



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION
AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP (APIRG)
METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP TWELFTH MEETING (MET/SG/12)

(Dakar, Senegal, 1 – 5 December 2014)

**Agenda Item 3: Review of the outcome of APIRG Extraordinary Meeting
(Lusaka, Zambia, 10-11 July 2014)**

REVIEW OF THE OUTCOME OF APIRG EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper reviews the outcome of the APIRG Extra ordinary meeting held Lusaka, Zambia from 10 to 11 July 2014, which revised the current structure and working methods of APIRG. The meeting agreed to merge the current sub groups into two, to enable focusing on conducive combination of ASBU modules. It further agreed on a new structure which replaces Task Forces with Project Teams which will be “non-standing” entities.

The action by the Meeting is at paragraph 3.

References: Reports of the APIRG 19, Extra ordinary meetings.

1. Introduction

1.1 The meeting may recall that the AFI Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG) meeting held in Dakar, Senegal, formulated decision 19/48 which, amongst others, requested APIRG Secretariat to develop a revised structure of the APIRG which takes into account best practices/benchmarking, established regional targets and priorities and the need for synergies between similar or complementary activities. In addition, call for an APIRG extraordinary meeting on this issue in 2014.

1.2 An APIRG extraordinary (APIRG/EO) meeting was consequently held in Lusaka, Zambia from 10 to 11 2014 with the objective of reviewing the proposals developed by the Secretariat for the structural transformations of the Group to improve effectiveness of regional implementation projects which, in turn, are based on ASBU methodology.

2 Discussion

Review of the current structure and presentation and discussion of the proposals developed by the secretariat for a revised structure and new working methods of the AIRG

2.1 The meeting may recall that the APIRG extraordinary meeting was presented with two reorganization options both of which were based on the four Performance Improvement Areas (PIAs) of the ICAO Aviation System Block Upgrades (ASBUs) methodology.

2.2 The meeting discussed the merits in the options presented, particularly issues relating to the achievement of synergies and harmonization of work volumes between the sub-groups that would be established and agreed on the following:

- a) that APIRG Projects Coordination Committee (APCC) – establishment of the APCC to undertake tasks that have hitherto been an increasing challenge. These include reducing the volume of material for consideration by APIRG meetings to manageable levels, carrying out certain tasks in between the APIRG meetings in order to facilitate continuity and efficiency in implementation, and supporting the required coordination between APIRG and RSG-AFI. The APCC will be composed of elected Chairperson and Vice-chairpersons, the Secretary of APIRG, elected Officials from Sub-Groups and Secretaries of the Sub-Groups.
- b) that the current Sub-Groups of APIRG are merged and replaced by two sub Groups listed as follows:-
 - a) **Airspace and Aerodrome Operations Sub-Group (AAO/SG).** Establishment of this Sub-Group recognizes the absolute necessity for effective coordination between various areas of ANS and AGA, with particular respect to the ASBUs Performance Improvement Area (PIA) 1 (Airport Operations), PIA 3 (Optimum Capacity and Flexible Flights), PIA 4 (Efficient Flight Paths); and,
 - b) **Infrastructure and Information Management Sub-Group (IIM/SG).** Establishment of this Sub-Group focuses on implementation in the context of PIA 2 (Globally Interoperable Systems and Data), on the role of digital processing and management of aeronautical information, meteorological information and the data link communications in support of the provision of Air Traffic Services (ATS). In addition, this grouping is in alignment with the Technology Roadmaps in the GANP (Doc 9750).

2.3 The group further agreed that having adopted a project management approach, there would be no “standing” structural bodies below the sub-groups. However, ‘projects’ would be identified by the Sub-Groups to be executed by ‘Teams’ of experts and champions reporting to the sub groups.

2.4 In view of the above, the Group adopted the following Decision;

DECISION EO/01: REORGANIZATION OF APIRG:-

That:

a) the new organizational structure of APIRG comprising:

- 1) one Projects Coordination Committee (APCC)***
- 2) one Airspace and Aerodrome Operations Sub-Group (AAO/SG),***
- 3) one Infrastructure and Information Management Sub-Group (IIM/SG), and***
- 4) one Traffic Forecasting Group (TFG),***

as described in Appendices B, C, D, E, and F to this report, is adopted and will become effective following the next APIRG meeting.;

b) the preliminary terms of reference of the APCC provided at Appendix D to this report are to be reviewed and finalized at the next APIRG meeting; and

c) projects be identified from ASBU modules and regional performance objectives adopted by APIRG, to be carried out by teams of experts provided by States and concerned international organizations.

The new organizational structure is given at **Appendix.....**

Discussion of transitional arrangements for APIRG work programme

2.5 The Group was mindful that the transition from the current APIRG structure to the new structure and working methods would have to take into consideration the need for continuity in its functions. More specifically, the Group recognized the following aspects:

- a) existing activities of APIRG, considered to still be essential should continue without any undue disruption;
- b) it is essential that coordination be carried out through existing APIRG structures and the Regional Offices' efforts, to facilitate functional appreciation of the new structure and working methods;
- c) representatives from States and organizations who are to participate and to operationalize the new structure, may best be identified through a regular meeting of APIRG, at which an agenda item on this aspect will have been circulated to States and organizations in advance;
- d) it is important not to delay implementation of the Fourth Edition of the GANP, specifically the ASBUs; and,
- e) there is no mandate, under the APIRG Decision 19/48 for the Extraordinary Meeting of the APIRG to vary current Conclusions and Decisions of APIRG beyond the structure and working methods of the Group.

2.6 In view of the above, the Group agreed on the following Decision:

DECISION EO/03: TRANSITION TO NEW APIRG ORGANIZATION

That the Secretariat and APIRG contributory bodies:

- a) continue to implement the work programmes as previously endorsed by the Group; and,***
- b) carry out necessary action to facilitate the operationalization of the new organizational structure and working methods of the APIRG, including reformulation of existing activities that continue to have relevance, into the projects management formats, to be presented for endorsement by the next meeting of the Group.***

3 Action by the Meeting

- a) The MET/SG is invited to note the information provided in this paper.

APPENDICES:

- Appendix B: General Presentation of the new APIRG structure
- Appendix C: Terms of Reference of the APIRG of the new APIRG structure
- Appendix A: APIRG Projects Coordination Committee (APCC)
- Appendix D: Airspace and Aerodrome Operations Sub-Group (AAO/SG)
- Appendix F: Infrastructure and Information Management Sub-Group (IMM/SG)