



SAT/15 WP/08
06/05/10

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
FIFTEENTH MEETING ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES
OVER
THE SOUTH ATLANTIC

Lisbon, Portugal, 17 to 21 May 2010

Agenda Item 1: : Air traffic management (ATM)

1.2. Follow up of the AORRA airspace implementation

ESTABLISHMENT OF AORRA TRANSITION ROUTES IN THE ACCRA FIR

(Presented by Ghana)

Summary

This working paper presents the challenges faced by Ghana in implementing the request from IATA to establish seven Transition Routes to link up AORRA airspace in the Accra FIR and invites the meeting to review and advice Ghana as appropriate on the request.

1. Background

- 1.1 AORRA phase 2 was implemented in the Accra FIR Oceanic airspace as part of the regional programme on 9th April 2009.
- 1.2 As part of preparations leading to the implementation of AORRA phases 3 and 4 in July, IATA requested Ghana to establish additional Entry/Exit Gate at Longitude 002 West on the Equator. This has been done.
- 1.3 IATA has further requested the establishment of four (4) Transition Routes from **TYE VOR** (*shown in violet colours*) and three (3) Transition Routes from **ACC VOR** (*shown in blue colours*) to the AORRA Entry and Exit Gates in the Accra FIR, as in the Chart attached to this Working Paper.
- 1.4 As can be seen, the total of seven Transition Routes crosses five (5) ATS Routes at

twenty-five (25) crossing points which are too close to one another.

- 1.5 Ghana is still planning to implement **ADS-C/CPDLC** to improve surveillance coverage over the oceanic area. The current situation does not provide adequate surveillance to manage traffic over the numerous crossing points at the AORRA Transition and established ATS routes.
- 1.6 Ghana has informed both IATA and ICAO Regional Offices about the problem and its likely impact on safety and asked them for suggestions on how to proceed with implementation of the seven Transition Routes.
- 1.7 IATA and ICAO Regional Office both agree that the implementation of the seven Transition Routes could be a problem.
- 1.8 Ghana believes that experts at the SAT 15 meeting can review the request from IATA for implementation of the seven Transition Routes in the Accra FIR Oceanic airspace as part of the overall preparation towards AORRA phases 3 and 4 implementation and give appropriate recommendations.

2. Action by the meeting

- 2.1 The meeting is invited to:
 - a) Review the request by IATA for the establishment of seven Transition Routes from **TYE** and **ACCVORs** in the Accra FIR to link up four AORRA Entry and Exit Gates in the Accra Oceanic airspace;
 - b) Examine the closeness of the 25 Crossing Points between the AORRA Transition Routes and established ATS Routes;
 - c) Analyse the potential for conflict and error by pilots or air traffic controllers;
 - d) Consider the risks and hazards and their likely impact of safety; and
 - e) Advise Ghana as appropriate on the implementation of the Transition Routes.

