



International Civil Aviation Organization

ICAO Twenty-Sixth Meeting of the Regional Airspace Safety Monitoring Advisory Group (RASMAG/26)

Video Teleconference, 20 – 23 September 2021

Agenda Item 5: Airspace Safety Monitoring Activities/Requirements in the Asia/Pacific Region UPDATE ON MANILA FIR AFTER THE AIDC IMPLEMENTATION AND THE LESSONS LEARNED

(Presented by the Philippines)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the updates of Air Traffic Service Inter-Facility Datalink Communication (AIDC) implementation in Manila FIR, the problems encountered after the implementation and the mitigations in place so that Large Height Deviations (LHD) can be prevented.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 During the 25th Meeting of RASMAG, the Philippines informed the meeting of the AIDC Implementation in the Manila FIR with two (2) adjacent ACCs. LHD analysis and LHD Preventive/Mitigation Measures were presented as well.

1.2 Since the previous meeting, Manila ACC continued its planned activities that would enhance AIDC implementation. For this meeting, the Philippines will present the current status of AIDC Implementation in the Manila FIR, the issues encountered and the measures crafted to mitigate these issues.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The updated summary of Manila ACC AIDC implementation is shown in **Table 1**. From two (2) adjacent ACCs, Manila is now implementing AIDC with four (4) adjacent ACCs.

Adjacent Center	Implementation Date	Status
Hong Kong ACC	23 May 2019	Implemented
Singapore ACC	01 November 2019	Implemented
Taipei ACC	05 December 2019	Implemented
Ujung Pandang ACC	03 December 2020	Implemented
Ho Chi Minh	TBD	Technical test successful (15 and 16 June 2021) Operational Trial pending due to issue with AFTN Link (interfaces, unstable connection and prolonged outages from time to time).
Oakland ARTCC	TBD	Technical test on 20 September 2021
Kota Kinabalu ACC	TBD	Awaiting the time table of Kota Kinabalu
Kobe ACC	TBD	Initiated correspondence, awaiting response
Japan ATMC	TBD	Initiated correspondence, awaiting response

Table 1: Status of AIDC Implementation in the Manila FIR

2.2 **Table 2** below summarizes the issues encountered in implementing AIDC and mitigations to address them and thereby avoiding or minimizing LHD.

OCCURRENCES	CONTRIBUTING FACTORS/CAUSES	MITIGATIONS
<p>No revision of time/FL</p> <p>Deviation of aircraft was not coordinated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ATC workload issues due combining of sectors. - Non-adherence to ATC procedures such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. FL change near the boundary ii. Read back/Hear back for voice transfer iii. Coordination in case of deviation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Optimal number and configuration of ATC sectors. - Retraining thru reiteration of procedures are being conducted.
<p>No AIDC transfer due flight plan issues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Airline failed to file a flight plan. - Airline filed an erroneous flight plan. - Manila ATMS is not included in the addressee and/or addressee is incorrect. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Series of Stakeholders' meetings and trainings/seminars regarding correct flight plan filing. - Existing procedures in checking ambiguous entries in filed flight plan. - Existing procedures on voice transfer in the event of AIDC failure - Issues are reported to technical experts.
<p>Unsuccessful AIDC transfer and ATC failure to make a voice transfer.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AIDC is successful in Manila but failed in Adjacent Center - Error not detected due to human limitations - Error not detected due ATC failure to follow the existing procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SMS Investigation Process as detailed in Figure 1.

Table 2: AIDC Implementation Issues Encountered and Mitigations

2.3 **Figure 3** describes how Manila ACC SMS handles the safety reports received from Air Traffic Controllers.

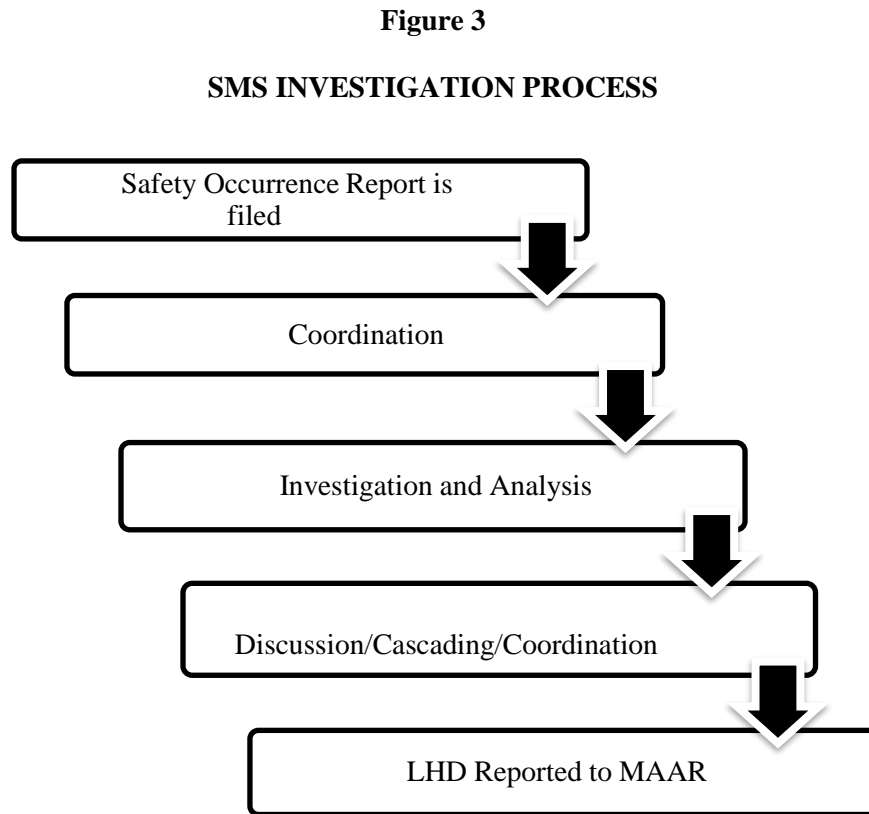


Figure 3: Manila ACC SMS Investigation Process

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

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