



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization

**Eleventh Meeting of the Air Traffic Management Sub-Group
(ATM/SG/11) of APANPIRG**

Singapore, 2 – 6 October 2023

Agenda Item 6: ATM Coordination (Meetings, Route Development, Contingency Planning)

**PROPOSAL FOR ASIA/PACIFIC REPRESENTATIVES' COLLABORATION ON
ENHANCING BUSINESS CONTINUITY MANAGEMENT (BCM) IN ATM**

(Presented by China)

SUMMARY

In Considering the aviation resurgence post-COVID-19 and increasing flight volumes, there's a pressing need for robust global civil aviation air traffic management. Recognizing BCM's role in augmenting emergency response in civil aviation, this paper proposes inviting ASIA/PACIFIC representatives to China to explore its BCM and emergency takeover practices.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The global civil aviation business demands consistent continuity in flight operations, air traffic control, and aviation information dissemination. Recognizing aviation's pivotal role in national sectors, disruptions can lead to significant economic and societal impacts. The responsibility rests on foundational structures like airports and air traffic control to ensure operational continuity, highlighting BCM's importance.

1.2 Business continuity refers to an organization's ability to maintain predefined service levels after disruptions. During threats to flight safety, the air traffic management department's role is crucial in ensuring consistent air traffic services.

1.3 In situations where immediate restoration isn't feasible, invoking emergency takeovers, a key component of BCM, becomes essential.

2. DISCUSSION

Business Continuity Management (BCM) features

2.1 BCM should prioritize proactive measures over reactive ones. A comprehensive BCM strategy, established before incidents, ensures actionable plans during disruptions, guiding a structured return to normal operations.

2.2 BCM requires methodical development, including incident classification, emergency organization establishment, contingency planning, monitoring, emergency response, and training. Despite its broad scope and implementation challenges, the processes are replicable.

2.3 China's civil aviation has showcased BCM proficiency through a comprehensive theoretical framework and practical application. Real-life situations, like the 2008 Wenchuan earthquake and the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, as well as emergency takeover exercises and training are regularly organized in major regional control centers have tested and proven China's BCM resilience and effectiveness. Continuous efforts have enriched China's BCM expertise, emphasizing training to elevate BCM standards.

2.4 In the Asia-Pacific region, there exists a noticeable disparity in the emergency management capabilities of civil aviation authorities across different countries. As a prominent member of ICAO in the Asia-Pacific, Chinese civil aviation has consistently prioritized and invested in flight business continuity management and has been active in related research endeavors. The Civil Aviation Management Institute of China (CAMIC) plays a significant role in this, aiming to share China's mature flight business continuity management experiences, thereby offering valuable insights and references for the emergency management of civil aviation in other Asia-Pacific states.

Proposal

2.5 As the global aviation industry rebounds post-COVID-19, it's expected that flight volumes will soon surpass 2019 levels. This resurgence presents challenges, especially in the capabilities of civil aviation air traffic control. In the face of incidents that might jeopardize flight safety—whether due to equipment malfunctions, natural disasters, sudden health crises, or unforeseen societal events—it's crucial for air traffic management units to ensure the highest level of uninterrupted services to operational aircraft.

2.6 Business Continuity Management (BCM) is an indispensable tool for civil aviation, enhancing its ability to respond to unforeseen incidents and ensuring aviation safety.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the information mentioned above;
- b) A seminar is proposed to share the best practices on BCM in Asia & Pacific region;
- c) Discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

.....