



International Civil Aviation Organization

**The Second Meeting of the APANPIRG ATM Sub-Group
(ATM /SG/2)**

Hong Kong, China, 04-08 August 2014

Agenda Item 4: ATM Systems (Modernisation, Seamless ATM, CNS, ATFM)

ARABIAN SEA INDIAN OCEAN UPR UPDATE

(Presented by India)

SUMMARY

This paper presents details of the User Preferred Route (UPR) Geographic Zone established in Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean. The UPR Zone established by ASIOACG-INSPIRE members extended over 10 FIRs, and was a result of extensive coordination and collaboration among member ANSPs, participating Airlines and IATA all located in different time zones, three ICAO Regions APAC, AFI and MID East.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Arabian Sea - Indian Ocean ATS Coordination Group (ASIOACG) was a group of ANSPs, and the Indian Ocean Strategic Partnership to Reduce Emissions (INSPIRE) was a collaborative network of partners and peer organizations was founded by three ANSP partners – Airservices Australia, Air Traffic and Navigation Services South Africa and Airports Authority of India.

1.2 To review the work undertaken during 2013, a combined 8th meeting of ASIOACG and the 4th meeting of INSPIRE was held during 27-29 November 2014 in Melbourne, followed by Working Group meeting during 4-5 June 2014, in Doha, Qatar.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 To develop a UPR Zone from concept stage to promulgation, it took 23 months (01 December 2011 - 17 October 2013) for ASIOACG-INSPIRE member ANSPs to promulgate the Arabian Sea Indian Ocean (ASIO) UPR Geo Zone. The ASIO UPR Geo Zone spans over 10 FIRs and covered airspace of about 13 million square nautical miles, where the user airlines could fly their preferred routes to save time, fuel and reducing carbon emissions (**Figure 1**).

2.2 Currently, about 1300 flights operated UPRs within the ASIO UPR Geo Zone every month. Reports from participating airlines confirmed there were combined average annual savings of 8,500 tonnes of fuel, equivalent to 27,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions savings by flying UPRs in the ASIO UPR Zone. The establishment of the ASIO UPR Geo Zone was a challenging task that was converted into an opportunity by ANSPs to increase their cooperation and collaboration. Increased bonding among stakeholders has paved the way to address many issues. For example, ASIOACG-INSPIRE had developed a standard Letter of Agreement on AIDC Messaging, and the Airports Authority of India had provided training in PBN Implementation to Maldives and Qatar Airways.

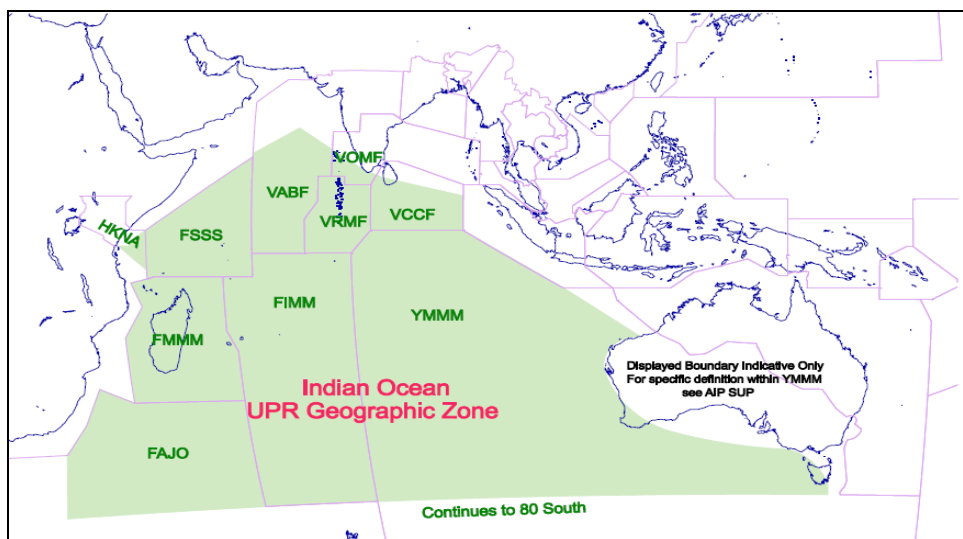


Figure 1: Arabian Sea Indian Ocean Upr Geographic Zone

2.3 The procedure developed by ANSPs to facilitate UPR flights was similar and an effective way to provide a seamless environment for flight crew throughout their flying within the UPR Geo Zone. The ASIOACG secretariat maintained a Capacity Enhancement Table which was used as a road map to identify the Enhancement Initiatives by each member ANSP, and pursued by member Airlines and IATA.

2.4 Encouraged by the success of ASIO UPR Geo Zone, IATA Johannesburg is trying for its extension up to continental airspace of Africa. To utilize the strong summer jet streams over Saudi Arabia, the southern portion of Muscat FIR, Oman and Sanaa FIR, Qatar Airways has already requested an extension of the ASIO UPR Geo Zone towards the northern part of the ASIO UPR Geo Zone.

2.5 The next meeting of ASIOACG- INSPIRE was scheduled in September 2014, and would be hosted by India in conjunction with BOBASIO at Kolkata.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) note the success of the informal group ASIOACG and INSPIRE partnership in bringing ANSPs and Airspace users together and forging a very successful result oriented work programme (the camaraderie shown by all the members of ASIOACG-INSPIRE across 10 FIRs has demonstrated that informal groups like ASPIRE, INSPIRE, ASIOACG and BOBASIO etc have the capability to become effective change agents);
- c) note that the UPR project also won Global excellence award for “Strategic advancement in Air Transport” at ATC Global, Amsterdam in March 2013, and for UPR Geo Zone related work IHS Janes award was given to ASIOACG and was jointly received by Airservices Australia, Air Traffic and Navigation Services South Africa and Airports Authority of India on behalf of ASIOACG-INSPIRE members ANSPs, Airlines and IATA; and
- d) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

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