



ICAO

**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION**

**Twenty seventh Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/27) and Tenth Meeting of the Regional Aviation Safety Group for the Africa-Indian Region (RASG-AFI/10), Joint sessions**

**4 and 8 November 2024**

**Agenda Item 3: APIRG and RASG-AFI Coordination**

**3.4. AFI Airspace Monitoring**

**NOTIFICATION OF SPACE VEHICLE LAUNCHES**

*(Presented by The United States)*

<b>SUMMARY</b>	
<p>This information paper presents clarification to the United States use of “diplomatic notification” as outlined in Recommendation 3.1 e) of WP031B presented at the Twenty sixth Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/26) and Nineth Meeting of the Regional Aviation Safety Group for the Africa-Indian Region (RASG-AFI/9) joint session, November 2023.</p> <p><b>Action by the Meeting:</b> The meeting is invited to note the information.</p>	
<b>References:</b>	APIRG/26 Report.
<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	<b>A-</b> Aviation Safety, <b>B-</b> Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency, <b>C-</b> Security and Facilitation, <b>D-</b> Economic Development.

**1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The United States (U.S.) continues to believe that existing International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Standards and Recommended Procedures (SARPs) when utilized properly, afford States the ability to coordinate the necessary notifications for space operations to be conducted in a safe and efficient manner.

## **2. DISCUSSION**

2.1. In APIRG/26 WP031B, paragraph 3.1 (e) the U.S. invited the meeting to “recommend that States conducting or supporting space launches consider coordinating using direct email and AMHS in addition to diplomatic notifications.” The U.S. would like to clarify that the specific diplomatic notification referred to in this recommendation is the pre-launch notification outlined in the International Code of Conduct Against Ballistic Missile Proliferation, commonly known as the Hague Code of Conduct (HCOC).

2.2 States which are signatories to the HCOC have voluntarily committed themselves to providing pre-launch notifications on space vehicle launches. These notifications are not intended to be used for operational or airspace integration purposes and rather serve as a mechanism for States’ awareness.

## **3 ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information provided; and

3.2 Note the following revision from APIRG/26 WP031B, paragraph 3.1 (e) recommends that States conducting or supporting space launches consider coordination using direct email and AMHS ~~in addition to diplomatic notifications~~