



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***Agenda Item 4: Runway Safety and GRF Implementation****ENHANCED GLOBAL REPORTING FORMAT FOR ASSESSING AND REPORTING RUNWAY SURFACE CONDITIONS (GRF)**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the updated status of GRF implementation by Asia and Pacific States.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The ICAO SARPs and Procedures for Air Navigation Services (PANS) related to the enhanced Global Reporting Format for assessing and reporting runway surface conditions (GRF) became applicable on 4 November 2021.

1.2 The concerned Annexes and PANSs are:

- a) *Annex 3 – Meteorological Service for International Air Navigation;*
- b) *Annex 6 – Operation of Aircraft, Part I – International Commercial Air Transport – Aeroplanes and Part II – International General Aviation – Aeroplanes;*
- c) *Annex 8 – Airworthiness of Aircraft;*
- d) *Annex 14 – Aerodromes, Volume I – Aerodrome Design and Operations;*
- e) *Annex 15 – Aeronautical Information Services;*
- f) *Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Air Traffic Management (PANS-ATM, Doc 4444);*
- g) *Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Aerodromes (PANS-Aerodromes, Doc 9881); and*
- h) *Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Aeronautical Information Management (PANS-AIM, Doc 10066).*

2. DISCUSSION

GRF Seminars, Webinars and Workshops

2.1 In order to enhance awareness and support States actions on GRF implementation, a number of seminars, webinars and workshops had been conducted at the global, regional and sub-regional levels by ICAO HQ, ICAO ROs/COSCAPs, PASO and ACI from 2019 to 2022. In addition, the tailored made GRF training courses were jointly offered by ICAO and industry partners to meet the needs of various aviation professions. Detailed information on GRF activities conducted by ICAO can be found at <https://www.icao.int/safety/Pages/GRF.aspx>.

2.2 ICAO APAC Office in coordination with Airport Council International is organizing “ACI-ICAO Global Reporting Format (GRF) for Runway Surface Conditions for Airport Operators Course” in the ICAO Office, Bangkok from 12 to 14 June 2024. Detailed information about the course can be found at URL: <https://igat.icao.int/ated/TrainingCatalogue/Course/5925> and online registration can be done using URL: <https://aci.aero/programs-and-services/global-training/airport-safety-training/aci-icao-grf-for-runway-surface-conditions-for-airport-operators/>. The information about this course was also disseminated to AOP/SG Focal Persons through email on 19 March 2024.

Publication of procedures for assessment and reporting of runway condition report and issuance of SNOWTAM in AIP

2.3 Annex 15 Aeronautical Information Services (AIS) requires that any permanent changes in the AIP shall be published as AIP Amendments (6.3.1.2 of Annex 15 refers). Therefore, the procedures for assessment and reporting of runway condition report and issuance of the new SNOWTAM format should also be published in national AIP. The most appropriate section for publication of above information in AIP could be “AD 1.2.2 Snow plan” (refer to Appendix 2 of PANS-AIM (Doc 10066)).

Notes:–

- 1) *Definition of SNOWTAM as per PANS-AIM (Doc 10066): A special series NOTAM given in a standard format providing a surface condition report notifying the presence or cessation of hazardous conditions due to snow, ice, slush, frost, standing water or water associated with snow, slush, ice or frost on the movement area.*
- 2) *Guidance on the issuance of the SNOWTAM is available on ICAO APAC Website <https://www.icao.int/APAC/Pages/eDocs.aspx> under ATM heading.*

2.4 Recognizing the need for the promulgation of the procedures for the reporting of runway condition report and issuance of the new SNOWTAM format by States in their AIP in accordance with 6.3.1.2 of Annex 15 Aeronautical Information Services (AIS), APANPIRG/33 had adopted the Conclusion APANPIRG/33/2 formulated by AP-AA/WG/4 and endorsed by AOP/SG/6 which was also supported by ATM/SG/10 (17 – 21 Oct. 2022):

Conclusion APANPIRG/33/2: Publication of procedures for reporting of runway condition report and issuance of the SNOWTAM in AIP

That, Asia Pacific States/Administrations:

- 1) *are urged to publish the procedures for reporting of runway condition report and issuance of SNOWTAM in their AIP in accordance with 6.3.1.2 of Annex 15 Aeronautical Information Services; and*
- 2) *may consider to publish above information in “AD 1.2, 2 Snow plan” (refer to Appendix 2 of PANS-AIM (Doc 10066)).*

2.5 ATM/SG/11 had supported the AOP/SG/7's proposal to define a new AIP Section (AD 1.2.3) for the publication of procedures for assessment and reporting of runway condition report and informed that this would be discussed at the AIS-AIM Implementation Task Force (AAITF). It was recognized that the inclusion of a new section AD 1.2.3 would require a rewording of relevant headers.

2.6 APANPIRG/34 (11 – 13 December 2023, Hong Kong, China) encouraged States/Administrations that had yet to implement the new methodology for assessment and reporting of runway condition (also known as Global Reporting Format – GRF), which had become applicable on 04 November 2021 as ICAO Annex 14, Volume I Standard and supported by procedures in PANS-Aerodromes (Doc 9881), to implement GRF at the earliest possible opportunity as this plays a significant role in improving runway safety whenever water, snow, slush, ice or frost are present on an operational runway. In addition, under the Annex 15 Aeronautical Information Services provision stating that PANS-AIM (Doc 10066) provides specifications for NOTAM, SNOWTAM and ASHTAM, the PANS-AIM clearly states that information concerning standing water on the movement area shall be disseminated by means of a SNOWTAM and shall contain the information in the order shown in the SNOWTAM Format in Appendix 4 to the PANS-AIM.

2.7 15 States had informed to ICAO APAC that they had implemented GRF in 2021; however, only 13 States from Asia and Pacific Regions have published procedures for assessment and reporting of runway condition report in AIP as of 22 March 2024.

2.8 The list of the Asia - Pacific States that have published procedures for assessment and reporting of runway condition report in AIP is depicted in the Table 1 below:

No.	States/Administrations	Procedures for assessment and reporting of runway condition report in AIP	Section of AIP
1	Australia	√	AD 1.2 , 2. Snow Plan; 3. Runway Surface Condition Assessment and Reporting (AIP, 23 Mar. 2022)
2	France (New Caledonia, French Polynesia, and Wallis & Futuna)	√	POLYNÉSIE AD 1.2.2 Runway Surface Condition Assessment and Reporting and Snow Plan (AIP, 29 Dec. 2022) NOUVELLE CALEDONIE, WALLIS ET FUTUNA AD 1.2.2 Runway Surface Condition Assessment and Reporting and Snow Plan (AIP, 26 Jan. 2023)
3	India	√	AD 1.2 , 2 Runway Surface Condition Assessment and Report (AIP, 22 Feb 2024)
4	Japan	√	AD 1.2 , 2.1. SNOWTAM (AIP, 24 Feb. 2022)
5	Maldives	√	AD 1.2 , 2. Snow Plan, 2.1 Runway Surface Condition Assessment and Reporting (AIP, 25 May. 2023)

No.	States/Administrations	Procedures for assessment and reporting of runway condition report in AIP	Section of AIP
6	New Zealand	√	AD 1.2, 2. Snow Plan, 2.1 Runway Surface Condition Assessment and Reporting (AIP, 09 Feb. 2024)
7	Pakistan	√	AD 1.1, 5. Assessment and Reporting of Runway Surface Condition
8	Republic of Korea	√	AD 1.2, 2. Snow Plan, Runway Surface Condition Assessment and Reporting, 2. Runway surface condition assessment and reporting (AIP, 09 Feb. 2023)
9	Singapore	√	AD 1.1, 6 Runway Surface Condition Assessment and Reporting (AIP, 02 Dec. 2021)
10	Sri Lanka	√	AD 1.2, 2 Snow Plan, 2.1 Runway Surface Condition Assessment and Reporting, (AIP, 21 Mar. 2024)
11	Thailand	√	AD 1.2, 3. Runway Surface Condition Assessment and Reporting (AIP, 18 May 2023)
12	USA	√	ENR 1.1, 11. Runway Condition Reports (AIP, 16 July 2020)
13	Viet Nam	√	AD 1.2, 2. Runway Surface Condition Assessment and Reporting at the Airports of Viet Nam (AIP, 30 Nov. 2022)

Table 1 –States/Administration that have published procedures for assessment and reporting of runway condition report and issuance of SNOWTAM in AIP

2.9 States who have already published it in other sections of the AIP may wish to consider changing it to “AD 1.2, 2 Snow plan.”

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- urge States to note and take necessary action on **Conclusion APANPIRG/33/2**;
- encouraged States/Administrations that had yet to implement the new methodology for assessment and reporting of runway condition to implement GRF at the earliest possible opportunity;
- publish procedures for assessment and reporting of runway condition report in AIP under “AD 1.2, 2 Snow plan”; and
- discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

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