

International Civil Aviation Organization



ICAO

**Twenty Fifth Meeting of the Communications/
Navigation and Surveillance Sub-group (CNS SG/25) of
APANPIRG**

Video Tele-Conference, 18 – 22 October 2021

Agenda Item 13: CNS related work/projects impacted by COVID-19

IMPACT OF COVID-19 TO CNS WORKS IN 2021

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the impact of COVID-19 to all related CNS Meetings/Seminars/Workshops and all work programme planned and scheduled in 2021 and some various observations arisen from the virtual meetings.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic made 2020 a challenging year, and the challenge continues in 2021. The pandemic caused a great impact to various business sectors, especially, the aviation industry.

1.2 The pandemic imposed new norms to the industry, and reiterated the importance of ICT infrastructure in maintaining the business continuity and building resilience.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 All of the ICAO APAC CNS meetings scheduled for 2021 were conducted by Video Teleconference (VTC). As the report of progress and some action requirements need effective communication and efficient cooperation between Regional Office and among Member States, the COVID pandemic caused a great challenge to all in accomplishing the work programme in a harmonized way.

2.2 However, as the community is getting more familiar with the use of online meeting platforms i.e. MS Teams, and Zoom, Member States and the ICAO Secretariat managed to conduct planned meetings of contributory bodies and held a series of webinar. In the normal situation, there could be some limitation of traveling cost and number of traveling days. With the new meeting platforms, representatives from States/Administration can easily join the VTC meetings by the invitation link sent to all registered emails. (See **Attachment**)

2.3 The webinars organized during this pandemic time were widely recognized, which provided a much easier access to ICAO events for many participants who may not be able to join in the

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past. The number of participants is also a good indicator in planning our future work, and the support of SMEs from Member States is the key to the success of webinars.

2.4 Face-to-face meeting provides an excellent forum for discussion and networking among meeting delegates on various CNS related topics during breaks and after formal meetings. Moreover, there were occasions for the Chair and Secretary to coordinate on ad hoc issues and small working group meetings established among delegates on specific topics. On the contrary, virtual meetings impose various constraints on the above and seriously affect the effectiveness.

2.5 The SWIM over CRV demonstration proposed in March 2020, and the Frequency Finder (FF) Workshop scheduled in June 2020 have not been available in 2021 due to the restriction imposed by the pandemic.

2.6 Alleviations to the Standards of the Annexes and its associated system – COVID-19 Contingency Related Differences (CCRD), were established as interim measures to support continued operations during the initial stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the option to use alleviations has now expired and the CCRD system for filing alleviations has been closed. As we move cautiously towards the "*new normal*", alleviations and the guidance for their use provided in the associated Quick Reference Guides have been replaced with planning tools, approaches and guidance for the recommencement of operations in line with the requirements of the SARPs. This updated information is now provided in relevant sections on the [Roadmap to OPS Normal \(icao.int\)](https://www.icao.int/Roadmap-to-OPS-Normal) website.

2.7 *Flight inspection periodicity considerations for radio navigation aids* is provided under Air Navigation Services section at <https://www.icao.int/safety/OPS/OPS-Normal/Pages/AN-Services.aspx>, which covers two parts: i) Flight inspection practices during the pandemic, ii) Restoration to service after temporary removal from service.

2.8 Due to the decline of implementation of CNS/ATM projects by the Member States, the planned programme has been postponed or has broken down into phases. The harmonization of implementing activities between neighbouring States, among stakeholders became more difficult.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information in this paper;
- b) encourage representatives from States/Administration to take advantage of virtual platform to join meeting;
- c) contribute SMEs in support of webinars on various topics; and
- d) discuss any relevant matter as appropriate.

Number of Meetings/Workshop/Webinar and Participants in 2019, 2020 and 2021

No.	Meeting/Seminar/Workshop Face-to-face 2019	Meeting/Seminar/Workshop via VTC 2020	Meeting/Seminar/Workshop via VTC 2021
1	SRWG/3 (31 May – 2 June 2016) 11	SRWG/4 (9-10 June) 43	SRWG/4 (15-17 March) 109
2	DAPs WG/2 (12-14 March) 28	DAPs WG/3 (12-15 May) 64	DAPs WG/4 (29-31 March) 98
3			SURSG/1 (20-22 April) 118
4	CRV OG/6 (7-10 May) 70	CRV OG/7 (20-22 January) 57 (F2F)	CRV OG/8 (17-19 May) 97
5	APA TF/5 (23-25 April) 32	APA TF/6 (14-16 July) 75	APA TF/7 (7-9 June) 77
6			Cyber Security Webinar (14 June) 317
7	ACSICG/6 (13-15 May) 69	ACSICG/7 (21-23 July) 95	ACSICG/8 (21-23 June) 120
*8	PBNICG/6 (24-26 April – RSO) 71	PBNICG/7 (21-23 October – RSO) 98	PBNICG/8 (6-8 July – RSO) 100
9			SWIM Workshop (6-7 July) 231

No.	Meeting/Seminar/Workshop Face-to-face 2019	Meeting/Seminar/Workshop via VTC 2020	Meeting/Seminar/Workshop via VTC 2021
10			Implementation of CRV Webinar (20 July) 121
11	SWIM TF/3 (7-10 May) 83	SWIM TF/4 (3-6 November) 135	SWIM TF/5 (9-11 August) 173
12	SURICG/4 (9-12 April) 97	SURICG/5 (22-24 September) 120	SURICG/6 (24-27 August) 116
13			ADS-B Implementation Webinar (1 September) 298
14		ATMAS Seminar (27 October) 179	
15		ATMAS TF/1 (28-30 October) 167	ATMAS TF/2 (14-16 (September) 143
*16	SBAS/GBAS Implementation Workshop (3-5 June – RSO) 127	SBAS/GBAS TF/1 (23-24 June - RSO) 112	
17		SBAS/GBAS TF/2 (9-10 September - RSO) 120	SBAS/GBAS TF/3 (27-28 September - RSO) 134
18	CNS SG/23 (2-6 September) 102	CNS SG/24 (30 November - 4 December) 177	CNS SG/25 (18-22 October) 140