

**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION****Western and Central Africa Office****Second Meeting of the Central Atlantic FIR Satellite Network (CAFSAT) Management Committee
(CNMC/2)****(Dakar, Senegal, 06-08 November 2012)****Agenda Item 9: Any other business****Review of SNMC 20th conclusions & decisions****(Presented by the secretariat)**

SUMMARY
The purpose of this paper is to provide the meeting with the 20 th meeting of SNMC.
Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.
References : Summary of conclusion of SNMC 20 th meeting.
Related ICAO Strategic Objectives A.

1. Introduction

The 20th Meeting of the Satellite Network Management Committee (SNMC/20) was held from 08 to 12 October 2012 at the **REIZ CONTINENTAL HOTEL**, Abuja, Nigeria.

The aim of the meeting was to reinforce the cooperation amongst members for the improvement of the Quality of Aeronautical Communication Services supported by the AFISNET network and put in place relevant technical arrangements to support sustainable development of the network and facilitate the integration of CNS components (AMHS, AIDC, AMS...).

Fifty two (52) participants from seven (07) States (Algeria, Angola, Egypt, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa) and seven (07) Regional Air Navigation Service Providers (ASECNA, ATNS, ENANA, ENNA, GCAA, NAMA, Roberts FIR), and two Satellite Service Providers (MANSC General satellite-Egypt, NIGCOMSAT-Nigeria) attended the meeting.

2. Discussion

2.1 The issues discussed under the ten agenda items focused mainly on the evaluation of the current performance of AFISNET and on the remedial actions undertaken or to be envisaged for the improvement of the network in particular the meeting deliberated amongst others on:

- AFISNET operational and technical statistics of availability (AFTN rate of Availability, Stations MTBF and MTTR performance), lost flight plans;
- Implementation of Special AFIRAN meeting Recommendations 6/18 (AFISNET Technical Evaluation and re-engineering), and 6/19 (Planning, implementation and operation of very small aperture terminal (VSAT) networks in the AFI Region);
- AFISNET band width re-engineering and protection of C-Band for VSAT operation;
- AFISNET integration with other AFI regional networks (CAFSAT, NAFISAT, SADC/2);
- ICAO Aviation System Block Upgrades (ASBU) concept and Required Communication Performance (RCP) for AFISNET;

The meeting updated and adopted the draft Term of Reference and the Form of Agreement of SNMC and formulated **14** Conclusions and **6** Decisions as attached in Appendix to this working Paper.

2.2 Some, among these conclusions of SNMC 20th meeting could be of interest to CNMC future development such as:

Conclusion 20/04: *Licenses for AFISNET Maintenance Personnel*; **Decision 20/08:** *Mitigation of missing Flight Plans*; **Conclusion 20/09:** *Automation of AFISNET operational Performance assessment*; **Conclusion 20/14:** *Completion of the interconnection process between AFISNET and its neighboring networks*; **Conclusion 20/17:** *Implementation of Resolution 154 (COM 6/24)- WRC-12 and preparation of WRC-15*; **Conclusion 20/18:** *Satellite back up and AFISNET band width re-engineering*

3. Action by the meeting:

The meeting is invited to:

- a) Take note of the above information;
- b) Take benefit from the experience of SNMC 20th meeting as reflected in these conclusions/decisions attached;

**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA OFFICE**

**Twentieth Meeting of the AFI Satellite Network Management Committee (SNMC/20)
(Abuja, Nigeria, 08-12 October 2012)**

DRAFT CONCLUSIONS

Agenda Item 1: Follow up on SNMC/19 Conclusions

Conclusion 20/01: Implementation of SNMC/19 outstanding conclusions

That:

SNMC member States/Organizations are urged to implement the outstanding Conclusions/Decisions of SNMC previous meetings including those related to SNMC/19's as presented in Appendix A and to undertake corrective actions in order to:

- a) Restore and stabilize the AFISNET operational/technical reliability and availability as required;
- b) Provide adequate resources to ensure maintenance personnel exchange and training;
- c) Improve the maintenance coordination and monitoring procedures by bilateral and multilateral maintenance personnel exchange

Decision 20/02: Finalization of the common training programme for AFISNET maintenance personnel

That:

- a) A Task Force is established to finalize not later than end of July 2013, the draft training programme developed by Ghana for AFISNET maintenance personnel based on the common facilities and the provision of ICAO Training Manual for Air Traffic Safety Electronics Personnel (ATSEP), Doc 7192-AN/857 Part E-2.
- b) Ghana coordinate the work of the Task Force and report for circulation and consolidation among SNMC members with copy to ICAO WACAF Regional Office.

Conclusion 20/03: Development of training plans for Maintenance personnel

That:

SNMC States/Organizations develop and implement short, medium and long term training plans for maintenance personnel taking into consideration the provision of the common training programme and the training capability existing in the Region;

The status of implementation of the short term training will be reported to next SNMC 21th meeting.

Conclusion 20/04: Licenses for AFISNET Maintenance Personnel

That:

SNMC Sates/Organizations undertake a harmonized study for a possible issuance of licenses to AFISNET Maintenance Personnel based on the successful implementation of the training programme and plans and subsequently ensure attractive position and conditions with regard to the responsibility and accountability required from the licensed personnel.

Decision 20/05: Development of a calibration center for AFISNET Test Equipments

That:

In accordance with Decisions 18/02 of SNMC/18 and 19/04 of SNMC/19

- a) ASECNA tasked as Team leader by SNMC/19 pursue its effort in the development of the study for the implementation of the regional calibration center called upon by SNMC /18 and 19 meetings;
- b) SNMC members that have not done so, provide/complete an exhaustive list of tests equipments for the development of a data base and the finalization of the feasibility studies by end of January 2013 and;
- c) ICAO continue to support the implementation process;

Decision 20/06: Nomination of Focal point to follow up SNMC conclusions/decisions

That:

- a) The nominated Focal Points as per Appendix B, forward to the current SNMC Coordinator (NAMA) a quarterly report on the status of implementation of the conclusions/decisions of SNMC 20;
- b) The current coordinator (NAMA) circulate amongst SNMC members a consolidated quarterly report on the status of implementation of the conclusions/decisions of SNMC 20;
- c) The electronic medium should be used for data exchange and reporting.

Agenda Item 2: Review of AFISNET operational and technical statistics of availability

Conclusion 20/07: Improvement of AFS (ATS/DS &AFTN) circuits

That:

As a matter of urgency concerned SNMC States conduct immediate collaborative actions aiming to investigating on the current failing AFS circuits and clear out the deficiencies reported to SNMC and attached in Appendix C.

Decision 20/08: Mitigation of missing Flight Plans

That:

- a) Local Study Groups comprising technical and operational personal be established by each SNMC member not later than end of December 2012, in order to assess the technical and operational causes of missing flight plans, propose and undertake actions for their mitigation;
- b) The outcome of the local assessment should be shared with concerned centers for collaborative remedial actions;
- c) The current coordinator (NAMA) aggregate the reports of the local Study Groups and report to next SNMC meeting.

Conclusion 20/09: Automation of AFISNET operational Performance assessment

That:

In accordance with APIRG/18 deliberations (APIRG/18 Report § 3.4.28) adopting the Performance Data Collection Form (PDCF),

1) States/Organization endeavor to:

- a) Participate in the development of a comprehensive database for AFS-AFTN statistics management and monitoring in the AFI Region;
- b) Fill the Excel PDCF document and other relevant forms and report to the regional Office

2) ICAO assist States/Organization in the automation of AFISNET Performance assessment

Conclusion 20/10: Automation of AFISNET Four Levels Performance Assessment system

That:

- a) As a matter of urgency ASECNA circulate the model of four levels Performance Assessment principle for consideration by SNMC Administrations/Organizations;
- b) In order to ensure a common performance evaluation exercise an automated network Performance Assessment system development be initiated by ASECNA and presented to next SNMC meeting.

Agenda Item 3: Implementation of Special AFIRAN meeting recommendations 6/18 and 6/19

Audit of AFISNET

3.1 Status of implementation of SP/AFI/RAN Recommendation 6/18: AFISNET Technical Evaluation and re-engineering

Decision 20/11: Terms of reference Action plan and timescale of the Audit of AFISNET

That:

- a) The revised terms of reference, the action plan and the timescale of the AFISNET audit, be adopted as per Appendixes D
- b) ICAO continue to coordinate the implementation process of the audit and launch the request for proposals for the audit to be completed within the timescale.

Conclusion 20/12: High level SNMC Administration meeting

That:

SNMC States/Organizations convene as soon as possible under the auspices of ICAO, a high level Administration heads meeting in order to agree on the funding mechanism for the implementation of Recommendation 6/18 of SP AFI RAN.

3.2 Status of implementation of SP/AFI/RAN Recommendation 6/19: Planning, implementation and operation of very small aperture terminal (VSAT) networks in the AFI Region

Conclusion 20/13: Participation of SNMC members in the meeting of the Task Force on the Development of a Regional Project on an AFI Integrated Aeronautical Telecommunication Infrastructure

That:

SNMC members endeavor to implement the Conclusion/Decisions derived from the outcome of the meetings of the Task Force for the AFI Aeronautical VSAT Networks Regional Project and actively participate in the future meetings of the Task Force for the development of an AFI Regional integrated aeronautical telecommunication infrastructure

Agenda Item 4: Interconnection and interoperability of AFISNET with its neighboring networks (CAFSAT, NAFISAT, SADC2)

Conclusion 20/14: Completion of the interconnection process between AFISNET and its neighboring networks

That:

States/Organizations pursue the interconnection process between AFISNET and the neighboring networks in order to achieve the remaining AFS circuits required for ATM operation in particular:

- a) ASECNA and ATNS to continue their technical cooperation to assist the concerned States to establish via the interconnection between AFISNET and NAFISAT/SADC 2 the Moroni/Victoria, Moroni / Dar-es-Salam, Alger/Tripoli, Pointe Noire/ Luanda links and stabilize the following circuits: Brazzaville/Kinshasa, Luanda/Brazzaville;
- b) ASECNA, ENNA and French DGAC to complete the establishment of the link between Algiers and Aix.
- c) ICAO continue to assist the concerned stakeholders with guidance and technical coordination meetings aiming to meeting agreement on cost effectiveness solutions for the implementation of the interconnection.

Conclusion 20/15: Bilateral agreement covering the interconnections between AFISNET and SADC/2 and NAFISAT

That:

ATNS and ASECNA continue further discussions to finalize and endorse the bilateral agreement covering the interconnections between AFISNET and SADC/2 / NAFISAT and assist other SNMC members if needed, to conclude similar agreements aiming to ensuring a quality of service level supported by the links.

Conclusion 20/16: AFISNET in ICAO Aviation System Block Upgrades (ASBU) context

That

SNMC States/Organizations endeavor to prepare and participate in the 12th (Montreal, 10-30 November 2012) Air Navigation Conference and take into account the ASBU concept and methodology to better conduct the AFISNET modernization exercise.

Agenda Item 5: Outcome of ITU WRC-12 pertaining to VSATs Networks and preparation of WRC-15

Conclusion 20/17: Implementation of Resolution 154 (COM 6/24)- WRC-12 and preparation of WRC-15

That:

SNMC Sates/Organizations endeavor to:

- a) Appropriate and promote the outcome on issues of WRC-12 related to the provision of spectrum for civil aviation;
- b) Actively participate in the studies called upon by Resolution 154 (COM6/24)-WRC 12 through the activities of AFI/FMG, ACP WG F meetings and ATU regional meetings;
- c) Strengthen their collaboration with their National Authority of Regulation of Telecommunication and other stakeholders involved in the usage of aeronautical spectrum in order to agree on Collaborative Decision Making (CDM) in support to the forthcoming ICAO position for the future WRC-15/16

Agenda Item 6: AFISNET band width re-engineering;

Conclusion 20/18: Satellite back up and AFISNET band width re-engineering

That:

SNMC Sates/Organizations:

- a) develop a customer requirements to be submitted to the satellite Service Provider INTELSAT and that will address the feasibility of technical solutions to be deployed in case of satellite failure and;
- b) Schedule the IBS to leased band conversion with INTELSAT and complete the implementation of conclusion 17/10 and 18/13, 19/13 of respective SNMC/17, 18 and 19 meetings.

Agenda Item 7: Review of the APIRG/18 conclusion related to AFISNET

Conclusion 20/19: Review of the APIRG/18 conclusion related to AFISNET

That:

SNMC Sates/Organizations:

- a) Implement APIRG/18 Conclusions 18/24, 18/25 & 18/26 related respectively to:
 - 1. Contingency Planning for AFI VSAT Networks Operations
 - 2. Best practices for AFI VSAT Networks
 - 3. Modernization of AFI VSAT Networks
- b) Increase their pace of participation to CNS/SG and APIRG forthcoming meetings.

Agenda Item 8: Required Communication Performance of AMS supported by AFISNET

Conclusion 20/19: Required Communication Performance of AMS supported by AFISNET

That:

When re-engineering AFISNET States/Organizations take advantage of the benefit provided by RCP concept for the reinforcement of the Quality of Service of aeronautical mobile communication within SNMC airspace.

Agenda Item 9: Review of the Term of reference and Work Programme of SNMC

Decision 20/20: Term of reference and Work Programme of SNMC

That;

The revised Terms of Reference of SNMC is adopted as presented at Appendix E