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منظمة الطيران  
المدني الدولي

国际民用  
航空组织

Ref. ES AN 1/6 - 0543

2 August 2013

**Subject: Nineteenth Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean (AFI) Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/19)  
(Dakar, Senegal, 14-17 October 2013)**

**Action Required: Reply to confirm participation no later than 30 August 2013**

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to inform you that the AFI Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG) will hold its nineteenth meeting (APIRG/19) from 14 to 17 October 2013 in Dakar, Senegal, at the premises of the ICAO Regional Office for Western and Central Africa.

2. The tentative Agenda and explanatory notes for the meeting are at **Attachments A1 and A2** to this letter. An information bulletin for the meeting and a list of suggested hotels are provided in **Attachment B**. The meeting will be conducted in English and French and documentation issued in the same languages. Your Administration/Organization is kindly invited to participate at this meeting.

3. As you may recall, at its eighteenth meeting, APIRG (APIRG/18, Kampala, 27-30 March 2012), formulated a number of Conclusions and Decisions. The report of that meeting was forwarded to you by the ICAO Regional Directors accredited to your respective States. Subsequently, various actions were taken by the Air Navigation Commission (ANC). Therefore, as part of the Agenda, the APIRG/19 meeting will review and consider the status of implementation of APIRG/18 Conclusions and Decisions as well as outstanding Conclusions and Decisions of APIRG.

4. Furthermore, Recommendation 6/1 (*Regional Performance Framework – Planning Methodologies and Tools*) of the Twelfth Air Navigation Conference (AN-Conf/12), Montreal, 19-30 November 2012 and the outcome of the Global Coordination Meeting of Planning and Implementation Regional Groups (PIRGs) and Regional Aviation Safety Groups (RASGs), Montreal, 19 March 2013 require States and PIRGs – inter alia to finalize the alignment of regional air navigation plans with the Fourth Edition of the *Global Air Navigation Plan* (Doc 9750) by May 2014 and focus on the implementation of Aviation System Block Upgrade (ASBU) Block 0 Modules according to operational needs of the Region.

5. The ICAO Council approved the Fourth Edition of the Global Air Navigation Plan on 29 May 2013. The Council particularly called on planning and implementation regional groups (PIRGs) to develop regional action plans with priorities and targets, determine implementation and benefit indicators/metrics and identify implementation challenges.

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6. The APIRG/19 meeting is also expected to review and adopt an Air Navigation Implementation Plan for the AFI Region, using a structured approach as required by the Global Air Navigation Plan.

7. The Council and ANC have in the past emphasized on the need and importance of members of ICAO bodies to endeavour to meet their obligations by attending meetings of the respective bodies. They commended APIRG members and States of the Region for the efforts made in attending APIRG meetings. In recognition of the need for all States to make a contribution to the work of the Planning and Implementation Regional Groups (PIRGs), the ICAO Council agreed that all ICAO Contracting States that are service providers in an air navigation region and part of that region's air navigation plan (ANP), should be included in the membership of that region's PIRG. Furthermore, user States are entitled to participate in any of the PIRG meetings as non-members, while International Organizations recognized by the Council may be invited as necessary to attend such meetings as observers. It is therefore, expected that all AFI States will attend this particular meeting.

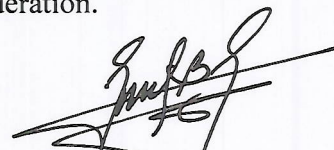
8. Documentation for the meeting is being prepared based on reports of APIRG subsidiary bodies (namely AOP, ATM/AIM/SAR, CNS and MET Sub-groups), which will be posted on the ICAO websites (<http://www.icao.int/esaf> and <http://www.icao.int/wacaf>). The relevant APIRG/19 meeting documentation will also be posted on the same websites as soon as they are available.

9. Those intending to present papers should ensure that these papers reach the Secretariat not later than **05 September 2013** and, where possible, be in both English and French languages. Participants are requested to forward their papers by e-mail to the following addresses: [icaoesaf@icao.int](mailto:icaoesaf@icao.int) and [icaowacaf@icao.int](mailto:icaowacaf@icao.int), in order to expeditiously prepare for the meeting. Working Papers received after the above date will be distributed only in the language in which they are received, without translation in accordance with APIRG Decision 11/23. No working papers in hard copy will be distributed during the meeting. Participants are therefore advised to download the working papers from the website and bring with them electronic devices to facilitate access to the Internet.

10. Please be informed that the APIRG/19 meeting will be held back to back with the second meeting of the Regional Aviation Safety Group (RASG-AFI/2), scheduled for 18-19 October 2013 and the outcome of these two meetings will be presented to the Fifth Meeting of the AFI Directors-General of Civil Aviation (DGCA/5) on 21 October 2013.

11. Kindly advise us of your Administration's/Organization's intention to participate at the APIRG/19 meeting as soon as possible but in any case not later than **30 August 2013**, giving the names and functions of your participant(s) by completing and returning the attached Registration Form provided in **Attachment C** to this letter.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.



**Meshesha Belayneh**  
**ICAO Regional Director**  
**Eastern and Southern African Office**  
**and Secretary of the APIRG**

**Attachments:** A1 : Tentative Agenda  
A2 : Explanatory Notes on the Tentative Agenda  
B : Information Bulletin  
C : Registration Form