



ICAO

TENTH MEETING OF THE REGIONAL AVIATION SAFETY GROUP -
ASIA AND PACIFIC REGIONS (RASG-APAC/10)

(Bangkok, Thailand, 17-18 December 2020 on Virtual Platform)

RASG-APAC/10-IP/1
Agenda Item 5

Agenda Item 5: ICAO/ Member State / Industry Presentations

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS OF INTEREST

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper provides an update on related items of interest to States. This includes an update on recent changes in the conduct of USOAP CMA and planning for 2021, an update on delayed GANP Blocks, an update on runway safety programme, GRF and SNOWTAM and an update on Trust Framework.

Strategic Objectives:

*A: **Safety** – Enhance global civil aviation safety*

*B: **Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency** — Increase the capacity and improve the efficiency of the global aviation system*

*E: **Environmental Protection** — Minimize the adverse environmental effects of civil aviation activities.*

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This paper provides an update on recent changes in the conduct of USOAP CMA and planning for 2021, update on delayed GANP Blocks, an update on runway safety programme, GRF and SNOWTAM, and an update on the Trust Framework.

2. DISCUSSION

Update on recent changes in the conduct of USOAP CMA and planning for 2021

2.1 The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic had an unprecedented effect on the USOAP CMA's planned activities for 2020 and 2021. Since March 2020, all travel was suspended, resulting in the cancellation or postponement of all remaining on-site activities such as CMA audits, ICAO Coordinated Validation Missions (ICVMs), State Safety Programme Implementation Assessments (SSPIAs), and CMA workshops.

2.2 The USOAP CMA redirected its resources to focus on off-site activities (e.g., desk audits, virtual ICVMs, off-site validation activities) and Corrective Action Plan (CAP) assessments, in addition to completing the report production phase of five on-site activities conducted prior to travel restrictions. These activities, which include the completion of draft reports, translations as required, consultation with States concerned on the draft reports, and the publication of the final reports, are proceeding according to normal timelines.

2.3 ICAO has accelerated its USOAP CMA transformative activities. The implementation of the recommendations of the Group of Experts for a Structured Review of the USOAP CMA (GEUSR) and the overall work of the Ad Hoc USOAP CMA Advisory Group (USOAP-AG) continue despite changes in the working arrangements at both ICAO and in the participating States and organizations. Furthermore, the USOAP is conducting virtual validation activities in select States. These activities will be refined further based on best practices and lessons learned with the aim of ensuring standardization and improving the resilience of the programme.

2.4 Regarding the ICAO USOAP Activity Plan for 2021, ICAO has reviewed its Electronic Bulletin (EB 2020/34) previously published in June 2020 and updated it accordingly, taking into consideration COVID-19 related cancellations and postponements of the 2020 activities and the reassessment of the 2021 activities. ICAO will publish its standard biannual Electronic Bulletin in January 2021 to reflect these changes.

Update on delayed GANP Block

2.5 The only ASBU element affected was COMI-B1/1 from Block 1 (2019) to Block 2 (2025). However, this extension in time does not imply a delay to any dependent ASBU elements as they were already within Block 2 or onwards. vAs such, there is no change in Blocks of the GANP.

Update on runway safety programme, GRF and SNOWTAM

2.6 **GRF (including SNOWTAM):** Momentum is being re-built as we look towards the new 2021 Applicability Date. Close coordination is being maintained with ICAO Regional Offices and industry through an informal ‘implementation coordination group’, to which the APAC office actively participates. In particular, the APAC office is proposing an implementation-monitoring tool, to be discussed with the other regions with the intention of ICAO-wide adoption. The APAC Office has also provided valuable input to other implementation-related work (such as the development of additional guidance on the use of ATIS to transmit RCR information). They have also hosted a number of awareness events (most recently as webinars), making good use of regional ‘champions’. These events have included a briefing on the use of the new SNOWTAM format. Training remains a challenge for APAC (and indeed all regions). Action will be taken to promote the existing ICAO/ACI and ICAO/IATA courses for airport operations and flight crew respectively, using the launch ICAO/IATA/CANSO course as a platform (i.e. promoting the courses as a ‘package’).

2.7 **Runway Safety:** The runway safety programme is being revitalized, with a regular regional coordination meeting now taking place and a runway safety partners meeting scheduled for March 2021. The APAC Regional Office is contributing to this activity through participation in the coordination meetings and relating their experience with Runway Safety Teams (RST), Go-Teams and ACI’s APEX. Short-term actions for the runway safety programme will be a revision of the Go-Team methodology (e.g. to include virtual mechanisms) and a global webinar to raise awareness of the need to establish RST and host Go-Teams.

2.8 These actions are seen to be important in the context of GRF deployment and the need to ensure runway safety during the COVID crisis and recovery, recognizing the potential risks associated with changes to the use of runway systems, to surface traffic volumes and flows. Of particular note is the need to increase the number of RST in the APAC Region from the current 70 (there are 342 international airports in the region) and improve monitoring of their activities (in fact common issue for many regions).

Update on Trust Framework

2.9 The cyber resilience work in ICAO is centered on the reduction of the cyber-attack surface through a modern identity management process and a resilient network as part of a trust framework to be based on common standards, anchorage in State sovereignty, and applied consistently across the system, facilitating global recognition of trust. Trials are in progress to verify the effectiveness of the proposed procedures, before a formal global proposal supported by a group of experts.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The Meeting is invited to note the information provided.

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