

**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION**
**Fourth Meeting of the APIRG Airspace and Aerodrome Operations Sub-Group  
(AAO SG/4), Virtual Meeting, 16 to 18 August 2021**
**Agenda Item 3            Planning and Implementation**
**Agenda Item 3.1:        Airspace (Safety, Capacity and Efficiency) projects.**
**AFI REGIONAL ATM CONTINGENCY PLAN REVIEW AND IMPLEMENTATION  
PROJECT REPORT**

*(Presented by AFI ATM Contingency Plan Review Team)*

<b>SUMMARY</b>
<p>This paper presents progress report on the ongoing AFI Regional Contingency Plan Review and the Implementation status of the AFI ATM CP.</p> <p><b>Action by the meeting is as per paragraph 3</b></p>
<p><b>REFERENCE(S):</b> Annex 11 APIRG 21, 22 and 23 Reports AFI ATM CP version 1</p>
<p><b>APPENDICES</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Draft AFI ATM Contingency Plan version 2</li> <li>2. Action items checklist</li> </ol>
<p><b>Related ICAO Strategic Objective(s):</b></p> <p><b>A</b> – Safety, <b>B</b> – Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency, <b>D</b> – Economic Development of Air Transport,</p>

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1            Following adoption of the AFI ATM Contingency Plan in 2019 by APIRG 22 Conclusion 22/14, a number of deficiencies with respect to the provisions of the ICAO Annex 11 related to the development and promulgation of contingency plans have been noted.

1.2            The AFI Contingency Coordination Team (AFI CCT) has been involved in the management of several Contingencies since the adoption of the plan in 2019. The CCT noted that AFI States are at different levels in their implementation of the provisions of the AFI ATM Contingency Plan with some States yet to communicate their implementation status.

1.3 In order to ensure the safe management of traffic during periods of emergencies in the region and smooth harmonisation of the plans, as well as keeping in line with the ICAO No Country Left Behind (NCLB) initiative, a virtual Workshop on AFI Regional Contingency Plan Review and Implementation Coordination, was held from 2 to 4 June 2021. The intention of the workshop was to address the deficiencies with respect to the review of the AFI ATM CP version 1 in line to the provisions of the ICAO Annex 11 related to the development and promulgation of contingency plans and the Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the Project Management Team.

1.4 The Workshop established an AFI ATM Contingency Review Team.

## 2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The Twenty-Third Meeting of the AFI Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/23) called for the South Atlantic (SAT) members to complete outstanding actions, including the alignment of the SAT ATM Contingency Plan with national ATM Contingency Plans as well as nominate National CP Focal Points.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the recent volcanic activities affecting the region in addition highlighted the need to review and update Public Health Emergencies and Volcanic Ash procedures outlined in the AFI ATM Contingency Plan.

2.2 The objective of the Virtual Workshop on the AFI Regional Contingency Plan Review and Implementation Coordination was to assist States, Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs), Airspace Users and International Organizations to:

- a) Complete the development of their contingency plans or update them in respect of recent developments to ensure their completeness and operability;
- b) Coordinate and align their contingency route systems with AFI Regional Contingency Routes in order to facilitate the functionality of their contingency plans;
- c) Promulgate contingency plans for implementation; and
- d) Reinvigorate the Regional Contingency Coordination Team (CCT).

2.3 The Workshop had twelve presentations to meet the objective of enabling members to propose amendments to the AFI ATM Contingency, as follows:

- a) *To update members* on ideal situation and current contingency plan.
- b) *To provide feedback* on the AFI ATM Contingency Plan Implementation.
- c) *To provide Inputs* to the AFI ATM Contingency Plan; including in areas of Meteorology (Volcanic Ash); Public Health Emergencies (PHE); Aeronautical Information Management (NOTAMS); Communication Navigation and Surveillance (CNS); and Overflight Permission / File and Fly/ Civil – Military Cooperation.

2.4 The workshop identified areas of interest which include among others (attached action items checklist as **Appendix B** to the WP):

- a) Most States lacked an established Contingency Coordination Committee (CCC), ATM Operational Contingency Coordination Group (AOCG) and a designated

#### Focal Point

- b) Delays in activation of Contingency were mainly due to lack of established CCC/AOCCG and political will.
- c) State bureaucracies in granting of overflight permits.
- d) Lack of timely updates or reporting by focal points or state Authorities to AFI CCT.
- e) Failure to conduct post contingency reviews and submit post contingency reports.
- f) ANSPs to test their Contingency Plans in order to identify areas for improvement.

2.4 In order to coordinate Contingency routes of states/FIRs with adjacent ATS units, States were divided into regional sessions (Central, West, South, and East). During the regional sessions the following was noted:

2.4.1 This task could not be completed because some states did not turn up for the meeting and are yet to provide feedback on the proposed regional routes. The workshop tasked ICAO ROs to reach out to the States that are yet to provide feedback.

2.4.2 Update of State/FIR ATM Contingency Plan Focal Points and Contact Details was not completed. ICAO RO were requested to try reaching out to the States that are yet to update.

2.4.3 Submission of National Contingency Plans was incomplete due to States that were either yet to develop or provide feedback on the status of their National Contingency Plans. ICAO RO were requested to try reaching out to the States that are yet to provide feedback and assist/arrange for assistance, where possible, to the states that are yet to develop National Contingency Plans.

2.5 An AFI ATM Contingency Review Team was established and tasked with developing a Draft AFI ATM Contingency Plan Version 2 taking into account the outcome of the workshop and present the project status report to AAO-SG/4 meeting.

2.6 AFI ATM Contingency Review Team has developed a draft AFI ATM Contingency Plan version 2 as summarized in this WP. The AAO-SG 4 is therefore expected to review the draft and make appropriate amendments to the plan for adoption by APIRG. The proposed amendments are highlighted in attached draft of the AFI ATM Contingency Plan version 2 as **Appendix A** to the WP.

### 3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Review and endorse the action items.
- b) Endorse the proposed changes in the AFI ATM Contingency Plan.
- c) Forward, if endorsed, the draft AFI ATM Contingency Plan version 2 (as

reviewed) to APIRG for adoption.

- d) Recommend steps to address the lack of participation by some states in the AFI ATM CP Review and Implementation Coordination activities.
- e) Urge states that have not done so to forward the reviewed national ATM CP to the ICAO ROs as required.
- f) Review and endorse the proposed membership of the AFI CCT.

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**Appendices:**

- 3. Appendix A - Draft AFI ATM Contingency Plan version 2
- 4. Appendix B - Action items checklist