



International Civil Aviation Organization

South American Regional Office

Virtual Session # 2 – Analysis of the Regional Recovery Strategy Post Covid-19

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RV/ S2-SAM Post COVID-19

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**INITIATIVES IN AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES FIELD TO SUPPORT
THE POST COVID-19 REGIONAL RECOVERY STRATEGY**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This working paper analyses initiatives in the field of the air navigation services (ANS) that, when implemented, could support the Regional Recovery Strategy after COVID-19.

Likewise, this paper suggests the use of an Action Plan Format as a tool to facilitate the organization of activities during the development of the Strategic Framework of the Region.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The COVID-19 pandemic has originated significant challenges to Civil Aviation Authorities as to sectors of industry. In this scenario, the extraordinary meeting of Civil Aviation Authorities of the SAM Region (RAAC/17) on the Response to COVID-19 was held last month, using virtual means.

1.2 The meeting endorsed the leadership and initiatives of the ICAO South American Regional Office and agreed on two main points of action to work together in an orderly, informed and secure manner:

- a) The creation of a **Strategic Working Group** on guidelines for a regional recovery strategy that covers operational, health, financial, communication and other areas that address the issues faced by the Region.
- b) Request the SRVSOP Aviation Medicine Panel to develop a health protocol, globally and regionally harmonized, in coordination with CAPSCA guidelines.

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1.3 The Strategic Working Group, involving delegated from States, international organizations and the industry, held its first virtual meeting on 30 April 2020, in which planning exercises were made using the MURAL virtual tool.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 At this second meeting it is foreseen to complete the analysis with the MURAL tool, and special emphasis will be placed on identifying activities that will support the development of the Strategic Areas outlined for the next phase of recovery. The identification of these activities leads to a comparative analysis of importance vs feasibility. On due time, the risk analysis in the impact vs severity matrix must be completed.

2.2 In this context, it is considered necessary to include initiatives in the field of air navigation services (ANS) that may have a positive impact on the identified strategic areas, including the area of financial sustainability and the organized reactivation.

2.3 To document an example of possible ANS initiatives, a template has been drafted (see **Appendix** to this working paper) proposing an Activity of standardization of 20 NM minimum longitudinal separation for aircraft in continental airspace, which allows to take advantage of the current capacity/demand balance in ATS services, and would facilitate the aircraft to flight without delay in the planned/required flight level, optimizing turbine performance and thus fuel usage.

2.4 It is estimated that the implementation of this efficiency initiative would have a low cost, related to ATC training and, in some cases, related to adjustments in pilot-controller VHF communications. The initiative would generate positive impacts on fuel economy and CO2 emissions. The RLA/06/901 ATM/CNS implementation groups have human resources to support the initiative's planning and effective implementation work.

2.5 The participation of the Industry in this activity from its formulation, especially to be able to measure (through samples) the expected performance, comparing fuel consumption in the previous scenarios and the current.

2.6 At the same time, the template presented as Appendix represents the proposed tool for the Strategic Working Group to organize action plans for the development of other agreed strategic activities.

3. SUGGESTED ACTION

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) Analyze the information presented in this working paper and approve the inclusion of ANS initiatives as part of the strategic framework activities that are being prepared;
- b) Analyze and express opinion on the draft Action Plan Format presented as Appendix to this working paper for its improving and to make it available to the Working Group.
