



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization

Third Meeting of the Bay of Bengal Traffic Flow Review Group (BOBTFRG/3)

Video Teleconference, 14 – 15 December 2021

Agenda Item 5: Review of BOBTFRG Task List

BOBTFRG TERMS OF REFERENCE AND TASK LIST

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents BOBTFRG Terms of Reference and Task List for review and update by the meeting.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The BOBTFRG Terms of Reference and Task List are attached as **Attachment A** and **Attachment B** to this paper respectively.

2. ACTION BY THE MEETING

2.1 The meeting is invited to review and update the BOBTFRG Task List, and suggest any necessary changes to the BOBTFRG Terms of Reference if appropriate.

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TERMS OF REFERENCE

BAY OF BENGAL TRAFFIC FLOW REVIEW GROUP (BOBTFRG)

1. Objective

1.1. The objectives of the BOBTFRG are to:

- a) identify requirements and improvements for optimising airspace capacity and maintaining an efficient route network across the Bay of Bengal airspace and routes leading towards Afghanistan's airspace;
- b) monitor the status of implementation of the agreed ATS routes and airspace improvement projects; and
- c) report outcomes of the review and recommendations to SAIOACG.

2. Tasks

2.1. To meet this objectives, with reference to the *Asia/Pacific Region Seamless ATM Plan* and expected traffic growth, the BOBTFRG shall:

- a) Review the existing route structures and airspace improvement projects in the concerned airspaces (Bangkok, Chennai, Colombo, Dhaka, Jakarta, Kabul, Karachi, Kuala Lumpur, Kolkata, Lahore and Yangon Flight Information Regions);
- b) Identify current CNS/ATM capabilities and determine the CNS/ATM requirements which would be needed in order to optimise the airspace to support the implementation of more efficient route network that accommodated enroute traffic (and also departures from India and Pakistan that would join this traffic flow);
- c) Identify the most efficient horizontal separations to be utilised, based on the current and planned CNS/ATM capabilities, taking into account aircraft approval status of the traffic operating on the relevant routes as well as the new CNS capabilities available;
- d) Review the existing Flight Level Allocation Scheme (FLAS) operating within the Bay of Bengal airspace with a view to enhancing efficiencies;
- e) Establish appropriate timelines/milestones/dependencies for activities planned under this Review Group;
- f) Make recommendations to SAIOACG on implementation plans for route structures, airspace, FLAS and separation solutions to meet the expectations of the *Asia/Pacific Seamless ATM Plan*; and
- g) Make recommendations to SAIOACG on the future status of the Bay of Bengal Cooperative ATFM System (BOBCAT) tool.

3. Participation

- 3.1. Participation of the BOBTFRG includes Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and IATA, and any other body that the BOBTFRG deems appropriate.

Approved by SAIOACG/9, 29 March 2019

BOBTFRG TASK LIST

ACTION ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TIME FRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	STATUS	REMARKS
1/1	India to consider approving use of existing ATS route west of Chennai as connector route for N571/N877 for bypass traffic on L510 to enable efficient and BOBCAT metered traffic feed to UL333 in Kabul FIR.	SAIOACG/9	India, Regional Office, Malaysia	Open Closed	Action Item 20/4 of SAIOACG Task List. India to update Regional Office. Still under consideration. There is existing route MMV-B466-BBB-G208-KE-B210-NH-UL333. Malaysia agreed to delete this Action Item.
1/2	Investigate capability and timeline to implement 30NM longitudinal and 23NM performance-based lateral separation minima.	SAIOACG/9	All States	Open Closed	Action Item 2/10 of SAIOACG Task List. Adjacent States should consider a coordinated implementation of similar performance-based separations, taking into account PBCS requirements. To be carried out under Action Item 2/13.
1/3	India to review Bay of Bengal conflicts and remove FLAS with Port Blair ADS-B operational if possible.	SAIOACG/9 SAIOACG/10	India	Open	Action Item 4/2 of SAIOACG Task List. India to update ATM/SG/4. Needs to be consulted with Myanmar (Yangon FIR). Port Blair ADS-B still on test (SAIOACG/8 2018). India commented that FLAS should be retained, as there is still limitation on surveillance and communication capabilities. A new route L524 has been implemented to increase the capacity to offset the FLAS.
1/4	Myanmar to provide update about the integration of ADS-B data to the main ATC automation system.	SAIOACG/9	Myanmar	Open Closed	Myanmar to report status at the SAIOACG/9. Myanmar has integrated the ADS-B data into the main ATC system.
1/5	India and Singapore to provide one week of data sampling on fleet equipage on RNP 2, RNP 4, ADS-B 260B and ADS-C/CPDLC in their FIRs to ICAO.	31 January 2019	India, Singapore	Open Closed	The data would be included in the latest version of the Asia/Pacific ATM Seamless Plan, which was due for update in 2019. The data, based on flight plan information, was provided to ICAO.

ACTION ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TIME FRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	STATUS	REMARKS
1/6	MAAR to produce annual visualisation and summary statistics of air traffic flows in the Bay of Bengal area using States' TSD.	BOBTFRG/2 Based on BOBTFRG request	MAAR	Open	BOBTFRG/1 agreed for MAAR to use States' TSD. Indonesia agreed to provide its TSD through the Australian Airspace Monitoring Agency (AAMA). MAAR agreed to accept more request for studies by the Group.
1/7	The meeting requested the States to increase the PBCS preparedness and share their plan.	SAIOACG/9	All BOBTFRG States	Open Closed	To be carried out under Action Item 2/11.
2/1	Identify current spacing implemented by States.	31 October 2019	All BOBTFRG States	Open	States to fill and submit the Attachment D to BOBTFRG/2 State Letter by 31 October 2019.
2/2	Identify impediments to implementation of improved spacing (staffing and ATC sectorisation constraints).	31 October 2019	All BOBTFRG States	Open	States to fill and submit the Attachment D to BOBTFRG/2 State Letter by 31 October 2019.
2/3	Review the existing Flight Level Allocation Scheme (FLAS) operating within the concerned airspace, with a view to improve efficiencies.	31 October 2019	All BOBTFRG States	Open	States to fill and submit the Attachment D to BOBTFRG/2 State Letter by 31 October 2019.
2/4	Identify ATS Inter-Facility Data Communication (AIDC) and/or direct speech circuits' capabilities.	30 November 2019	All BOBTFRG States	Open	States to provide update to the Secretariat latest by 30 November 2019.
2/5	Investigate whether appropriate handoff procedures are implemented between controllers providing ATS surveillance in adjacent airspace – review ATS Letter of Agreement (LOA).	30 November 2019	All BOBTFRG States	Open	
2/6	States to identify routes along which reliable surveillance and communication are available to look at the possibility of reduced longitudinal spacing.	January 2020	India, Myanmar, Thailand, Pakistan	Open	

ACTION ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TIME FRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	STATUS	REMARKS
2/7	Agreement between States to implement 20 NM longitudinal spacing in Category S airspace through Thailand and Myanmar to the Bay of Bengal, India, Pakistan and Afghanistan (or as close to the separation minima as practicable) on affected ATS routes.	December 2020	Afghanistan, India, Myanmar, Thailand, Pakistan	Open	
2/8	Agreement between States to implement 50 NM longitudinal spacing between applicable aircraft within Category R airspace of BOB, on opportunity basis.	31 January 2020	India, Malaysia	Open	Chennai and Kuala Lumpur ACC to signed revised LoA by 31 January 2020. Jakarta and Colombo had implemented 50 NM longitudinal spacing. Yangon and Kolkata, and Chennai had implemented 50 NM longitudinal spacing.
2/8	Facilitate potential modernization of Bangladesh CNS/ATM system (meeting tentatively planned for 23 October 2019).	SAIOACG/10	ICAO RO	Open	ICAO RO to provide feedback during SAIOACG/10.
2/9	Research and development project conducted by India, Singapore and any other interested States to look at technology capability and benefits, including the business case for enhanced surveillance and communication.	To be determined	India, Singapore (ATMRI)	Open	Subject to the approval from the competent agencies of each State. India and Singapore (ATMRI) would examine the proposal and submit their comments at the BOBTFRG/3.
2/10	Implementation of 50 NM longitudinal spacing to aircraft operating within Category R airspace of BOB, at or above a level to be determined.	1 January 2023	India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka	Open	To recommend to SAIOACG (during SAIOACG/10) for ADS-C/CPDLC non-exclusive mandate. States were expected to issue AIC after SAIOACG/10, subject to the decision of the meeting.

ACTION ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TIME FRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	STATUS	REMARKS
2/11	Develop PBCS implementation plan to support 30 NM longitudinal spacing on RNP 4 (or RNP 2) routes within Category R airspace of BOB.	2023	India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka	Open	States that require PBCS to support 30 NM longitudinal spacing: Bangladesh: To be determined. Sri Lanka: No information. India: Expected to be implemented in Chennai FIR in 2020; Mumbai FIR in 2023; and Kolkata FIR to be determined. Indonesia: Expected in 2023 as part of the new Jakarta ACC ATM system project. Malaysia: Expected in second quarter of 2022. Myanmar: To be determined.
2/12	Implementation of RNP 4 (or RNP 2) routes within BOB airspace.	2023	India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka	Open	Subject to the implementation of PBCS.
2/13	Agreement between States to implement 30 NM longitudinal spacing on affected ATS routes within Category R airspace of BOB.	2024	India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka	Open	
2/14	Review capacity on the affected ATS routes.	2024	All BOBTFRG States	Open	Three months after the implementation of 30 NM longitudinal spacing on affected ATS routes within Category R airspace of BOB.
2/15	Identify solutions to integrate departing traffic from New Delhi with the BOBCAT traffic.	2024		Open	
2/16	Review the requirement to retain BOBCAT tool based on the increase in capacity utilising improved longitudinal spacing, taking into account forecast growth in air traffic.	2024		Open	
2/17	Make recommendations to SAIOACG on the future status of the BOBCAT tool.	2024		Open	

ACTION ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TIME FRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	STATUS	REMARKS
2/18	Malaysia to consider India's proposal to realign ATS route N877 from AMVUR to AGEGA and join ATS route L510. ATS route L510 will be eastbound only up to AGEGA within Chennai FIR and Kuala Lumpur ACC may facilitate both east bound and west bound between LEKIR and EMRAN within the Kuala Lumpur FIR.	BOBTFRG/3	India, Malaysia	Open	BOBTFRG/2 Report WP/05.