



International Civil Aviation Organization  
Western and Central African Office

**Fifth Meeting of the AFI Flight Plan Transition Task Force (FPLT TF/5)**  
**(Dakar, Senegal, 31 July to 3 August 2012)**

**Agenda Item 8: Review of the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the FPLT Task Force and Work Programme**

**REVIEW OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR) OF THE FPLT TASK FORCE  
AND WORK PROGRAMME**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

**SUMMARY**

This paper presents the TOR of the FPLT Task Force as adopted by APIRG/18 meeting for review, and if necessary, updating and refinement by the meeting in order to facilitate the work programme of the Task Force to best meet its mandate. The paper also calls for the review of the work programme based on identified tasks, convening of the next meeting of the Task Force, as well as post implementation challenges.

Action by the meeting is at **paragraph 3**.

**REFERENCES**

APIRG/18 Report

FPLT TF/4 Report

This Working Paper is related to Strategic Objective: **A**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The APIRG/17 meeting in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, 2-6 August 2010, established the FPLT task force with the objective to coordinate States preparedness, facilitate coordination in the AFI Region and with other ICAO Regions and provide guidance in order to enable harmonized implementation of the provisions of Amendment 1 to the 15th Edition of PANS-ATM (Doc 4444), as part of the overall requirement for a regional and global implementation of the new ICAO model flight plan, and to facilitate effective and successful transition.

## 2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The FPLT TF/4 meeting in February 2012 reviewed and updated the terms of reference and work programme of the Task Force, particularly the timelines set for the actions listed therein. These terms of reference were endorsed by APIRG/18 Meeting (27-30 March 2012), under its Decision 18/16. It was also agreed during the FPLT TF/4 meeting that in view of the scheduling of the FPLT TF/5 (31 July to 3 August 2012) and the FPLT TF/6 (October 2012), the *AFI-Wide* solution testing by ANSPs should be carried out on 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2012, for a two hour period as reflected in the testing guidance developed by the meeting.

2.2 The revised Terms of Reference (TOR) and Work Programme of the FPLT Task Force, as endorsed by APIRG/18, are provided at **Appendix 8A** and **Appendix 8B** to this working paper.

2.3 Based on progress made in addressing its assigned work programme, and taking into consideration latest regional and global developments including post implementation activities and challenges, the Task Force may wish to review its work programme reflecting its activities up to the end of 2012. Furthermore, the meeting may wish to consider the implementation follow up requirements and if necessary:

- (a) propose changes to the terms of reference in order to best meet its mandate; and
- (b) develop a post implementation work programme.

2.4 As part of its work programme, the FPLT Task Force may also wish to review and if agreeable endorsed the dates and venue of FPLT TF/6, as well as identify specific issues to be addressed by that meeting.

## 3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 Based on progress made in addressing its assigned work programme, and taking into consideration latest regional and global developments, including post implementation activities and challenges, the meeting is invited to:

- a) review, refine and enhance the FPLT Task Force TOR;
- b) accordingly amend the FPLT TF work programme ; and
- c) agree on the tentative dates, venue and specific issues to be addressed by the next meeting of the Task Force.

## **AFI FLIGHT PLAN TRANSITION TASK FORCE (FPLT TF)**

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

#### **Terms of reference:**

- 1) Conduct a comprehensive review of Amendment 1 to the Fifteenth Edition of the PANS ATM (Doc 4444, effective 15 November 2012) in order to identify, study and address implementation complexities arising from the adoption of amended PANS ATM Chapter 4, Chapter 11, Appendix 2 and Appendix 3 provisions relating to the ICAO Flight Plan and associated ATS Message formats;
- 2) Collect and analyze information on the status of AFI ANSP flight plan processing systems including ongoing upgrades to such systems;
- 3) On the basis of the above, and in accordance with relevant additional ICAO provisions and the SP AFI/8 RAN Recommendation 6/5, develop a coordinated AFI transition strategy and plan with associated timelines to enable the streamlined coordinated implementation of the amended Flight Plan and ATS Message provisions contained in Amendment 1 to the Fifteenth Edition of the PANS ATM; and
- 4) Periodically review the status of preparedness and propose solutions.

#### **Considerations:**

In addressing these terms of reference, the Task Force should consider, inter alia, the following aspects:

- a) Likelihood that changes within the systems in the AFI Region could differ from systems in other ICAO Regions and accordingly provide recommendable Regional action with global goals;
- b) Inter and intra regional issues;
- c) Impact on inter-system co-ordination messaging;
- d) Impact on non-automated flight plan processing systems;
- e) Systems that transition early will need to be capable of handling both “NEW” and “PRESENT” instruction sets;
- f) Inter-system exchanges need to take account of differing automation capabilities in order to avoid excessive message rejection;
- g) Establishment of an Information Management system to track implementation timelines for various States/systems;
- h) Management of Repetitive Flight Plans;
- i) Implications for presentation formats, including paper & electronic flight progress strips;
- j) Impacts to users (flight planning systems etc);

- k) Appropriately timed withdrawal of existing State or Regional specific requirements to ensure consistency with new (global) instruction set; and
- l) Existing ICAO guidance material.

## **Membership**

### **Core members:**

- ATM specialist and systems engineering experts (CNS) from AFI States and ANSPs with existing and planned automated flight plan processing systems
- ASECNA, IATA, IFALPA, IFATCA,

### **Note:**

*Algeria, Kenya, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, Sudan and Tanzania have offered their expertise as core members.*

### **Other members**

AFI States and ANSPs other than the above  
Expertise from States, ANSPs outside the AFI Region that may be invited by the Task Force based on beneficial inputs they may contribute

### **Note:**

*Industry participation including systems providers, if required, is to be included under responsibility of State delegations. The Task Force may however, invite specific expertise from international organizations and relevant aviation industry entities (including vendor organizations) in order to enhance information available for the Task Force to progress its work. Such invitations shall be managed to exclude promotion of commercial interests.*

## **Reporting**

The Task Force shall report progress to the AFI ATM/AIM/SAR Sub-Group in coordination with CNS Sub-Group. However, owing to the limited time available for planning and in some cases acquisition of systems, valuable planning information emanating from the Task Force may, after coordination with Secretary of APIRG be provided to States without waiting for forthcoming meetings of the AFI ATM/AIM/SAR Sub-Group.

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**AFI Flight Plan Transition Task Force (FPLT TF)  
Work Programme**

No	Task Description	Priority	Target Date
1.	Review the individual State implementation plans to ensure that there is consistency with Regional planning.	A	On-going
2.	Analyze the status of implementation preparedness from information provided by states through surveys, FITS and other sources with a view to facilitating progress monitoring and necessary action.	A	On-going
3.	Review impact of issues raised/emanating from other Regions with the objective of identifying commensurate action.	A	On-going
4.	Consider problems experienced in states and make specific recommendations relating to State specific and general technical and operational aspects.	A	On-going
5.	Identify the need for development of Regional guidance material.	A	On-going
6.	Carry out periodic review of the Regional strategy and implementation plan, and update/adjust as necessary.	A	Every TF meeting
7.	Develop mechanism for receiving test reports during the transition period of July to 14 November 2012 as well as response plan for issue that require Regional intervention.	A	February 2012
8.	Develop guidance on required Aeronautical Publications and dates with regard to: a) latest AIRAC date(s) for AIP Supplement on implementation requirement of amendment 1 to Doc 4444 15 <sup>th</sup> Edition; b) latest date that FPL on PRESENT format can be submitted, and to inform users that changes for departures which were to take place before 15 November 2012, up to 15 November 2012 or later, will require cancellation of FPL and filing as new format.	A	February 2012