



# ICAO

## INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

### Extraordinary Meeting of the APIRG and RASG-AFI (APIRG & RASG-AFI/EO)

*Libreville, Gabon, 19 July 2024*

**Agenda Item 02 c): Presentation, Discussion and Approval of the revised Structure based on of the Proposals developed by the Secretariat and Stakeholders’ feedback, including the review of the related Draft Procedural Handbook of the Group and new Working Methods**

*(Presented by the Secretariat)*

<b>SUMMARY</b>	
<p>This working paper presents the revised Structure based on of the Proposals developed by the Secretariat and Stakeholders’ feedback, including the review of the related Draft Procedural Handbook of the Group and new Working Methods.</p> <p>Action to be taken by the Meeting is provided at paragraph 3 of the Paper.</p>	
<b>REFERENCE(S)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APIRG and RASG-AFI Terms of Reference and Procedural Handbooks</li> <li>• The Global Aviation Safety and the Global Air Navigation Plans</li> <li>• Doc 7474, Air Navigation Plan - Africa-Indian Ocean Region</li> <li>• APIRG/22 and RASG-AFI/5 Joint Meetings Report</li> <li>• APIRG/25 &amp; RASG-AFI/8 Joint meetings Report</li> <li>• APIRG/26 &amp; RASG-AFI/9 Joint meetings Report</li> </ul>
<b>Strategic Objective(s)</b>	<p><i>A – Safety, B – Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency, D – Economic Development of Air Transport, and E – Environmental Protection</i></p>

## 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Meeting may recall the APIRG/26 & RASG-AFI/9 Decision 5/05 on the Enhancement of APIRG and RASG-AFI Structure took by the Joint Session and formulated as follows:

*APIRG/26 & RASG-AFI/9 Decision 5/05: Enhancement of APIRG and RASG-AFI Structure*

*That, in order to finalize the study on the integrated approach to APIRG and RASG-AFI in combining them into one entity, the Secretariat to:*

- a) *expedite the finalization of the study based on stakeholders' comments, including the development of the Procedural Handbook as well as the schedule of the transition period and other related arrangements by June 2024; and*
- b) *coordinate with APIRG and RASG-AFI Chairpersons, for an extraordinary APIRG and RASG-AFI joint meeting to review and approve the proposals*

1.2. This working paper presents the revised Structure the related Draft Procedural Handbook of the Group and new Working Methods for review and consideration by the APIRG & RASG-AFI Extraordinary Meeting.

## **2. DISCUSSION**

### ***Rationale for enhancing the APIRG and RASG-AFI Structure and actions taken by the Secretariat***

2.1. The rationale for enhancing the APIRG and RASG-AFI Structure was presented in the WP/2A. Summary of actions taken by the Secretariat on the APIRG/26 & RASG-AFI/9 Decision 5/05 was presented in the WP/2B.

### ***Structure of the enhanced Body "Africa – Indian Ocean Aviation System Planning and Implementation Group (AASPG)"***

2.2. As reflected in the WP2B, the merged Entity is known as the "Africa – Indian Ocean Aviation System Planning and Implementation Group (AASPG)". The new structure of AASPG was developed following deep analysis of the organizational structures, the Termes of Reference, and mandates of APIRG and RASG-AFI as well as of their contributory bodies.

2.3. The AASPG structure aims at rationalizing scarce resources (human, financial, time, etc.) and ensuring tight linkage and harmonization in planning, implementation, operation, and oversight of the civil aviation activities in the region. The AASPG structure is provided in Appendix A to this working paper for consideration by the APIRG & RASG-AFI Extraordinary Meeting.

2.4. The AASPG Structure is made up of the following Contributory Bodies:

- Programme Review and Coordination Committee (PRCC): The PRCC is mandated by AASPG to carry out specific functions in order to coordinate and guide planning and implementation and safety related activities within the framework of AASPG, to facilitate the activities of AASPG in its Sessions, and to facilitate coordination between PIRGs, other Regional Groups and international organizations identified by AASPG. The PRCC shall specifically ensure continuity between the AASPG meetings and take necessary action to avoid implementation delays in between meetings of AASPG.
- Infrastructure and Information Management Sub-Group (IIM/SG): The IIM/SG is established and mandated by AASPG to support the implementation of ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and carry out specific activities aimed to enable AASPG to discharge its functions and responsibilities in the areas of CNS, AIM and MET.
- Airspace and Aerodrome Operations Sub-Group (AAO/SG): The AAO/SG is established and mandated by AASPG to support the implementation of ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and carry out specific activities aimed to enable AASPG to discharge its functions and responsibilities in the areas of AOP, ATM and

SAR.

- Safety Management and Oversight Sub-Group (SMO/SG): The SMO/SG is established and mandated by AASPG to support the implementation of ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and carry out specific activities aimed to enable AASPG to discharge its functions and responsibilities in the areas of Safety management and Safety oversight.

### ***Draft Procedural Handbook of the AASPG***

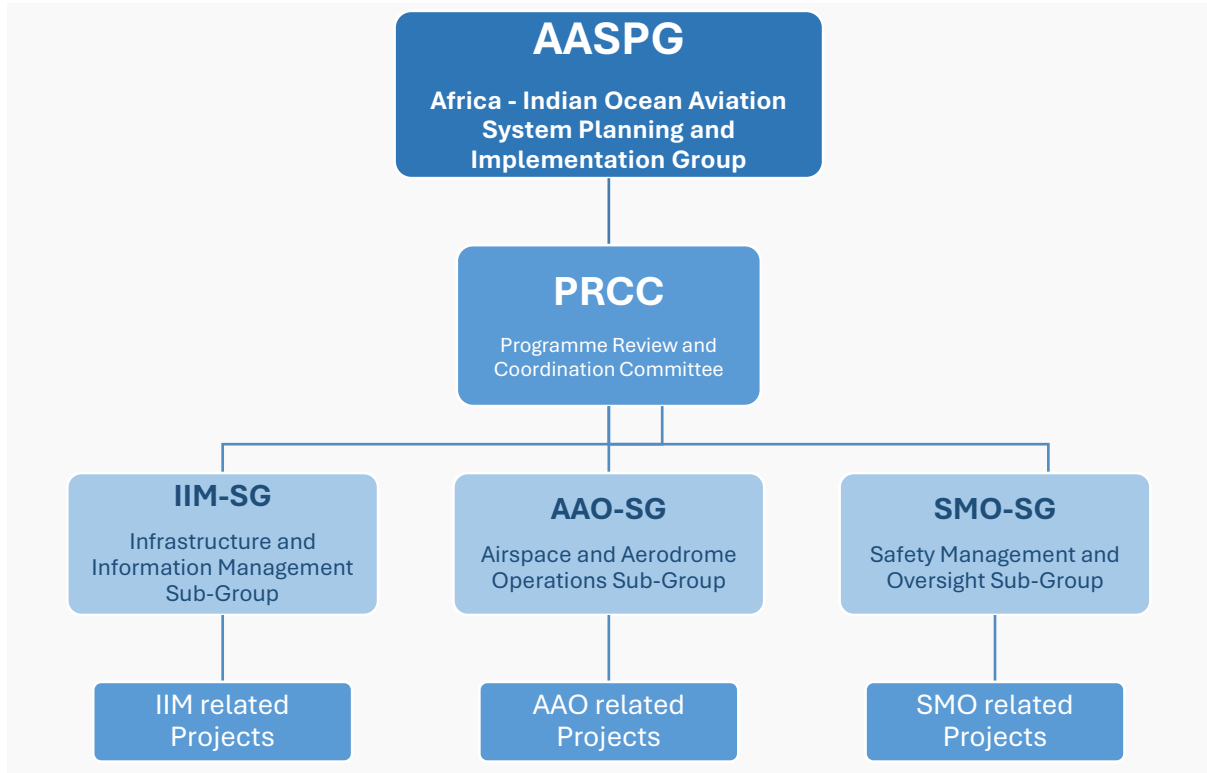
- 2.5. The Draft Procedural Handbook has been developed based on the agreed Organizational Structure as provided in Appendix A. It is organized in Sections and Part headings describing the terms of reference, composition, position in ICAO, working arrangements, rules of procedure and practices governing the conduct of business.
- 2.6. The framework of Section and Part headings, as well as the page numbering has been devised to provide flexibility, facilitating the revision or the addition of new material.
- 2.7. The First Edition of the AASPG Procedural Handbook reflects the recommendations from the ICAO Air Navigation Commission (ANC), the Special AFI Regional Air Navigation (RAN) Meeting (SP AFI/08) of November 2008), which recognized the need to have a clearly defined strategy to implement ATM systems as well as the need to align work programmes of the States, Regions and ICAO Headquarters. It also reflects the Council Decision C-DEC 210/4 aiming to enhance and improve the performance and expected results of PIRGS and RASGs.
- 2.8. This Edition of the AASPG Procedural Handbook reflects the merging of APIRG and RASG-AFI into a single regional Group, based on the ICAO Council's recommendations on the reporting structure and terms of reference, functions and participation of the Planning and Implementation Regional Groups (PIRGs) and the Regional Aviation Safety Groups (RASGs) and the revised Terms of reference as published by the Secretary General under Electronic Bulletin EB 2019/43, and as further amended following its Review of Assembly Resolutions and Decisions (C-DEC 219/7).
- 2.1. The proposed Draft Procedural Handbook of AASPG is presented in the Appendix B to this working paper.

## **3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

### **3.1 The meeting is invited to:**

- a) Note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) Consider the proposals presented in this Working Paper.

**Appendix A**



**Appendix B – Draft Procedural Handbook of AASPG**

*[to be inserted]*