



## 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

##### Transitional arrangements of the AASPG

*(Presented by the Secretariat)*

<b>SUMMARY</b>	
<p>The paper recalls the previous decisions of APIRG and RASG-AFI meetings on the merging of the two groups into the new Group named AASPG and presents the related transitional arrangements.</p> <p>Action by the Meeting is provided <b>in paragraph 3</b></p>	
<p><b>REFERENCES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ APIRG and RASG-AFI Terms of Reference and Procedural Handbooks</li> <li>▪ The Global Aviation Safety and the Global Air Navigation Plans</li> <li>▪ Doc 7474, Air Navigation Plan - Africa-Indian Ocean Region</li> <li>▪ APIRG/25 &amp; RASG-AFI/8 Joint meetings Report</li> <li>▪ APIRG/26 &amp; RASG-AFI/9 Joint meetings Report</li> <li>▪ APIRG &amp; RASG-AFI 2024 Extraordinary meeting Report</li> </ul>	
<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. 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 Joint session, through its APIRG/26 & RASG-AFI/9 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.

- 1.3. The meeting agreed to deliberate on the transitional arrangements presented by the Secretariat during the upcoming APIRG and RASG-AFI Meeting to be held in November 2024 in South Africa.
- 1.4. The working paper is presenting for review the transitional arrangements from the current APIRG and RASG-AFI groups to the new AASPG.

## **2 DISCUSSIONS**

### *Approval of the AASPG by the ICAO Council*

- 2.1. Both APIRG and RASG-AFI are regional Groups established by the ICAO Council. The APIRG was set up by the Council of ICAO, in 1980, as recommended by the Sixth AFI Regional Air Navigation Meeting (AFI/6) held in 1979. The ICAO Council at the fourth meeting of its 190<sup>th</sup> Session held on 25 May 2010, through the Decision C-DEC 190/4, approved the establishment of RASGs including the RASG-AFI for the Africa-Indian Ocean Region, with the aim of supporting a regional performance framework for the management of safety.
- 2.2. The new group AASPG replacing APIRG and RASG-AFI will be submitted to the ICAO Council for endorsement.

### *Transitional arrangements*

- 2.3. The following principles are proposed for review by this meeting and consideration by the APIRG&RASG-AFI meeting as transitional arrangements between the two groups and the new AASPG:
  - a) The APIRG and RASG-AFI, and their contributory bodies, to continue their activities until the approval of the AASPG by the ICAO Council;
  - b) After the Council approval of the AASPG,
    - i. the IIM and AAO sub-groups under the APIRG framework to continue their activities under the AASPG in normal course, for reporting to the AASPG through the PRCC; and the new SMO sub-group to start its activities with a first meeting that should report to the first ordinary meeting of the AASPG through the PRCC;
    - ii. a first extraordinary meeting of the AASPG to be convened by the current secretary of APIRG who should ensure its secretariat; The said meeting should ensure continuity of business from APIRG and RASG-AFI to the new Group; It would be chaired by the Chairperson of APIRG assisted by the Chairperson of RASG-AFI;
    - iii. the first extraordinary meeting of the AASPG should elect its Chair and Vice-chairs who would take over business of the Group at the closure of the meeting.
    - iv. the APIRG and RASG-AFI should cease existence after the first meeting of the AASPG to be held in 2025 and the relevant outstanding matters of the so terminated Groups should be taken over by the AASPG.

**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 proposed transitional arrangement for submission to the APIRG&RASG-AFI Joint meeting; and
- c) Provide further guidance as appropriate.

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