

International Civil Aviation Organization

ICAO

**Ninth Meeting of the Common aeRonautical Virtual
Private Network Operations Group (CRV OG/9)**

Video Teleconference, 25 – 27 January 2022

- Agenda Item 6:** CRV contract management
– Upgrade/Downgrade CRV Circuits Subscribed

UPGRADE/DOWNGRADE CRV CIRCUITS SUBSCRIBED

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper summarizes the outcomes of discussion of ad-hoc group formed by action item 8-3 of ACSICG/8.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 During the CRV OG/8 meeting *held on 17 to 19 May 2021*, under the Agenda Item 5: *CRV operational performance report*, Bhutan put forward some problems being faced by Bhutan related to CRV post implementation.

1.2 Bhutan has entered into contract for CRV with PCCWG in December 2020. However, Bhutan was not able to utilize the CRV since the peer States with Bhutan (India and Thailand) were in process to join CRV while Bhutan has to pay recurring charges every month to PCCWG. Bhutan requested the ICAO APAC Regional Office and CRV OG:

- 1) To help in negotiating with PCCWG to waive or reduce recurring charge till the peer States (India and Thailand) are ready.
- 2) To explore the alternate solutions such as connection through Hong Kong, China or any other States hosting BBIS, which have joined CRV, in order to utilize CRV for AMHS traffic for the intended purpose.

1.3 After the CRV OG/8 meeting, as the follow up action, an ad-hoc group was established to discuss a way out for Bhutan to use its CRV service to some extent temporarily.

2. DISCUSSION*The first meeting of Ad-hoc group formed by CRV OG/8 - 27th May 2021*

2.1 The Ad-hoc group formed by CRV OG/8 conducted its first meeting on 27th May 2021 to discuss all possible temporary solutions.

2.2 The Ad-hoc group reviewed the issue faced by Bhutan and discussed the **two alternate solutions** to resolve this issue. The first solution was to have a negotiation initiated by Bhutan with PCCWG by providing reference to WP/13 and IP/11 of CRV OG/8 presented by Fiji, which proposed

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a potential solution to downgrade the CRV Package as Option-1. As an alternate solution, it was proposed by Ad-hoc group that *the New Zealand may act as a gateway between Bhutan and the existing AMHS services* named as Option-2. In option-2, there may be Six Countries who need to change the routing table: *Bhutan, India, Thailand, Singapore, Australia, and New Zealand*. The Airways New Zealand volunteered to act as a BBIS. However, **Option-1 was considered as best option** as it required less efforts and less involvement of member states.

2.3 After this Ad-hoc group meeting, Bhutan informed ICAO APAC Office by email dated on 7th June 2021 that PCCWG has not agreed to downgrade CRV Package C to Package D. This reply was presented in ACSICG/8 meeting by ICAO Secretariat.

The ACSICG/8 meeting - 21 to 23 June 2021

2.4 In ACSICG/8 meeting, the ICAO Secretariat summarized the issues faced by Bhutan. India and Australia proposed that Option-1 suggested by Ad-hoc group was a better option and as per current terms and conditions defined in Tender documents approved by CRV OG, PCCWG should not deny request to downgrade the CRV SLA Package of Bhutan from Package C to Package D. Australia, India, Singapore, and USA requested the ICAO Secretariat to take necessary action to discuss this issue with CRV OG as States should have option to upgrade/downgrade the circuits based on the need. It resulted into **ACTION ITEM 8-3 of ACSICG/8**.

Upgrade/Downgrade CRV Circuits Subscribed	ICAO Secretariat to take necessary action to discuss this issue with CRV OG as States should have option to upgrade/downgrade the circuits based on the need.
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The first meeting of Ad-hoc group formed by ACSICG/8 - 28th September 2021

2.5 The first meeting of Ad-hoc group formed by ACSICG/8 was conducted on 28th September 2021 as a follow up of ACTION ITEM 8-3 from ACSICG/8.

2.6 The Ad-hoc group discussed and agreed for following action by PCCWG:

1. PCCWG will draft relevant clauses to add in Terms and conditions document of CRV contract for consideration of CRV OG/9.
2. PCCWG will present sample calculation of penalty charges in case package degradation are opted by any contracting States within their terms of contract of CRV in CRV OG/9 for Member State's understanding.

2.7 In response, PCCWG has prepared WP/09 and it will be presented to the meeting for further discussion.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

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