



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

**TWENTY SIXTH MEETING OF THE ASIA/PACIFIC AIR NAVIGATION
PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP
(APANPIRG/26)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 7 – 10 September 2015

**Agenda Item 3: Performance Framework for Regional Air Navigation Planning and
Implementation**
3.2: ATM
**FLEXIBLE USE OF AIRSPACE (FUA) ACTIVITIES AND SUPPORT BY
ICAO APAC REGIONAL SUB-OFFICE (RSO)**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents implementation support activities on Flexible Use of Airspace (FUA) provided by ICAO APAC RSO. The activities include seminars and workshops conducted by ICAO APAC RSO to support States in their FUA implementation. This paper also outlines the support capability available from ICAO APAC RSO and seeks suggestions from APANPIRG on other activities that may be considered helpful for APAC States.

Strategic Objectives:

- A: **Safety** – Enhance global civil aviation safety
- B: **Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency**—Increase the capacity and improve the efficiency of the global aviation system
- E: **Environmental Protection** — minimize the adverse environment effects of civil aviation activities.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Civil and Military Cooperation (CMAC) has been accorded one of the highest priorities in the APAC Region as is described and highlighted in ATM Seamless Plan. The strategic mandates of the ICAO APAC Regional Sub-Office (RSO) include assisting States in improving access to airspace via effective civil and military coordination and Flexible Use of Airspace. To achieve this goal, the RSO has been working actively with States and its international partners. Activities include conducting a CMAC/FUA Workshop for the whole APAC Region as well as individual State-specific workshops for some APAC Member States.

2. DISCUSSION

Asia/Pacific Civil/Military Cooperation Lecture and Seminar

2.1 The Asia/Pacific Civil/Military Cooperation Lecture and Seminar was held from 19 to 21 November 2014 at the ICAO APAC RSO, Beijing, China. The Lecture and Seminar was

attended by 48 participants from 10 States and administrations, and 4 International Organizations. The participants included a broad mix of Civil and Military Authorities, Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs), civil/military airspace managers and airspace users. It was convened by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), with support from the European Organization for the Safety of Air Navigation (EUROCONTROL), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the German Air Navigation Services (DFS) and the ASEAN Air Transport Integration Project (AATIP).

2.2 This event was mainly aimed to provide useful guidance based on ICAO Circular 330 with a special focus on Conditional Routes (CDR) and Airspace Management Cells (AMC) operations and to share the best practices from the APAC Region as well as Europe. In this regard, ICAO presented an overview of Circular 330 with a special focus on ICAO's institutional and regulatory framework as well as airspace organization and management. EUROCONTROL and AATIP presented on current FUA implementation in Europe based on successful applications and the advanced FUA concept developed by EUROCONTROL. China, India, Japan, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Thailand and USA shared improvements in CMAC/FUA achieved in their countries, the current situation and future plans, their experiences and lessons learned.

2.3 The Lecture and Seminar discussed in depth the problems faced and concerns of States based on the current situation, future developments and likely obstacles in this region. The Seminar identified key points and made relevant recommendations aiming to facilitate the implementation of FUA and improvements to CMAC. These key points covered the foundation of successful civil/military coordination, the consistency of CMAC/FUA terminology and data structure, the necessary linkage between ASM, ATFM and ATS, the proper communication process and data sharing mechanism and the importance of governmental support for CMAC/FUA at the policy level.

2.4 The Seminar recognized the value of ICAO Circular 330 for the States' development and regional implementation of CMAC and FUA processes, The seminar also urged ICAO, States and other relevant international organizations to commit the necessary resources to support the enhancement to this circular. As the education imparted and information shared during this seminar were considered very useful, the Seminar invited ICAO to consider organising similar civil and military cooperation and coordination events for the APAC in the future.

CMAC/FUA Workshop for Myanmar

2.5 Noting the effectiveness of the CMAC Lecture and Workshop Asia Pacific 2014, Myanmar approached ICAO APAC RSO to conduct a CMAC/FUA workshop in Yangon on 28 - 29 July 2015. A total of 40 participants, including a mix of civil and military regulators, airspace managers, civil and military air traffic controllers, civil and military pilots, airlines and air defense related personnel attended this workshop.

2.6 This Workshop was aimed to facilitate the implementation of Flexible Use of Airspace (FUA) through effective Civil and Military Cooperation (CMAC) in Myanmar. The Workshop was conducted in Yangon to allow greater participation from both civil and military stakeholders in Myanmar, and thus broaden the awareness of ICAO's provision on CMAC, FUA and worldwide best practices.

2.7 The Workshop captured several key points, including :

- 1) recognizing the potential of Conditional Routes (CDRs) as a way to increase flight operations efficiency and to enhance civil/military coordination;

- 2) emphasizing the importance of the 7 prerequisites identified by ICAO for FUA implementation and highlighted the necessity for the establishment of a National CMAC body within Myanmar; and
- 3) reemphasizing the need for governmental support at the policy and decision-making levels to facilitate effective civil/military coordination to ensure the efficient use of the national airspace as a resource.

2.8 ICAO APAC RSO took the opportunity to discuss with participants the current state of CMAC/FUA in Myanmar and future intentions in order to identify possible obstacles and to work with Myanmar DCA to improve FUA implementation where necessary. Myanmar DCA requested ICAO APAC RSO to assist Myanmar with the following activities:

- **Activity A:** Path-finding for State FUA and CMAC including conducting a gap analysis and developing a work plan
- **Activity B:** Assist in the establishment of a National CMAC Committee, including developing its Terms of Reference and drafting State FUA manual

Future Activities

2.9 The ICAO APAC RSO will continue to assist States with CMAC/FUA implementation in line with APAC ATM Seamless Plan and at the request of States. These assistance activities may include CMAC/FUA foundation education/workshops based on ICAO's Circular 330 and associated provisions on in-depth understanding and application of FUA or based on other specific requirements from States.

2.10 In addition to FUA Workshops, other implementation support activities related to FUA which can be made available to APAC States through ICAO APAC RSO include:

- **Activity A:** Path-finding for State FUA and CMAC including conducting a gap analysis and developing a work plan
- **Activity B:** Assist in the establishment of a National CMAC Committee, including developing its Terms of Reference and drafting State FUA Manual
- **Activity C:** Assistance on establishment of CDR routes
- **Activity D:** Assistance on Review and Reclassification of Non-FUA areas (PDR) to FUA areas (P, TRA, TSA)

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) encourage APAC States to request FUA implementation support from RSO where considered beneficial;
- c) suggest any other FUA support activities which RSO may consider providing; and
- d) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.