



**AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP
SIXTEENTH MEETING (APIRG/16)
(Kigali, Rwanda 19-23 November 2007)**

Agenda Item 3: Global and Interregional activities

3.3: Global Air Navigation Plan

CREASING THE EFFICIENCY OF PIRGs

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

As a follow-up to the observation made by the Council on the need to review the format and method of processing the reports of the Commission to the Council related to PIRGs, as well as its terms of reference, this working paper presents a progress report on the work accomplished on the subject to date.

Action by APIRG/16 is in paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In its review of the report of the APANPIRG/16 on 20 February 2006, the Council expressed the view that it was time to reconsider the format and method of processing the reports of the Commission, as well as the terms of reference of the planning and implementation regional groups (PIRGs).

1.2 The Commission recognized that the work being carried out by PIRGs, as well as their reporting processes, was very much related to the Strategic Objectives of the Organization, the revised Global Air Navigation Plan and the working methods of the Secretariat and the Air Navigation Commission, all of which were currently under review.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 In addressing the issues identified by the Council, the Commission was of the opinion that its work would require more than just a minor change to the way that PIRG reports were processed. The work of the Commission, during coming months would therefore encompass the following:

- a) reassessment of the terms of reference of PIRGs so as to align with the Strategic objectives of ICAO and the Global Air Navigation Plan;

- b) revision of the reporting format of PIRGs to the Commission;
- c) revision of the method of presenting PIRG reports by the Secretary General to the Commission; and
- d) revision of the method of reporting to the Council by the Commission.

2.2 The Commission acknowledged that, for the implementation of the Global Plan, the activities at Headquarters would have to be better integrated with the work of the Regional Offices. This would require continuous communication amongst staff in Headquarters and Regional Offices, as well as increased involvement of technical staff at Headquarters in the work of PIRGs and their subgroups.

2.3 Work would be undertaken on the future format of the Secretariat reports to the Commission and the Commission reports to the Council. It is likely that the latter would consist of a compilation of all PIRG reports in lieu of individual PIRG reports and would be presented annually in a concise format. This annual report on all PIRG activities for the consideration by the Council would highlight the main achievements in the regions with regard to the implementation of the Global Plan Initiatives and elimination of the deficiencies. It would also allow a comparison between the regions on the progress achieved in their planning and implementation activities. However, if a timely Council decision is required, case-by-case reports of PIRGs to the Council would be presented.

2.4 With reference to assessment of the impact of the regional activities on the Business Plan, the PIRGs, at the end of their meeting, henceforth will develop an action plan for the implementation of its conclusions, which will be evaluated including possible budgetary adjustments and the allocation of resources. Consequently, APIRG/16 Meeting is invited to develop its follow-up action plan on the report under Agenda Item 8 – Terms of Reference (TOR) and future work programme.

2.5 In reassessing the terms of reference of the PIRGs, ICAO is considering the development of a common approach to all the PIRGs and also align their work programme with the Strategic Objectives of the Organization. Reassessment of the terms of reference of all the PIRGs (APANPIRG, APIRG, EANPG, GREPECAS, MIDANPIRG and NAT SPG) is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2007. The Chairmen and Secretaries of all PIRGs will be consulted prior to the finalization of the terms of reference of the PIRGs. The proceedings of PIRG meetings scheduled for this year would continue as usual.

3. **Action by APIRG:**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information provided in this working paper;
- b) note the Chairmen and Secretaries of all PIRGs be consulted prior to the finalization of the terms of reference of the PIRGs;
- c) develop an action plan on the results of APIRG/16 at the end of the meeting; and
- c) provide initial views on the formulation of the terms of reference of the PIRGs.