

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

First Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean Aviation System Planning and Implementation Group (AASPG/1)

Libreville, Gabon, 3 - 7 November 2025

Agenda Item 4: Implementation of safety and air navigation goals, targets and indicators, including priorities set in the Regional Aviation Safety and Air Navigation Plans

4.7. Other Aviation Safety and Air Navigation initiatives

Regional cooperation between ANSPs of the AFI region on AIXM databases

(Presented by ASECNA)

SUMMARY

This information paper presents the implementation of the AFI-CAD initiative in ASECNA and the cooperation between ASECNA and the Gambia for the production of the third edition of the Gambia's AIP derived from an AIXM database, as well as the planning and publication of AIP amendments.

Actions of the Meeting in paragraph 3.

REFRENCE(S)	■ AN-Conf 12 recommendation 3/8 (c)
	 APIRG/20 conclusion 20/33, 20/34 and 20/35
	 Global air navigation plan (GANP), Doc 9750
	 APIRG/21 conclusion 21/14
Strategic Objectives	Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency
Objectives	

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Since the ICAO Air Navigation Conference held in 2012, States in the AFI region have been invited to engage in intra-regional and inter-regional cooperation for a rapid transition from AIS to AIM in a harmonized manner. They were also invited to use digital data exchange and to consider regional and subregional AIS databases as a catalyst for the transition from AIS to AIM.
- 1.2 As a result, outcomes of APIRG meetings requested to implement the AFI-CAD framework. You may recall that the AFI-CAD initiative is an approach to meet the needs of airspace users in the AFI region

in terms of aeronautical databases, aeronautical obstacles and terrain data. The project's guidance documents and business plan have resulted in the establishment of 04 proposed AFI-CAD regional hubs in the AFI region as follows (see attached figure):

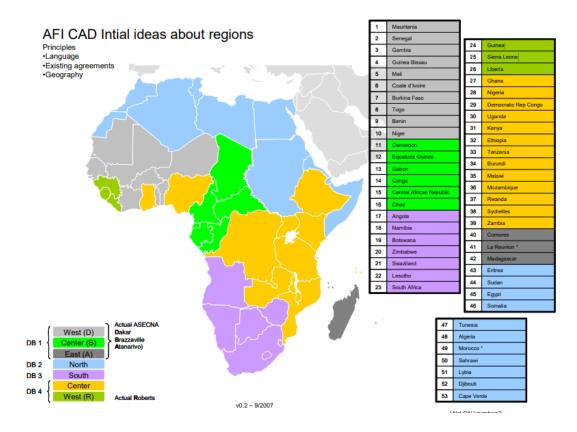
- Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Central Africa Republic, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo.
- Somalia, Egypt, Sudan, Eritrea, Cape Verde, Djibouti, Libya, Sahrawi, Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia.
- Lesotho, South Africa, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia and Angola.
- Zambia, Seychelles, Rwanda, Mozambique, Malawi, Burundi, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Democratic Republic, Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea.
- 1.3 In this context, ASECNA and The Gambia Civil Aviation Authority have undertaken a low-cost cooperation for the parties, guided by a joint plan signed on July 26, 2022, for the start of actions to host an AIXM database of The Gambia in the AIXM server environment of ASECNA, under a separate partition guaranteeing the intellectual property and rights of The Gambia. The scope of the said cooperation also included the handling of AIXM tools and the training of staff.
- 1.4 Since 01 January 2024, this successful cooperation has enabled The Gambia to digitalize its paper based AIP into electronic version hosted on its website.

2. DISCUSSION

- 2.1 To support the migration to AIXM, as part of the transition from AIS to AIM for The Gambia, the action plan signed between the parties provides for cooperation with ASECNA in the following areas:
 - Hosting of the Gambia aeronautical database in a dedicated server partition.
 - Generating an AIP from this database partition.
 - Continuous updating of the Gambia database and periodic publication of the AIP.
 - Induction of the Gambia AIS staff to be able to eventually generate the Gambia electronic AIP and update the database autonomously.
- 2.2 The implementation of the cooperation consisted of continuous coordination between the parties to aggregate the quality of available aeronautical information and a series of exchange missions in Banjul and Dakar, between experts from ASECNA and The Gambia, to achieve all objectives.
- 2.3 To allow The Gambia to access its aeronautical data independently, considering the context of the fight against cybercrime, a VPN tunnel and a Fortigate have been deployed in Banjul by ASECNA for dedicated staff.
- 2.4 The project was successfully completed in 2024, and The Gambia experts have published, with the support of ASECNA, the first AIP amendment to this third edition of their AIP this year 2025.

3. ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE MEETING

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to:
- a) Note the successful cooperation actions between ASECNA and The Gambia to produce The Gambia eAIP under the AFICAD initiative; and
- b) Note ASECNA readiness to cooperate with States of the AFI Region in the framework of the AFICAD initiative for a harmonized transition from AIS to AIM.



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