



## INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

**THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION  
REGIONAL GROUP (APIRG/13)**

**Sal, Cape Verde, 25 -29 June 2001**

**Agenda Item 7.4 : Informal AFI/EUR Interface Co-ordination Meetings**  
Presented by the Secretariat

**SUMMARY**

This paper highlights the outcome of the informal AFI/EUR interface co-ordination meeting which was convened in Paris France from, 14 -16 February 2001.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Informal AFI/EUR interface meetings are organised in co-ordination with the ICAO AFI, EUR/NAT and MID Offices in follow up to APIRG Conclusions 9/5 which was subsequently re-affirmed by APIRG Conclusion 10/1 as well as the ALLPIRG Advisory Group. The objective of the meeting is to harmonize implementation plans within interface areas and is an important forum to resolve issues that affect the interface between the AFI, EUR and MID planning Regions.

1.2 The fourth meeting of the ALLPIRG/Advisory Group which was held in Montreal from 6 - 8 February 2001, under conclusion 4/2 also stressed the importance of interregional meetings, as and when required, to address the specifically focused interface problems and other issues of neighboring States and/or neighboring regions as a whole and laid down the necessary framework for interregional coordination meetings.

**2. Discussion**

2.1 Since APIRG/12 Meeting, the activities of the AFI/EUR Interface Meetings were dedicated to the following issues:

**Harmonisation of the AFI and EUR route networks**

2.2 The meeting carried out a preliminary review of the ATS route network in the interface areas and agreed that States and organisations concerned will assist the Secretariat in carrying out a detailed review of the ATS route designators within the AFI and EUR interface areas. To that effect, inputs will be forwarded to the ICAO EUR/NAT Office. It was also agreed that in the framework of the implementation of RVSM in the EUR Region with effect from 24 January 2002, major changes have been carried out in the route structure within RVSM transition areas. The meeting agreed that the ICAO EUR/NAT Office will ensure that the ATS route

planning activities affecting the AFI/EUR interface area will be taken into account in the overall EUR ATS route planning activities.

### **Status of implementation of ATS routes**

2.3 The meeting reviewed the status of implementation of ATS routes in the region and agreed on a mechanism to expedite the implementation of ATS routes which have not been implemented.

### **Implementation of RNAV route UM999**

2.4 The meeting noted that the non implementation of RNAV route UM999 Casablanca to Jeddah is having a serious impact on Haj operations and States concerned were urged to implement this route as soon as possible and consider temporarily implementing some segments at variance with the plan if implementation is not feasible as per the proposed alignment.

### **Communications failure procedures**

2.5 The meeting agreed that States publish in their Aeronautical Information Publications (AIPs) the procedures for communications failure, as approved by the ICAO Council, which has been developed for the EUR Region and which takes into account the RVSM environment.

### **Implementation of ACAS**

2.6 The meeting noted that the exemption procedures in the EUR Region have been extended to 31 March 2001. The meeting was informed that in the AFI Region, exemption procedures have been extended to January 2003 in line with the globally agreed date. The need for the publication of an AIC on ACAS exemption policy, including Minimum Equipment List (MEL) exemptions was emphasized.

### **Implementation of CNS/ATM in area of routing AR-7 (North AFI Coastal and AFI/EUR Interfaces)**

2.7 The meeting was of the view that the implementation of CNS/ATM within area of routing AR-7 be carried out within the framework of Implementation Co-ordination Group (ICG) Meetings in accordance with the requirements identified in the AFI CNS/ATM Implementation Plan (Doc 003). It was however agreed that the AFI/EUR interface meeting monitors developments going on in the interface areas and keeps the ICG meeting for AR-7 fully apprised of CNS/ATM elements being implemented in adjacent regions.

### **Achievements in the AEFMP<sup>1</sup> Group**

2.8 The meeting noted with appreciation the achievements of the AEFMP (Informal Meeting between Algeria, Spain, France, Morocco and Portugal). The meeting was apprised of activities in the following fields:

- a) *improvements in air/ground communications;*
- b) *improvements in ground/ground communications;*
- c) *strategy for ground/ground data communications;*

---

<sup>1</sup>AEFMP: Algeria, Spain, France, Morocco and Portugal

- d) *activities related to use of satellite for communications within the AEFMP area;*
- e) *surveillance systems;*
- f) *separation minima;*
- g) *implementation of RVSM; and*
- h) *operational implementation of EGNOS*

The meeting noted that the AEFMP area also encompasses the routing area AR-6 (Iberian Peninsula - Canaries) and was of the view that the planning and implementation of CNS/ATM within that area is within its purview. The meeting accordingly agreed that the AEFMP would also address improvements to CNS/ATM within that area in accordance with the requirements identified in the AFI CNS/ATM Implementation Plan (Doc 003).

### **Review of operational letters of agreement**

2.9 The meeting reviewed and updated operational letters of agreement between the ACCs concerned and took advantage of the presence of many AFI Provider States to engage in bilateral and/or multi-lateral discussions with a view to resolving current or future implementation issues.

### **Shortcomings/deficiencies in the AIS field**

2.10 The meeting was apprised of some persisting shortcomings/deficiencies in the AIS field which are seriously affecting the safety of air navigation in the AFI Region and urged that appropriate remedial action be taken. Furthermore, the meeting recommended that a consolidated contact persons list be established including e-mail address for AIS personnel responsible for the handling/processing of AIS data.

## **3. Action by the meeting**

3.1 APIRG is invited to :

a) take note of the Report of the Third AFI/EUR Interface Meeting, and its achievements since APIRG/12; and

b) encourage the work being carried out through the AFI/EUR/Interface Meeting and its contribution to inter-regional co-ordination between ICAO AFI and EUR Regions.

-----