



International Civil Aviation Organization

COM Co-ordination Meeting

6 – 7 March 2013, Kunming, China



Agenda Item 3: Develop an action plan for restoration of Yangon/Beijing AFS data circuit

REVIEW STATUS OF BEIJING/YANGON AFS DATA CIRCUIT

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper recalls the current status of Yangon/Beijing AFS data circuit and emphasized the need for restoration of its normal operation.

1. Introduction

1.1 The AFTN circuit between Beijing and Yangon had been out of service since 14 July 2008 due to the CU board of the VSAT system being out of order. The AFTN traffic between China and Myanmar is exchanged via alternate routing through Bangkok. There was no immediate plan in place to get the failed CU board repaired to restore the circuit.

1.2 The circuit is specified in the regional Air Navigation Plan - FASID Table CNS 1A. In addition to the normal AFTN traffic between Myanmar and Z AFS Routing Area, the circuit also plays a critical role as the alternate routing for Bangkok-Yangon circuit.

1.3 The prolonged outage status has to be resolved as soon as possible as it was considered important to avoid situation of single point of failure.

2. Discussion

2.1 With rapid development of air traffic to/from Yangon and air traffic along ATS Rout A599, it was strong recommended to get this circuit recovered as early as possible. Following recommendation to DCA Myanmar was made during a recent ICAO mission to Myanmar. Myanmar was urged to take urgent action and China was requested to take collaborated action to re-establish the circuit in order to enhance flight safety and operational efficiency.

Recommendation 2 – AFTN/AMHS connection between Yangon and Beijing

That,

- a) the Administration takes urgent action to have the AFTN/AMHS connection between Beijing and Yangon resumed for normal operation. The circuit is specified in the Regional Air Navigation Plan and its prolonged outage is not acceptable as there is no alternate routing for Yangon/Bangkok AFTN circuit; and
- b) ICAO Regional Office is requested to facilitate coordination with China for upgrading of VSAT system and/or establishment of the connection via leased landline.

Reliability Requirements for Critical Circuits supported by VSAT Links

2.2 VSAT is one of the reliable means of communications employed by several States in the APAC Region to support AFS, AMS and Surveillance services. Therefore, spare parts for critical modules and elements such as redundant channel cards, RF unit should be readily available for replacement to ensure rapid restoration during breakdown. A reliable power supply system was also considered an essential factor. It should be recognized that for those VSAT stations providing links for VHF RCAG, Radar data relay links, ATS direct speech and critical AFTN circuits with a same satellite network; an alternative communication link should be provided in order to assure required reliability. In light of above consideration, the following recommendation was made in accordance with the APANPIRG Conclusion adopted in year 2000 which is also included Basic ANP as mentioned in WP/02:

Conclusion 11/15 - Alternative arrangements for VSAT

That, States consider the provision of an alternative communication links for:

- a) critical AFS communications which are supported by a single VSAT system between States; and*
- b) remote control air-ground (RCAG) VHF stations supported by a single VSAT link.*

2.3 Accordingly, the meeting wish to consider following recommendation on redundant arrangement for critical VSAT Links.

Recommendation XX – Redundant arrangements for critical VSAT Links

That, the States be urged to make redundant arrangement for the VSAT circuits used in ATM systems in following up APANPIRG Conclusion 11/15 formulated in year 2000.

3. Action by the meeting

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information contained this paper and discuss/develop solution for the Yangon/Beijing AFS Data Circuit.

3.2 The meeting is also requested to note that the requirement for ATN/AMHS should be also met through establishment of new arrangement.
