



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization

Eighteenth Meeting of the ICAO Aeronautical Information Services – Aeronautical Information Management Implementation Task Force (AAITF/18)

Bangkok, Thailand, 19 – 23 June 2023

Agenda Item 6: Any Other Business

FUTURE DIRECTION OF AAITF

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents information on the history and progress of AAITF, and proposes changes under consideration by the Secretariat.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 AAITF originated in the Asia/Pacific AIS Automation Task Force (AATF) , which held nine meetings in the period from 1994 to 2002, when it was suspended by APANPIRG due to completion of its work programme.

1.2 AATF was reactivated and re-named by APANPIRG in 2005, and held its first meeting as the AIS Implementation Task Force (AITF/1) in March 2006.

1.3 Following a review by AITF/3 in 2008 of the group's terms of reference, it was re-formed as the AIS-AIM Implementation Task Force (AAITF/4, February 2009).

1.4 A total of 32 meetings of the AATF, AITF and AAITF have been held since the inception of AATF in 1994.

2. DISCUSSION

Terms of Reference

2.1 The Terms of Reference (TOR) of AAITF include, among its objectives, reference to the *Guidance Manual for AIS in the Asia/Pacific Region* which, depending on the outcomes of discussion under Agenda Item 5, will need to be updated to refer to the *Asia/Pacific Regional Plan for Collaborative AIM*.

2.2 Other AAITF objectives include studying the means of aeronautical data management including AIXM and eAIP, examining means of aeronautical data exchange, assisting the implementation of Quality Management Systems in an expeditious manner, developing guidance for static data procedures and the AIS Automation Plan, monitoring and reviewing technical and operating developments in the AIS field, and monitoring the transition from AIS to AIM. A proposed revision of the TOR is provided in **Attachment A**.

Note: the current TOR are also attached to WP/15 to this meeting.

2.3 However, any AAITF proposal to revise the TOR (under a Draft Conclusion for consideration by the ATM/SG/11 in October 2023) should take into account activity levels over recent years, and consideration of the ongoing usefulness of the group.

2.4 Areas that could provide an indication of the success or otherwise of AAITF, and regional engagement in its work, are:

- AIS/AIM implementation status;
- AIS-related APANPIRG ATM and Airspace Safety Deficiencies;
- Internet accessible AIP drawn from digital databases of aeronautical information;
- Working Papers submitted to AAITF meetings; and
- Hosting of AAITF meetings and workshops.

AIS/AIM Implementation Status

2.5 **Tables 1 and 2** summarize reported AIS/AIM implementation status from AAITF/10 (2015) to AAITF/18.

Regional Implementation Status: Phases 1 and 2 of the ICAO Roadmap for Transition from AIS to AIM										
<i>Note 1: The Asia/Pacific Seamless ATM Plan version 1.0 (2013) expected implementation of Phases 1 and 2 of the Roadmap by November 2015.</i>										
<i>Note 2: The Roadmap was superseded (regional use) by the Asia/Pacific Regional Plan for Collaborative AIM in 2019, and is now globally considered to be out-of-date.</i>										
AAITF YEAR	9 2014	10 2015	11 2016	12 2017	13 2018	14 2019	15 2020	16 2021	17 2022	18 2023
%	N/R	37%	41%	44%	49%	51%	-	-	-	-

Table 1: Implementation of Phases 1 and 2 of the ICAO Roadmap for Transition from AIS to AIM

Regional Implementation Status: Phases 1 and 2 of Regional AIM Capability (Asia/Pacific Regional Plan for Collaborative AIM)										
<i>Note 1: Asia/Pacific Regional Plan for Collaborative AIM, first published in 2018, included the expectation of implementation of Phase I of Regional AIM Capability immediately, and Phase II by November 2019.</i>										
AAITF YEAR	9 2014	10 2015	11 2016	12 2017	13 2018	14 2019	15 2020	16 2021	17 2022	18 2023
%	-	-	-	-	-	45%	45%	48%	50%	51%

Table 2: Implementation of Phases 1 and 2 of Regional AIM Capability

2.6 Tables 1 and 2 highlight continuing poor overall regional performance in the implementation of regional performance expectations, including those from Phase 1 of both the Roadmap and Regional AIM Plan, which relate to ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPS) published in Annexes to the Convention for decades.

Electronic AIP Implementation

2.7 Implementation of an *internet-accessible electronic AIP generated from a digital database of aeronautical information*¹, expected to be implemented by November 2019, could be considered to be an indicator of the State progress in transition from AIS to AIM. As reported in WP/4 to this meeting, only 11 APAC Administrations have reported implementation.

APANPIRG ATM and Airspace Safety Deficiencies

2.8 **Table 3** summarizes AIS-related Deficiencies recorded by APANPIRG from 2014 to 2022, and the proposed deficiencies for 2023 as reported in WP/3 to this meeting.

AIS-related APANPIRG ATM and Airspace Safety Deficiencies (Number of Administrations)										
YEAR	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
WGS/84	17	15	13	12	12	11	10	10	9	9
AIP Format	4	4	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
AIS Quality Management	25	25	22	23	23	22	20	20	20	20*
* Two States have submitted information to support withdrawal of the AIS QM Deficiency										

Table 3: AIS-related APANPIRG Deficiencies 2014 - 2023

2.9 These deficiencies also relate to SARPS that have been in place for decades. While WGS-84 implementation has shown some improvement, it remains less than ideal. The number of Administrations having deficiencies recorded for AIS quality management is deeply concerning. In this regard, it appears that AAITF activity only has a minor impact.

Working Papers and Information Papers Submitted to AAITF Meetings

2.10 **Table 4** shows the numbers of Working Papers and Information Papers submitted to AAITF meetings from 2014 to 2023.

Working Papers and Information Papers Submitted to AAITF Meetings 2014 - 2023										
AAITF #	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
YEAR	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
State WPs	4	-	3	3	5	7	3	3	3	2
Secretariat WPs	6	7	9	13	11	17	15	13	10	10
State IPs	7	4	3	3	16	12	4	9	7	6
Secretariat IPs	3	2	2	1	1	1	2	3	2	1
IO WP/IP/SP	-	-	-	2	-	2	1	1	2	5

¹ Asia/Pacific Air Navigation Plan Volume II Part VII Section 3
Asia/Pacific Regional Plan for Collaborative AIM Section 7 Performance Improvement Plan Phase II element 7.18

Working Papers and Information Papers Submitted to AAITF Meetings 2014 - 2023										
AAITF # YEAR	9 2014	10 2015	11 2016	12 2017	13 2018	14 2019	15 2020	16 2021	17 2022	18 2023
Total Papers	20	13	17	22	33	39	25	29	24	23

Table 4: Working Papers and Information Papers Submitted to AAITF Meetings.

Hosting of AAITF Meetings

2.11 Hosting of ICAO meetings may also indicate the general level of interest among participating States in the activities of the group. Since the renaming of the group to AAITF (AAITF/4, 2009) five of its 12 face-to-face meetings have been hosted by States, but of those five only one was hosted by a State in the 10 years commencing with AAITF/9 in 2014 (Thailand hosted AAITF/9 at Pattaya, Thailand).

Future Direction

2.12 The Secretariat proposes the following considerations, and seeks the views of the meeting:

- AAITF Administrations having advanced AIS/AIM capability should be encouraged to host AAITF meetings and/or related workshops, to take advantage of opportunities to demonstrate advanced systems and processes;
- AAITF should develop a systematic programme of workshops, in collaboration with participating Administrations and industry partners;

Note: A workshop/seminar has been conducted in conjunction with all meetings of the task force from AAITF/11 (2016) to AAITF/17 (2022). An extensive, five-day workshop on building effective safety oversight of AIS and AIM, conducted primarily by USA, was held at the ICAO Asia/Pacific Regional Office in January 2020.

- AAITF should engage in planning and facilitating other regional activities such as AIM Go-Teams, familiarization visits, training opportunities, and other similar direct support and assistance activities;
 - Direct support and assistance activities would require the identification of champion States to commit to;
 - Provision of fully funded experts to join direct support and assistance activities; or
 - Release of experts to join direct support and assistance activities; and
 - Remote technical specialist support for such activities.
- AAITF participating Administrations that are active in the Information Management Panel – AIM Working Group (IMP/WG-A) should be encouraged to keep AAITF informed of developments, and to coordinate APAC regional input to panel WG-A deliberations;
- Future AAITF meetings may be reduced to three or four days from the current five;
- Noting the very slow progress in AIS/AIM implementation and deficiency resolution, consideration may be given to holding AAITF meetings biennially;

Draft Conclusion – AAITF TOR

2.13 Subject to any outcomes from discussion of the above, the meeting is invited to consider the following Draft Conclusion:

Draft Conclusion AAITF/18-X: Revised AAITF Terms of Reference

That, the revised Terms of Reference of AAITF at **Attachment A** be adopted.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note generally poor progress in :
 - i) regional AIS/AIM implementation;
 - ii) electronic AIP implementation;
 - iii) resolution of APANPIRG ATM and Airspace Safety Deficiencies in the AIS/AIM field;
- b) note the overall level of State engagement in AAITF meetings;
- c) discuss the future direction of AAITF; and
- d) agree to the Draft Conclusion.

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Draft Conclusion AAITF/18-X: Revised AAITF Terms of Reference	
What: That, the revised Terms of Reference of AAITF at Attachment A be adopted.	Expected impact: <input type="checkbox"/> Political / Global <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-regional <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ops/Technical
Why: To update referenced regional AIS/AIM guidance and planning documents, to include reference to new ICAO global guidance documents, and to make a minor editorial correction	Follow-up: <input type="checkbox"/> Required from States
When: 6-Oct-23	Status: Draft to be adopted by Subgroup
Who: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sub groups <input type="checkbox"/> APAC States <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICAO APAC RO <input type="checkbox"/> ICAO HQ <input type="checkbox"/> Other: XXXX	

Terms of Reference of the AIS-AIM Implementation Task Force (AAITF)

The objectives of the Task Force are to:

- a) study means of aeronautical data management by civil aviation authorities and/or ~~ATS~~ service providers in other regions including the aeronautical information exchange model (AIXM) and the electronic AIP (eAIP), promote the implementation of these methods/models in the Asia/Pacific Region;
- b) examine the means of aeronautical data exchange used in other regions and application in the Asia/Pacific Region;
- c) assist States to implement Quality Management Systems for aeronautical information in an expeditious manner;
- d) develop training material and conduct workshops on the ~~Guidance Manual for AIS in the Asia/Pacific Region~~ Asia/Pacific Regional Plan for Collaborative AIM;
- e) ~~develop guidance material for Static Data Procedures and the AIS Automation Plan;~~
- f) review and update the ~~Guidance Manual~~ Regional Plan for Collaborative AIM taking into account amendments to ICAO SARPs, procedures and guidance material;
- g) monitor and review technical and operating developments in the AIS field especially in the area of automation and database management; and
- h) monitor the transition from AIS to AIM, and in particular monitor developments ~~of the replacement of in~~ Annexes 4 & 15, PANS-AIM (Doc 10066) and ~~related ICAO guidance documents under development by ICAO.~~

To achieve the above objectives, the Task Force shall consider:

1. results of the ICAO Information Management Panel (IMP);
2. amendments to Annex 4, Annex 15, PANS-AIM, the AIS Manual (Doc 8126), ~~the Manual on the Quality Management System for AIS (Doc 9839), the Manual on AIS Training (Doc 9991)~~ and the Aeronautical Chart Manual (Doc 8697); and
3. revisions to the EUROCONTROL *Operating Procedures for AIS Dynamic Data* (OPADD); and
4. implementation of the regional priorities and ~~the performance objectives of the Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan and the Regional Plan for Collaborative AIM.~~

The Task Force will report to the ATM Sub-Group of APANPIRG

*(Adopted by the 14th Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APANPIRG/14), 2003, and most recently amended by APANPIRG/31, 2020
APANPIRG/34, 2023)*