

*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  
– Contract Extension**EXTENSION OF CRV CONTRACT**

(Presented by Secretariat)

**SUMMARY**

This paper presents the request received by APAC Member states for extension of current contract of CRV with PCCWG due to current pandemic situation. The meeting is invited to review the request and if agreed, request for PCCWG consent for CRV contract extension on same terms and conditions.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Common aeRonautical Virtual (CRV) Network is a cross-border cost-effective telecommunications network for States (Asia-Pacific and Middle East Members), started in 2013. It is a dedicated MPLS network provided by a common service providers, PCCW Global limited, for end to end service. Additionally, it is a wholly dependable and reliable communications infrastructure for aeronautical communications, enabling the global roadmap.

1.2 The establishment of APANPIRG CRV OG was proposed during the deliberations of the CRV Task Force (TF) as a dedicated group to provide oversight of the CRV operations and the performance of the CRV Service Provider. The APANPIRG CRV OG is formally established by APANPIRG Decision 27/33. The CRV OG includes all APAC Member States/Administrations, and any other organization as needed. Member States and/or inter-regional entry/exit Administrations in other ICAO regions may also be invited or requested to participate in the activities of CRV OG.

1.3 PCCW Global (PCCWG), Hong Kong, China was recommended on 7 December 2016 as the CRV Service provider through an ICAO TCB Selection process. No contracts were issued by ICAO for this project. The selection process was supported by CRV pioneer States, who at their discretion, remain to independently engage into the contract with PCCWG. The CRV contract was established to begin on 31st December 2017. Individual Contract would be signed by member states with PCCWG by selecting desired services from the common package.

**Agenda Item 6**

25-27/01/22

1.4 The paper requests CRV OG to deliberate the need for current contract extension and also requests PCCWG agreement for extension of current contract on same terms and conditions, if extension required.

**2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 Action Item DGCA/54/20 in 2017 set up **2020** as the target year for CRV implementation for all ANSPs to optimize the cost benefits of all stakeholders. States/Administrations were urged to initiate a service order with the PCCW Global for CRV implementation as early as possible using the CRV common provisions formulated by CRV Operations Group (CRV OG) of APANPIRG.

2.2 Due to the challenges and difficulties faced by States/Administrations under pandemic situation in 2020, APANPIRG/31 adopted the Conclusion C31/12 - Target Year of CRV Implementation in APAC Region recommended by CNS SG/24, to postpone the target year of regional implementation of CRV **from 2020 to the end of 2021**. A State Letter Ref.: T 8/2.10-AP002/21(CNS), 6 January 2021, Subject: *Postpone the target year of CRV implementation from 2020 to end of 2021* in APAC Region was sent to Member States to inform about this conclusion. However, above two target dates and extension didn't impact on actual target date set in CRV contract as 31 December 2022.

**Commencement and duration of contract as per current CRV contract**

2.3 As per the contract, the validity of CRV program shall commence from the date of letter of award issued by ICAO/CRV OG to PCCW Global, which is 31 December 2017 and shall remain in full force and effect for an initial fixed term of 5 years (the "Initial Term"), irrespective of the date of joining the CRV program or signing of the relevant Service Contract by any individual Authority. Upon expiry of the Initial Term, the Contract term shall be renewed automatically on successive year-to-year basis (each renewed yearly term is referred to as the "Renewal Term") provided that the aggregate Renewal Terms shall not exceed five (5) years.

2.4 Each Authority signs the Contract (including Purchase Order) for each relevant Service with PCCW Global (each the "Service Contract") for an initial fixed term of 5 years from the billing start date (the "Initial Service Term"). After expiry of the Initial Service Term, the Service Contract shall be renewed automatically on a successive year-to-year basis (each renewed yearly service term is referred to as the "Renewal Service Term") until either party gives written notice of termination not less than 30 days prior to the expiry of the Initial Service Term or the then-current Renewal Service Term (as applicable), provided that (i) the aggregate Renewal Service Terms shall not exceed five (5) years; (ii) if the period from the end date of the then-current Renewal Service Term **up to 31 December 2027** is less than one (1) year (the "Incomplete Period"), the automatic renewal arrangement specified in this paragraph shall not be applicable, and the Service Contract shall terminate automatically on the then-current Renewal Service Term.

2.5 If the Authority intends to use the Service during the Incomplete Period, the arrangement shall be subject to the mutual agreement in writing between the ICAO/CRV OG and PCCW Global.

2.6 All Authorities shall join the CRV program and sign the relevant Service Contract(s) with PCCWG with the billing start date on or before **31 December, 2022**. For authorities, which join CRV after 31 December, 2022, any additional charges may be imposed.

2.7 As an action item of CRV OG/8, a State Letter **Ref.:** T 8/2.10- AP007/22(CNS), 12 January 2022, Subject: - *To remind the target year of CRV Implementation by 31 December, 2022 in APAC*

*Region and CRV Implementation for small Pacific Island and small ANSP in the region using CRV Solution, PCCWG SLA Package D* was issued.

### **Request for extension of contract**

2.8 The ICAO Asia Pacific Implementation of CRV Webinar was held on *20 July 2021*. The webinar was organised via Video Tele-Conferencing (VTC) using Microsoft Teams. The Webinar was attended by **121** participants from 18 States/Administrations, 2 airlines industries and a telecommunication provider from Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Hong Kong China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, USA, Viet Nam, All Nippon Airways, Korean Air, PCCW and ICAO. The webinar report, presentations, and other resources can be accessed by following link: <https://www.icao.int/APAC/Meetings/Pages/2021-CRV-Webinar.aspx>

2.9 Based on Q&A sessions and submitted survey responses from Member States, *the need for potential discussion with PCCWG for extension of CRV Implementation deadline beyond the end of 2022 due to COVID-19 crisis as it is continued in 2021*, the need for flexibilities in the package options selection by Member States, and the need for a platform for sharing lessons learnt and best practices based on experiences by Member States, which are using CRV, were felt. It was informed to participants that ICAO Secretariat is taking necessary action about these potential discussions in CRV OG.

2.10 With above-mentioned request from participants of CRV webinar, CRV OG/9 is invited to deliberate the requirements of extension of current contract. It is proposed to take following actions by the meeting:

- To get confirmation from ICAO TCB that the contract can be extended as per current terms and conditions.
- To ensure by all BBIS states that all BBIS will join CRV before 2022 or required extension.
- Request expression of interest from other BIS states to join CRV by 2022 or after that.

2.11 Based on the responses, if extension of contract for few years would support member states to join CRV, the meeting may take necessary action to extend the contract. The duration of extension of contract may be deliberated afterwards.

2.12 The meeting is also requested to request consent of PCCWG for extension of current contract on same terms and conditions.

### **3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) deliberate the need of extension of CRV contract;
- c) request consent from PCCWG for extension of contract on same terms and conditions; and
- d) discuss any relevant matter as appropriate

-----