



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

Agenda Item 3:-Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Issues

3.3 Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS)

En-Route Aeronautical Mobile Communications in AFI Region Survey 2010

(Presented by the International Air Transport Association)

SUMMARY

Since APIRG/16 IATA, States and Air Navigation Service Providers have conducted two en-route Aeronautical Mobile Communication surveys. One between the 3rd and 23rd February 2009 and the other between the 2nd and 23rd of June 2010.

This working paper provides the meeting with the results of the survey conducted by IATA in AFI Region between the 3rd and 23rd February 2009 as the basis of our discussions as this presents a more accurate representation of the status of the Mobile communication in the region.

The survey done in 2010 is inconclusive in most of the areas as enough data was not received from both the airlines and the States and Air Navigation Service Providers. This survey (2010) therefore, has used cautiously to update the survey done in 2009.

In view of the above, IATA requests the meeting to recommend that States take action to improve en-route Aeronautical Mobile Communication coverage where deficiencies have been noted in both surveys. Also where both VHF and HF have been found wanting, CPDLC should be implemented.

References:

- APIRG/16 Report.
- APIRG 17_HF_comm_survey (PPT)
- APIRG 17_VHF_comm_survey (PPT)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In 2007, APIRG/16 noted that AFI/7 Rec. 5/12 requires that VHF coverage is required along all ATS routes, and that remote VHF stations should be used where necessary. The meeting welcomed regional initiatives aimed at implementing, maintaining and monitoring remote VHF stations throughout the AFI Region, including VHF surveys.
- 1.2. APIRG/16 also resolved, in Decision 16/20, that the ICAO Regional Offices (Dakar and Nairobi) coordinate the conduct of regional surveys on AMS/VHF coverage by States and Organizations in order to ascertain that VHF frequencies are free of harmful interference and to initiate remedial action with States concerned as necessary.
- 1.3. APIRG/16 meeting, paragraph 4.2.13, recognized the need for retaining reliable HF voice communications facilities, taking into consideration the impossibility to ensure total VHF coverage in some areas such as oceanic areas and remote continental areas.
- 1.4. APIRG/16 Conclusion 16/21 states that States cooperate and provide their support to VHF coverage surveys to be carried out by IATA in the AFI Region, initially every 18 months.

2. DISCUSSION

Outcome of the VHF and HF survey conducted in June 2009

- 2.1. Mobile communication coverage should be available along all ATS routes and that the regional initiatives aimed at implementing, maintaining and monitoring remote VHF stations throughout the AFI Region are complete,
- 2.2. Review of areas where VHF and HF coverage is deficient and analyse the causes of these deficiencies,
- 2.3. Implement CPDLC in line with AFI RAN meeting of 2008 (required since APIRG 13) as mitigation to areas where it is impossible to ensure total VHF coverage and reliable HF voice communications facilities (in oceanic areas and remote continental areas).

3. ACTION BY THE APIRG

- 3.1. The meeting is invited to:
 - a) Provide solutions for en-route aeronautical mobile communications deficiencies and arrive at corrective action plans to address these deficiencies in coordination with States and Air Navigation Service Providers.
 - b) Ensure that;
 - VHF communication coverage is available along all ATS routes and,
 - Implement CPDLC

- END -