



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

SEVENTH MEETING OF THE APIRG/RASG-AFI COORDINATION TASK FORCE (ARC-TF/7)

Virtual Meeting, 17 October 2024

Agenda Item 3.2: Enhancement of APIRG and RASG-AFI Structure

Draft Procedural Handbook of the AASPG

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY	
<p>This paper recalls the previous decisions of APIRG & RASG-AFI meetings on the merging of the two groups into the new Group AASPG and presents the draft AASPG Procedural Handbook consolidated by the Secretariat.</p> <p>Action by the Meeting is provided in paragraph 3</p>	
<p>REFERENCES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ APIRG and RASG-AFI Terms of Reference and Procedural Handbooks ▪ The Global Aviation Safety and the Global Air Navigation Plans ▪ Doc 7474, Air Navigation Plan - Africa-Indian Ocean Region ▪ APIRG/25 & RASG-AFI/8 Joint meetings Report ▪ APIRG/26 & RASG-AFI/9 Joint meetings Report ▪ APIRG & RASG-AFI 2024 Extraordinary meeting Report 	
<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	<p><i>A – Safety, B – Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency, D – Economic Development of Air Transport, and E – Environmental Protection.</i></p>

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. You may recall that the APIRG/26 and RASG-AFI/9 Joint Session agreed to merge the two existing groups in a single structure made up of the Programme Review and Coordination Committee (PRCC), the two former sub-groups (Infrastructure and Information Management Sub-Group (IIM/SG) and Airspace and Aerodrome Operations Sub-Group (AAO/SG)), and a third sub-group called the Safety Oversight and Management Sub-Group (SOM/SG). The meeting through its Decision 5/05, tasked the Secretariat to:
- expedite the finalization of the study based on stakeholders' comments, including the development of the Procedural Handbook as well as the schedule of the transition period and other related arrangements by June 2024; and
 - coordinate with APIRG and RASG-AFI Chairpersons, for an extraordinary APIRG and RASG-AFI joint meeting to review and approve the proposals.
- 1.2. The Extraordinary Meeting of APIRG and RASG-AFI held on 19 July 2024 in Libreville, Gabon, reviewed the results presented by the Secretariat and endorsed the name of the merged Entity known as the “Africa – Indian Ocean Aviation System Planning and Implementation Group (AASPG)” as well as the new structure of the AASPG presented in **Appendix A** to this Working paper.

- 1.3. The Extraordinary Meeting requested the Secretariat, through the APIRG & RASG-AFI/EO - Decision EO/02 to finalize the Procedural Handbook of the AASPG, circulate the draft Procedural Handbook to States and stakeholders, collect their additional contributions by 30 September 2024, and finalize the Handbook, for consideration by the next APIRG&RASG-AFI meeting.
- 1.4. This working paper presents the revised Draft Procedural Handbook of the AASPG including its Working Methods for review and submission to the consideration of the next APIRG & RASG-AFI joint meeting.

2 DISCUSSIONS

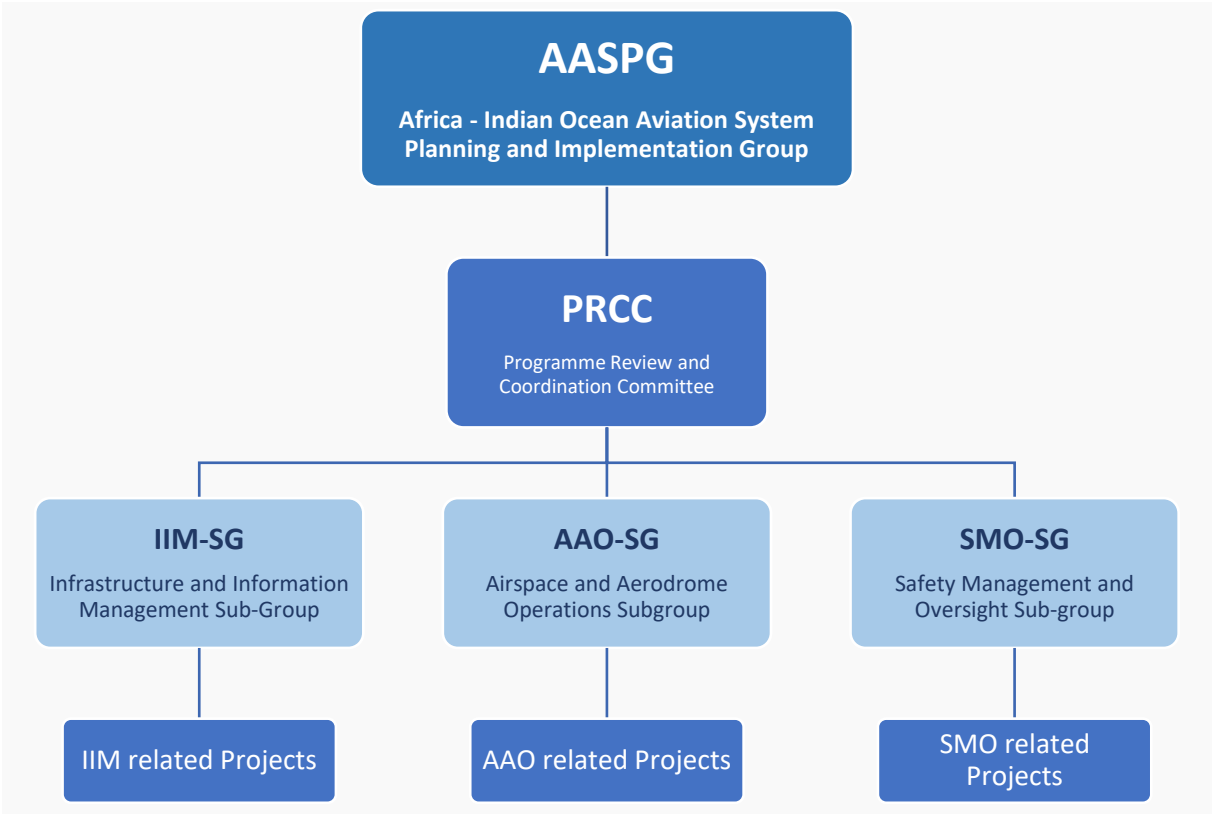
- 2.1. The Draft Procedural Handbook has been developed based on the agreed Organizational Structure as provided in **Appendix A** to this working paper. It is organized in Sections and Part headings describing the terms of reference, composition, position in ICAO, working arrangements, rules of procedure and practices governing the conduct of business. The framework of Section and Part headings, as well as the page numbering has been devised to provide flexibility, facilitating the revision or the addition of new material.
- 2.2. The First Edition of the AASPG Procedural Handbook reflects the recommendations from the ICAO Air Navigation Commission (ANC), the Special AFI Regional Air Navigation (RAN) Meeting (SP AFI/08) of November 2008), which recognized the need to have a clearly defined strategy to implement ATM systems as well as the need to align work programmes of the States, Regions and ICAO Headquarters. It also reflects the Council Decision C-DEC 210/4 aiming to enhance and improve the performance and expected results of PIRGS and RASGs.
- 2.3. This Edition of the AASPG Procedural Handbook reflects the merging of APIRG and RASG-AFI into a single regional Group, based on the ICAO Council's recommendations on the reporting structure and terms of reference, functions and participation of the Planning and Implementation Regional Groups (PIRGs) and the Regional Aviation Safety Groups (RASGs) and the revised Terms of reference as published by the Secretary General under Electronic Bulletin EB 2019/43, and as further amended following its Review of Assembly Resolutions and Decisions (C-DEC 219/7).
- 2.4. The draft AASPG Procedural Handbook was circulated to States and Stakeholders through the State Letter T 17/5.1 – 0676 on 13 September 2024, requesting their inputs and comments as per APIRG & RASG-AFI/EO - Decision EO/02.
- 2.5. Based on the additional contributions received from States and Stakeholders, the consolidated final draft of the AASPG Procedural Handbook is presented in **Appendix B** to this working paper, for consideration by the meeting.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

- 3.1. The meeting is invited to:
 - a) take note of the information presented in this working paper; and
 - b) review the consolidated draft AASPG Procedural Handbook for submission to the APIRG&RASG-AFI Joint meeting; and
 - c) Provide further guidance as appropriate.

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Organizational structure of the AASPG



Draft Procedural Handbook of the AASPG