



ICAO

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Twenty Fourth Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/24) & Seventh Meeting of the Regional Aviation Safety Group for the AFI Region (RASG-AFI/7) – Joint session

(Virtual, 1 and 8 November 2021)

Agenda Item 3: APIRG and RASG-AFI Coordination

Review of the outcomes of the Fourth APIRG and the RASG-AFI Task Force (ARC-TF/4)

(Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY	
<p>This working paper presents the coordination between the APIRG and RASG AFI in accordance with the provisions of their respective Procedural Handbooks and the terms of reference approved by the ICAO Council for PIRGs and RASGs.</p> <p>The Fourth meeting of the APIRG- RASG Coordination Task Force (ARC-TF/4) meeting, held virtually on 25 October 2021, reviewed and discussed the various initiatives including the Review of the terms of reference of the ARC-TF as amended by APIRG/23 & RASG-AFI/6 meetings, the implementation of the APIRG/23 & RASG-AFI/6 recommendations on ARC-TF, the implementation of APIRG/22 and RASG-AFI/05 recommendations, the update of APIRG and RASG-AFI common areas, and Coordination of APIRG and RASG-AFI Annual Reporting.</p> <p>Action by the Meeting reflected at paragraph 3</p>	
Strategic Objectives	This Working Paper is related to the ICAO Safety and Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency Strategic Objectives
Reference(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RASG-AFI/06 and APIRG /23 Reports • APIRG and RASG-AFI Procedural Hand Books • Recording of the ARC-TF/04 meeting

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The meeting may recall that the Joint APIRG/RASG-AFI Coordination Task Force established as a subsidiary body to APIRG and RASG-AFI, is responsible for coordinating the activities of APIRG and RASG-AFI on routine basis. The ARC-TF should discuss common and urgent issues and report to the APIRG and RASG-AFI.

1.2 The fourth APIRG and RASG-AFI Coordination Task Force (ARC-TF/4) meeting was held virtually on 25 October 2021 to review the outcomes of the RASC/07 and APCC/6 meetings, and the implementation of the APIRG/23 and RASG-AFI/06 recommendations on the ARC-TF. The meeting also discussed and considered the information provided on, among others, common areas of interest where coordination is required between APIRG and RASG; proposed agenda for APIRG/24 and RASG-AFI/07 joint meeting and coordination of APIRG and RASG-AFI annual report.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The APIRG-RASG-AFI Coordination Task Force (ARC-TF/4) discussed the outcomes of the APCC/6 and RASC/07 meetings held on 11 October and 12 October 2021 respectively. Accordingly, the meeting was briefed on implementation actions based on APIRG/23 and RASG-AFI/06 conclusions and decisions, the status of various projects and critical initiatives by RASG-AFI, and the performance of regional air navigation planning and implementation. Other important items presented include the review and update of APIRG and RASG-AFI common areas, and the review of the terms of reference of the ARC-TF as amended by APIRG/23 & RASG-AFI/6 meetings.

Review of the terms of reference of the ARC-TF as amended by APIRG/23 & RASG-AFI/6 meetings

2.2 The meeting may recall that in relation to the need to have an all-inclusive task force, the APIRG/23 and RASG-AFI/6 Joint session meeting agreed to expand the current ARC-TF membership to AFCAC and additional members from APIRG, RASG-AFI and the industry. In addition, it was recommended to reflect the amendments in the APIRG and RASG-AFI TORs and procedural handbooks.

2.3 Pursuant to the ICAO Council Decision C-DEC 210/4 and the outcomes of the APIRG/23 and RASG-AFI/6 Joint session meeting, APIRG and RASG-AFI Procedural Handbooks have been amended to the need of ARC-TF working mechanisms.

2.4 In accordance with normal practice within APIRG and RASG-AFI subsidiary bodies, the ARC-TF reviewed and adopted the terms of reference (TOR) of the ARC-TF as reflected in **Appendix** to this working paper.

Review of the implementation of the APIRG/23 & RASG-AFI/6 recommendations on ARC-TF

2.5 The meeting may recall that APIRG/23 and RASG-AFI/6 joint meeting had formulated the following conclusions to address the issue of expansion and to enhance the effectiveness of the ARC-TF activities:

- the Chairperson of RASG-AFI should be a member of the Task force and APIRG and RASG Chairpersons will alternate in serving as Chairperson of the ARC- TF;
- there should be a rotational and alternate chairing of the subsequent joint APIRG/RASG meetings;
- the related amendments should be reflected in the APIRG and RASG-AFI TORs and procedural handbooks.

2.6 The APIRG and RASG-AFI ToRs and procedural handbooks have been amended to expand the membership of the ARC-TF and to reflect the proposed chairmanship and associated rotation.

2.7 The RASC/7 meeting held on 12 October 2021 has endorsed the proposals for the restructuring of the Safety Support Teams (SSTs) as well as their ToRs, as follows:

- State Safety Oversight System Support Team (SSO-SST)
- Operational Safety Issues Support Team (OSI-SST)
- State Safety Programme Support Team (SSP – SST)
- Air Navigation Services Support Team (ANS – SST)

Review and update of APIRG and RASG-AFI common areas

2.8 The meeting may recall that the Third Meeting of the APIRG/RASG-AFI Coordination Task Force (ARC TF/3), held virtually on 23 November 2020, reviewed and endorsed the allocation of tasks and the areas of common interest between APIRG and RASG-AFI.

2.9 The review of the allocation of tasks and the areas of common interest between APIRG and RASG-AFI is part of the ARC-TF terms of reference and work Programme, with the aims of facilitating consistency and efficiency, and ensuring lack of duplication and conflict between the activities of APIRG and RASG-AFI.

2.10 The APIRG/RASG-AFI Coordination Task Force (ARC TF/4) reviewed, updated and endorsed the APIRG and RASG-AFI allocation of task.

Coordination of APIRG and RASG-AFI Annual Reporting

2.11 The meeting was discussed the existing APIRG and RASG-AFI reporting framework and a coordination mechanism of the two Groups to report in more effective manner and avoid duplication of efforts.

2.12 The meeting noted that the RASG AFI has experience in producing an annual safety report from which APIRG can learn for the production of its annual air navigation report. RASG AFI developed a work programme to ensure the annual production of the safety report. Same work programme and timelines for AANRT could help improving the collection of data and production of the report.

2.13 The meeting agreed on the proposed actions as follows:

- a) Urge the AANRT members to nominate representatives to the Team;
- b) Request the Secretariat to coordinate the AANRT and ASRT activities for timely development and issuance of the Annual Reports; and
- c) Encourage States, ANSPs and International Organizations to support the activities of the Annual Air Navigation Reporting Team (AANRT) through the provision of the required information on a timely basis

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

1.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the information contained in this Working Paper; and
- b) Consider any further improvements to the actions endorsed by the ARC-TF/4.

APPENDIX

TERMS OF REFERENCE, WORK PROGRAMME AND COMPOSITION OF THE APIRG/RASG-AFI COORDINATION TASK FORCE

The Joint APIRG/RASG-AFI Coordination Task Force established as a subsidiary body to APIRG and RASG-AFI, is responsible for coordinating the activities of APIRG and RASG-AFI on routine basis.

WORK PROGRAMME

TASK No.	SUBJECT
1.	Strengthen existing arrangements and adequately address the requirements for coordination and collaboration between the two Groups.
2.	Facilitate consistency and efficiency, and ensure lack of duplication and conflict between the activities of APIRG and RASG-AFI.
3.	Ensure mutual exchange of information on the Conclusions and Decisions reached at the Groups' Meetings, or any other activities undertaken by the Groups in line with the Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP) and Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP).
4.	Identify any challenges faced by the Groups in achieving their set objectives and targets, alert the Groups and their Secretariats to these challenges, conflicts and / or inefficiencies with proposed strategies to address them, for the endorsement of the Groups.

Note: The ARC-TF should discuss common and urgent issues as well as the above mentioned tasks, and report to the APIRG and RASG-AFI.

COMPOSITION

The ARC-TF comprises representatives from:

- APIRG (Chairperson and First and Second Chairperson of APIRG, Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of AAO/SG; and Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of IIM/SG);
- RASG-AFI (Chairperson and First and Second Chairperson of RASG-AFI; and Champion States of Safety Support Teams (SSTs);
- AFCAC;
- Industry: ACI, AFRAA, AIRBUS, ASECNA, BOEING, CANSO, IATA, etc

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- APIRG/RASG-AFI Joint Coordination Task Force Members – provide technical expertise in identifying the challenges, analyzing them, and providing guidance and recommendations for overcoming such challenges in order to meet the set targets and improve aviation safety within the AFI Region, in line with the GASP and GANP.
- The ICAO Regional Offices accredited to AFI States serve as Secretariat.

WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

- The ARC-TF should complete its work and submit its proposals to the APIRG and RASG-AFI. The ARC-TF should work through electronic correspondence / teleconferences prior to meetings.
- In order to enhance the effectiveness of the ARC-TF activities, APIRG and RASG Chairpersons will alternate in serving as Chairperson of the ARC- TF. It was agreed in principle that the routine be extended to rotational and alternate chairing of the subsequent joint APIRG/RASG meetings.