



**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION**  
**AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP**  
**SEVENTEENTH MEETING (APIRG/17)**  
**(Burkina Faso, 2 to 6 August 2010)**

**Agenda Item-3.3: Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS)**

**EN ROUTE VHF COVERAGE IN KINSHASA FIR**

*(Presented by the Democratic Republic of Congo)*

**Summary**

With the implementation of area control or en-route control in Kinshasa FIR, the Democratic Republic of Congo had to take up this challenge by establishing the remote VHF stations controlled by 14 stations VSAT. The program is close to ending. 12 out of 14 VSAT stations are already established. The deployment of the remainder is in progress. The major problem remaining is energy availability which constraints the Democratic Republic of Congo to set up a program for equipping all these VSAT station with solar energy.

**Reference** : Doc 003, Plan AFI

**Objectives** : This note is related to strategic objectives A and D (safety and efficiency).

**1. Introduction**

National CNS/ATM plan of the Democratic Republic of Congo envisages the deployment of 14 stations VSAT/VHF to cover the upper airspace with VHF. 12 stations are already deployed and 2 additional stations are to be installed. The optimal coverage of these stations is disturbed by electrical energy problems.

**2. Discussion**

VHF Coverage of the upper airspace of the Democratic Republic of Congo uses both VHF in controlled airspace and HF where the 2 remaining stations VHF are not yet operational. Indeed, the following stations are already implemented: Kinshasa, Lubumbashi, Kisangani, Mbandaka, Ilebo, Kamina, Kalemie, Tshikapa, Bunia, Kindu, Mbuji-Mayi and Gbadolite. The 2 stations yet to be installed are: BUT and Bukavu.

The installed stations are not providing permanent full satisfaction due to electric power supply troubles.

The recommended solution is to supply all the stations with solar energy. At present stage, 3 of them are already equipped with solar energy. For the remainder of stations, the Democratic Republic of Congo has established partnership with the BAD (African Development Bank) for their financing. An international invitation to tender was extended.

The solar energy equipment will contribute to root out the deficiencies pressed on the Democratic Republic of Congo by over flight traffics whenever one or more stations are not operational due to lack of energy.

**3. Action by the meeting**

The meeting is invited to take note of the information contained herein.