



ICAO

*International Civil Aviation Organization***Sixth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific ATS Inter-Facility  
Data-Link Communication Implementation Task Force  
(APA TF/6) of APANPIRG**

Web-conference, 14 – 16 July 2020.

**Agenda Item 6: Review Terms of Reference and the achievements of the Task Force and discuss a dissolved date of the Task Force per directive given by CNS SG/23 (para. 3.37 of the meeting report refers)**

## **REVIEW OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF APA TASK FORCE**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

### **SUMMARY**

This paper presents the Terms of Reference of APA Task Force and the tasks/action items agreed at previous meeting for review.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The Terms of Reference (TOR) of the AIDC Implementation Task Force was adopted by APANPIRG at its Twenty Fifth meeting through Decision 25/37. It had been reviewed through consolidated Decision APANPIRG/26/66. The TOR was reviewed by the Fifth meeting of the Task Force. The meeting did not identify the need to amend the TOR of the Task Force in 2019.

1.2 Noting the achievements made in completion of tasks specified in the TOR and the need to further facilitate AIDC implementation between States against the agreed target dates, the APA TF/5 meeting agreed to discuss a dissolved date of the Task Force at its next meeting.

## **2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 The TOR of the APA Task Force is provided in **Appendix A** to this paper for further review by this meeting.

2.2 The Fifth meeting of APA Task Force in April 2019 also updated the focal point for AIDC implementation designated by States/Administrations. The list is provided in **Appendix B** to this paper for review by the meeting.

2.3 The CNS SG/23 meeting held in September 2019 noted the achievements made by the APA TF in completion of tasks specified in the TOR which focusing Southeast Asia and Bay of Bengal sub-regions, the meeting invited the AIDC Task Force to discuss a dissolved date of the Task Force at its next meeting.

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2.4 At CNS SG/23 meeting, Nepal proposed to further share the experience gained by States/Administration that already implemented AIDC. The meeting recalled that the requirements for AIDC implementation is specified in the AIDC Planning Table in the Regional Air Navigation Plan and it is also listed as a priority in the APAC seamless ANS plan. The focal points for AIDC implementation available from the ICAO APAC website can be used for facilitating implementation. The regional AIDC implementation guidance material and the consolidated issues collected by the APA TF with some recommended solutions can facilitate AIDC implementation between States.

2.5 Upon a query regarding on whether the implementation status chart can be included into the updated seamless ANS plan, the co-chair of APA TF stated at CNS SG/23 meeting that the chart in the current form is not completed as it is based on reported implementation status in the APA TF only and further updates including verification and confirmation would be required.

**3. ACTION REQUIRED BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) review the TOR of the APA Task Force provided in **Appendix A**; and
- c) review and update the list of focal point for AIDC Implementation in the APAC Region provided in **Appendix B**.

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**ASIA/PACIFIC**  
**ATS INTER-FACILITY DATA-LINK COORDINATION (AIDC)**  
**TASK FORCE (APA/TF)**  
**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

APA/TF Objective and Scope

The Asia/Pacific ATS Inter-Facility Data-Link Coordination Task Force (APA/TF) shall be responsible for overseeing the expedition of AIDC implementation in accordance with the Asia/Pacific Seamless ATM Plan within the Asian Region, with a particular focus on the Bay of Bengal (BOB) and South China Sea (SCS) areas.

Tasks

The APA/TF shall support the implementation of AIDC within the Asia/Pacific Region by:

- a) identifying problems and barriers for implementation of AIDC, with a particular focus on the BOB and SCS areas and establish an **action plan** committing the stakeholders to agreed and realistic\* milestones. The action plan should prioritize the actions according to the potential safety impacts of the considered issues and **use the most efficient mechanisms** including Small Working Groups (SWGs), aviation industry teams and/or Go-teams (subject to funding) where required, to directly assist Asia/Pacific administrations within the BOB and SCS areas;
- b) **solving the problems** according to the action plan; and
- c) taking any appropriate action **to meet the AIDC regional targets (phase 1 for 2015 and prepare phase 2018)** as far as practicable, including the development of Asia/Pacific AIDC implementation guidance material\*\* to complement ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices and the deliverables of the ICAO Inter-Regional AIDC Task Force (IRAIDC TF).

\* This means that the milestones will take into account the delays induced by funding and implementation of ATM systems upgrades and associated procedures if needed.

\*\* Such guidance material should take into account the density and complexity of air traffic (including the prevalence of ATC coordination errors), the requirements for User Preferred Routing (UPR) and Dynamic Airborne Re-route Planning (DARP), the Flight Information Region Boundary (FIRB) proximity to departure and arrival aerodromes or other FIRBs and ancillary AIDC functions (including automated transfer of Controller-Pilot Data-link Communications (CPDLC) data authority).

Frequency

The APA/TF shall meet approximately twice a year and will use webconferences.

Schedule

The TF should complete its work in accordance with the planning. An indication could be 1 to 2 years for tasks a) and b) and 2 to 3 years for task c).

Reporting

The TF should report to APANPIRG through CNS SG.

Composition of APA/TF

The APA/TF will consist of ATM and CNS representatives from Asia/Pacific States (ANS Providers), IATA, CANSO, IFALPA and IFATCA. Experts on AIDC from outside the Asia/Pacific may attend if their technical input would be beneficial to the APA/TF.

Trans-regional States to the Asia/Pacific concerned by the action plan or having an interest in AIDC may also be invited.

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## LIST OF FOCAL POINT FOR AIDC IMPLEMENTATION

(Ref.: AP097/15 – 07 July 2015)

Updated on: 25/04/19

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Appendix B to APA TF/6 - WP/03

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