7, contributions were also made in the review/modification of preliminary APG position on other agenda items of interest to civil aviation.

APG2012-4

2.7 APG2012-4 was organized in Hong Kong, China from 13 to 18 December, 2010. Main objectives of the meeting included reviewing the results of APG2012 – 3 meeting, to undertake a review of issues associated with each WRC-12 Agenda Item and to continue preparation of draft APT Preliminary Views, where considered appropriate. The meeting also reviewed the Draft Report of the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) and developed proposed modification to the Draft Report. The CPM was held from 14 to 25 February 2011.

2.8 ICAO was represented by a Technical Officer from Headquarters and a Regional Officer from ICAO APAC Office. Four Information Papers were presented by ICAO to clarify and promote the ICAO position in context with the CPM draft methods.

2.9 It was observed that APT APG preliminary position on various WRC-2012 Agenda Item is reasonably well in line with the ICAO position. The main items of interest during this meeting were Agenda Items 1.3(*UAS*), 1.4(*AM(R)S*) and 1.7(*AMS(R)S*). Status of various WRC-2012 Agenda Items and recommendations on the CPM methods is being presented through Working Paper 29 separately.

2.10 While there is still little agreement within the Region on which methods should be used to solve agenda item 1.3, there is little or no support for draft CPM methods A2 and A3, which are the only methods firmly against the ICAO Position. As regards Agenda Item 1.4, there is a comfortable consensus within the region that compatibility has been successfully demonstrated for AM(R)S in the 112 – 117.975 MHz and the 960 – 1164 MHz bands. There is no consensus however whether aviation needs additional spectrum in the 5000 – 5010 MHz band. In relation to Agenda Item 1.7, Japan, Iran and New Zealand are firm allies of Method B as developed by aviation and ICAO, while Indonesia is a staunch supporter of Method A, claiming that current aviation access and priority are sufficient. Australia, Malaysia and Korea are undecided; however they appear to lean more towards method A or possibly some sort of compromise between the two methods.

2.11 Several other Agenda Items which may affect aviation to some extent were also addressed. Generally APT views on those items appear to be in line with the ICAO position.

2.12 With regards to Agenda Item 1.12 (*37 – 38 GHz*), most APT administrations are of the view that the 37 – 38 GHz mobile allocation should be modified to exclude aeronautical mobile. This is in line with the compatibility report developed by ITU-R WP 5C and WP 7B, which draw conclusion that the required power flux density (pfd) limits would be too low for any practical support for aeronautical communication in the band. The band was initially being explored for the Wireless Avionics Intra Communication (WAIC) usage by airframe manufacturers.

2.13 Fifth meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory Group (APG-5) is scheduled to be held from 29 August to 3 September, 2011 in Busan, Republic of Korea. States are requested to nominate contact focal points in their administration to attend the meeting and support ICAO position on Agenda Items of critical interest to civil aviation. The updated ICAO position on WRC-2012 Agenda Items of critical interest to civil aviation is being presented to the meeting through WP30.

3. Action Required by the Meeting

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the outcome of APG2012-3 and APG2012-4 meetings and may like to strongly project and protect ICAO position on WRC-2012 Agenda Items of critical interest to civil aviation and ensure selection of CPM Methods which are recommended by ICAO.
