



International Civil Aviation Organization

ICAO

The Ninth Meeting of the APANPIRG ATM Sub-Group
(ATM/SG/9)

Video Teleconference, 01 – 05 November 2021

Agenda Item 5: ATM Systems (Modernisation, Seamless ATM, CNS, ATFM)

ASIA/PACIFIC UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS UPDATE

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents updated information on developments in the field of Unmanned Aircraft Systems.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 ATM/SG/7 adopted the *Asia/Pacific Regional Guidance for the Regulation and Safe Operation of UAS within National Airspace (Conclusion ATM/SG/7-9)*.

1.2 The Unmanned Aircraft Systems Advisory Group (UAS-AG) of the Remotely-Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) Panel has developed ICAO UAS Toolkit.

1.3 The Virtual DRONE ENABLE 2021 Symposium was held from 13 to 15 and 20 to 21 April 2021.

2. DISCUSSION

APAC Regional Guidance

2.1 The Asia/Pacific (APAC) Regional Guidance for the Regulation and Safe Operation of UAS within National Airspace, developed by the APAC UAS Task Force (APUAS/TF) and approved by ATM/SG/7, is available on the ICAO Asia/Pacific Regional Office eDocuments web-page (ATM Section) at:

<https://www.icao.int/APAC/Pages/eDocs.aspx>.

2.2 The regional guidance provides background information, principles and regulatory considerations for the development of State regulations for the operation of UAS within national airspace systems. The guidance supports the relevant elements of the Asia/Pacific Seamless Air Navigation Services (ANS) Plan¹.

2.3 The APUAS/TF, having completed the tasks assigned under its Terms of Reference, was dissolved by APANPIRG/30 (Bangkok, Thailand, November 2019) – **Decision APANPIRG/30-9: Dissolution of the APUAS/TF**.

¹ Formerly the Asia/Pacific Seamless ATM Plan

ICAO UAS Toolkit and Webinars

2.4 The ICAO UAS Toolkit is a repository of information provided by ICAO, its member States and other experts on the management of UAS that fall outside the scope of SARPS and PANS developed for Remotely-Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) operations. The Toolkit provides background information, best practices, information on UAS regulations, training, education and authorization, and examples of current State regulations.

2.5 The UAS Toolkit is available at:

<https://www.icao.int/safety/UA/UASToolkit/Pages/default.aspx>.

2.6 The ICAO COVID-19 Series of webinars includes recorded webinars on the following UAS-related topics:

- Enabling UAS Operations ([link](#));
- Enabling UAS Operations Part II – Panel Discussion ([link](#));
- Introducing ICAO UAS Model Regulations ([link](#));
- UAS Beyond Visual Line of Sight Operations – for Regulators ([link](#)); and
- ICAO UAS Traffic Management (UTM) Framework ([link](#)).

DRONE ENABLE 2021

2.7 ICAO State Letter AN 13/66-20/96 notified States of the ICAO DRONE ENABLE 2021 Symposium. The symposium was held by virtual/online means from 13 to 15 and 20 to 21 April 2021. More information is available at:

www.icao.int/meetings/droneenable4 (symposium information)

www.icao.tv/drone-enable (recorded presentations)

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) utilize the APAC Regional Guidance for the Regulation and Safe Operation of UAS within National Airspace;
- c) note the information and guidance available through the ICAO UAS Toolkit;
- d) note the information available from the DRONE ENABLE 2021 Symposium; and
- e) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

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