



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization

**Seventh Meeting of the Asia/Pacific ATS Inter-Facility
Data-Link Communication Implementation Task Force
(APA TF/7) of APANPIRG**

Video Teleconference,

Agenda Item 6: Review Terms of Reference and the achievements of the Task Force

REVIEW OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF APA TASK FORCE

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the Terms of Reference of APA Task Force and main achievements for review by this meeting.

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.

1.2 The following meetings of the Task Force have been held:

- APA TF/1 16 - 18 June 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand
- APA TF/2 16 - 18 March 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand
- APA TF/3 26 - 28 April 2017 in Makassar, Indonesia
- APA TF/4 3 - 5 April 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand
- APA TF/5 23 - 25 April 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand
- APA TF/6 14 - 16 July 2020 Web-conference
- APA IGD WG/1 13 - 15 December 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand
- APA IGD WG/2 14 - 16 February 2017 in Bangkok, Thailand
- APA IGD WG/3 25 April 2017 in Makassar, Indonesia
- Teleconference 10 November 2015
- Teleconference 1 February 2016
- Teleconference 1 August 2016

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2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The Asia/Pacific ATS Inter-Facility Data-Link Coordination Task Force (APA/TF) was established 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.

2.2 With the efforts of expert members nominated by States/Administrations and under the leadership of co-chairs, significant achievements have been made since the establishment of this task force, including the preparation of AIDC Planning Table in the Regional Air Navigation Plan, development of AIDC Implementation and Operations Guidance Document, maintenance of AIDC Issues Report, summary of AIDC focal points, the Implementation Status Chart as well as the sharing of the experience gained by States/Administration in the challenging process of AIDC implementation.

2.3 The accomplishments by this task force has been recognized at global level and the APAC AIDC Implementation and Operations Guidance Document is to be used as an important reference to ICAO guidance under development.

2.4 The Sixth meeting of the Task Force (APA TF/6) reviewed the TOR in July 2020, and did not identify the need to amend the TOR of the Task Force. The TOR of the APA Task Force is provided in Appendix A to this paper for further review by this meeting.

2.5 The APA TF/6 also reviewed the focal point for AIDC implementation designated by States/Administrations. The list is provided in Appendix B to this paper for review and update by the meeting.

2.6 The requirements for AIDC implementation is listed as a priority in the APAC Seamless ANS plan. The APA TF/6 meeting highlighted that AIDC implementation in South China Sea sub-region was satisfactory while further efforts by States in the Bay of Bengal sub-region were required.

2.7 The implementation of AIDC is an ongoing task for ANSPs to enhance the ATS safety and efficiency, the tasks outlined in the ToR shall be continued to facilitate AIDC implementation at inter-regional, regional or sub-regional level.

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**;
- c) review and update the list of focal point for AIDC Implementation in the APAC Region provided in **Appendix B**; and
- d) discuss any relevant matter as appropriate.

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.

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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