

**ICAO***International Civil Aviation Organization***Sixth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Aerodrome Assistance Working Group (AP-AA/WG/6)***Bangkok, Thailand, 2 to 5 April 2024*

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**Agenda Item 2: Review Outcome of Relevant Meetings****RELEVANT OUTCOMES OF AOP/SG/7**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

**SUMMARY**

This paper presents the outcomes of the AOP/SG/7 (Bangkok, Thailand, 3 to 6 July 2023) relevant to the AP-AA/WG.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The Seventh Meeting of the Aerodrome Operations and Planning Sub-group (AOP/SG/7) was held in Bangkok, Thailand from 3 to 6 July 2023.

1.2 The meeting was attended by 80 participants from 16 Member States, 1 Special Administrative Regions and 2 International Organizations.

1.3 The Meeting adopted 8 Decision and formulated 3 Draft Conclusions adopted by APANPIRG/34 on 13 December 2023.

1.4 The final report of the AOP/SG/7 Meeting is available at:  
<https://www.icao.int/APAC/Meetings/Pages/2023-AOP-SG7.aspx>

**2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 Some important outcomes of AOP/SG/7 are summarized in the ensuing paragraphs.

Report on the Fourth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Aerodrome Design and Operations Task Force (AP-ADO/TF/4)

2.2 AOP/SG/7 reviewed the Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Aerodrome Design and Operations Task Force (AP-ADO/TF/4, hybrid meeting in Chiang Rai, Thailand from 10 – 13 January 2023).

*Draft Regional Guidance for Design and Operations of Airports*

2.3 AOP/SG/7 noted the progress made by the AP-ADO/TF in drafting the *Regional Guidance for Design and Operations of Airports*.

*Amendment to AP-ADO/TF Terms of Reference (TOR)*

2.4 AOP/SG/7 adopted the *Decision AOP/SG/7-2* as appended below:

Decision AOP/SG/7 – 2 (AP-ADO/TF/4-2): Proposal for Amendment to AP-ADO/TF’s TOR			
What: That, the Terms of Reference of the Asia/Pacific Aerodrome Design and Operations Task Force be amended as in <b>Appendix B</b> to the Report of the AOP/SG/7.		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 allow additional three years of time (until September 2026) to complete the work as per initial and additional scope of the work and assigned tasks and to provide some flexibility in the mode of meetings amid the aftermath of pandemic.		Follow-up: <input type="checkbox"/> Required from States	
When: 6-Jul-23		Status: 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: AP-ADO/TF			

2.5 With the above AOP/SG/7's decision, the tenure of this Task Force has been extended until September 2026.

Report on the Fifth Meeting of Asia/Pacific Aerodrome Assistance Working Group (AP-AA/WG/5)

2.6 AOP/SG/7 reviewed the Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Aerodrome Assistance Working Group (AP-AA/WG/5) held in Maldives from 13 to 16 March 2023.

2.7 AOP/SG/7 approved the *Generic Aerodrome Enforcement Policy and Procedures Manual (Decision AOP/SG/7-4)* and *Generic Aerodrome Exemptions Policy and Procedures Manual (Decision AOP/SG/7-5)* developed by the AP-AA/WG to assist States that have not completed the certification of all international aerodromes and/or with an AGA EI below 75%. AOP/SG/7 also approved the *Generic Aerodrome Inspector Handbook, Revision 1, 2023 (Decision AOP/SG/7-6)* to provide inspectors with a more comprehensive set of guidelines to improve the quality of aerodrome inspectors works. All three documents are available for use by Asia and Pacific States/Administrations on the ICAO Asia/Pacific Regional Office eDocuments webpage: <https://www.icao.int/APAC/Pages/eDocs.aspx> under AGA heading.

*Amendment to the Terms of Reference of AP-AA/WG*

2.8 AOP/SG/7 adopted the *Decision AOP/SG/7-7* as appended below:

Decision AOP/SG/7-7 (AP-AA/WG/5-5): Proposal for Amendment to AP-AA/WG’s TOR		
What: That, the Terms of Reference of the Asia/Pacific Aerodrome Assistance Working Group (AP-AA/WG) be amended as in <b>Appendix G</b> to the Report of AOP/SG/7.		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 allow additional three years of time for Working Group to focus on the onsite technical assistance to States for certification and surveillance of aerodromes, new tasks of the TOR, and to provide some flexibility in the mode of meetings amid the aftermath of COVID-19 pandemic.	Follow-up: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Required from States	
When: 6-Jul-23	Status: 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: AP-AA/WG		

2.9 The amendment to the Terms of Reference of the Asia/Pacific Aerodrome Assistance Working Group approved by AOP/SG/7 is provided in **Attachment A**.

2.10 With the above AOP/SG/7's decision, the tenure of the AP-AA/WG has been extended until September 2026.

2.11 AOP/SG/7 adopted the *Decision AOP/SG/7-8 (AP-AA/WG/5 – 6)* as appended below:

Decision AOP/SG/7-8 (AP-AA/WG/5 – 6): Updated List of Asia/Pacific Generic Guidance Materials Developed by the AP-AA/WG with Details of the Custodians		
<b>What:</b> That, the <i>Attachment A</i> to the <i>Procedure for periodic review and update of the Asia/Pacific Generic Guidance Materials</i> published on the ICAO APAC Website at eDocuments Webpage under the AGA heading be replaced by the updated list of Generic Guidance Materials developed by the AP-AA/WG/5 ( <b>Appendix H</b> to the Report of AOP/SG/7).		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
<b>Why:</b> To incorporate in the list the version control of Generic AI Handbook and include newly developed APAC GGMs.	Follow-up: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Required from States	
<b>When:</b> 6-Jul-23	Status: Adopted by Subgroup	
<b>Who:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Sub groups <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APAC States <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICAO APAC RO <input type="checkbox"/> ICAO HQ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: AP-AA/WG		

2.12 The *Procedure for periodic review and update of the Asia/Pacific Generic Guidance Materials* is now available on the ICAO APAC Website at eDocuments Webpage under the AGA heading (<https://www.icao.int/APAC/Pages/eDocs.aspx>) with the updated list of Generic Guidance Materials developed by the AP-AA/WG/5.

Report on the Fifth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Wildlife Hazard Management Working Group (AP-WHM/WG/5)

2.13 AOP/SG/7 reviewed the Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Wildlife Hazard Management Working Group (AP-WHM/WG/5) held in Bangkok, Thailand from 3 to 5 May 2023.

*Amendment to the Terms of Reference of AP-WHM/WG*

2.14 AOP/SG/7 adopted **Decision AOP/SG/7-9** as appended below:

<b>Decision AOP/SG/7-9 (AP-WHM/WG/5-1): Proposal for Amendment to AP-WHM/WG's TOR</b>		
What:	That, the Terms of Reference of the Asia/Pacific Wildlife Hazard Management Working Group (AP-WHM/WG) be amended as provided in <b>Appendix I</b> to the Report of AOP/SG/7.	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 allow additional three years of time for Working Group to focus on the onsite technical assistance to States for establishment of the National Wildlife Hazard Management Committee, Wildlife Hazard Management Programme, conduct new tasks of the TOR, and to provide some flexibility in the mode of meetings amid the aftermath of COVID-19 pandemic.	Follow-up: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Required from States
When:	6-Jul-23	Status: Adopted by Subgroup
Who:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sub groups <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APAC States <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICAO APAC RO <input type="checkbox"/> ICAO HQ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: AP-WHM/WG	

2.15 With the above AOP/SG/7's Decision, the tenure of the AP-WHM/WG has been extended until September 2026.

*Status on Certification of Aerodromes in Asia Pacific States*

2.16 AOP/SG/7 noted that out of 355 aerodromes used for international operations in Asia and Pacific Regions 325 aerodromes have been certified as of 21 June 2023 (322 out of 351 aerodromes in June 2022) corresponding to 91.55% progress.

*Publication of the Status of Certification of Aerodromes in AIP*

2.17 AOP/SG/7 noted that 12 States have yet to publish the status of certification of aerodromes in their AIP AD 1.5.

ICAO USOAP CMA and AGA Findings

2.18 AOP/SG/7 noted that there was still a lower EI score (APAC average AGA EI and its corresponding CEs) for **June 2023** compared to EI data for **June 2021** despite the improvement in EI by some States that had received ICVM and Offsite Validation Activities. This was primarily due to adjustment of the EI because of the reduction of AGA PQs from 168 (2017 AGA PQs) to 143 (2020 AGA PQs) numbers (please refer to AOP/SG/7 - IP/04 for USOAP CMA Protocol Questions – 2020 Edition).

2.19 As per survey conducted by ICAO APAC Office, about 50% of APAC States/Administrations had their EI in AGA area less than 75%. Therefore, States/Administration with EI less than 75% would require more resources and efforts to enhance their EI and meet the 75% EI target by 2024 as set forth in the ICAO Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP) 2023-2025 (Doc 10004).

*Adoption of ICAO Recommendations as National Standards*

2.20 AOP/SG/7 Meeting discussed the paper presented by ACI and PASO on *Adoption of ICAO Recommendations as National Standards* by States and adopted the Decision AOP/SG/7-11 as appended below:

<b>Decision AOP/SG/7 – 11: Adoption of Annex 14 Recommendations as National Standards</b>		
What:	Given the potential benefits in air navigation efficiency and aerodrome safety of a risk-based approach to the adoption of Annex 14 Recommendations as National Standards, AOP/SG/7 decided that the topic of “Adoption of Annex 14 Recommendations as National Standards” should be added to the agenda of the next Asia Pacific Aerodrome Design and Operation Task Force (AP-ADO/TF) Meeting for further deliberations.	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 ensure the financial and human resources of aerodrome operators and States are optimized for enhancing aerodrome safety and, in doing so, help achieve the common objective of certifying all aerodromes used for international operations in Asia-Pacific Region.	Follow-up: <input type="checkbox"/> Required from States
When:	6-Jul-23	Status: Adopted by Subgroup
Who:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sub groups <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APAC States <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICAO APAC RO <input type="checkbox"/> ICAO HQ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: AP-ADO-TF	

2.21 As per the above AOP/SG/7 Decision, the further discussion took place at AP-ADO/TF/5 Meeting in Chiang Rai, Thailand (30 January – 2 February 2024).

### 3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) note Decisions AOP/SG/7 - 2, 7, 8, 9 & 11; and
- c) discuss any other relevant matters as appropriate.

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Appendix G to the Report of AOP/SG/7

Asia/Pacific Aerodrome Assistance Working Group (AP-AA WG)

**TERMS OF REFERENCE**  
(Amendment to AP-AA/WG's TOR)  
Approved by AOP/SG/7

**Objective:**

The main objective of the establishment of AP-AA WG is to realize the commitment of the “Beijing Declaration” - to certify all aerodromes used for international operations by 2020, fulfil the objectives of the AOP/SG to address identified AOP deficiencies listed in APANPIRG database for their resolution and to improve the AGA EI resulting from USOAP CMA activities and meet Global Aviation Safety Plan 2023 – 2025 targets.

**Scope of works:**

To meet the above objective the AP-AA WG shall carry out the following tasks:

- (1) **Conduct** a survey on States which have not completed the implementation of aerodrome certification for all international aerodromes, with an AGA EI below 75%, and/or AOP air navigation deficiencies to establish the requirements for assistance;
- (2) **Review** the air navigation deficiencies in the field of AOP (as listed in the APANPIRG air navigation deficiencies database) and assist the concerned State(s) to develop corrective action plans;
- (3) **Assist** States which have not implemented aerodrome certification, with non-satisfactory aerodrome certification related PQs, and/or aerodrome certification related air navigation deficiencies to establish an aerodrome certification process including developing specific operating regulations, training programme and training plan, guidance material for all technical areas, aerodrome inspector handbook with checklists, procedures for accepting non compliances, and surveillance programme. establishing runway safety programme and implementation of Global Reporting Format (GRF) using existing platforms, such as COSCAPs, PASO and introducing a new methodology, such as, Asia Pacific Aerodrome Assistance Go-Team; and
- (4) Assist in conducting seminars/workshops/trainings for the aerodrome regulatory and aerodrome operator staff in APAC region; provide experts to deliver presentations at the seminars/workshops in aerodrome certification, implementation of SMS and other technical areas such as aerodrome emergency planning, runway safety, etc.; and
- (5) Maintain the register of AGA Experts nominated by States and Industry Partners in accordance with Conclusion APANPIRG/33/3 - Assistance to APAC States that require assistance in AGA area including certification and surveillance of aerodromes.
- ~~(4)~~

**Composition:** The AP-AA WG would be composed of subject matter experts nominated by APAC States/Administrations and International Organizations, familiar with Annex 14, PANS-Aerodromes (Doc 9981) and its guidance materials and in particular on aerodrome certification procedures and ICAO USOAP CMA.

**Appendix G** to the Report of AOP/SG/7

**Working Methods:** As far as practicable, the work should be carried out through electronic correspondences and web-conferences. ~~Minimum face-to-face meetings would be planned~~ The Working Group will hold at least one face-to-face meeting a year. The AP-AA WG may be assembled on need basis to assist States. Onsite assistance may be provided to States, if required, on cost-recovery basis through Asia Pacific Aerodrome Assistance Go-Team platform. The ICAO APAC Office would do necessary coordination. The ICAO COSCAPs will support the implementation of Tasks.

**Time frame:** The tenure of the AP-AA WG would last until September ~~2023~~ 2026.

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