



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization

**Twelfth Meeting of the Air Traffic Management Sub-Group
(ATM/SG/12) of APANPIRG**

Bangkok, Thailand, 23 – 27 September 2024

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

**SPACE VEHICLE LAUNCH AND RE-ENTRY COORDINATION SMALL WORKING
GROUP (SVLRC SWG)**

(Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper supplements the Space Vehicle Launch and Re-entry Coordination Small Working Group (SVLRC SWG) paper (WP/22).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 WP/22 presented the updated Asia/Pacific regional guidance material developed by the APANPIRG ATM Sub-Group's Asia Pacific Space Vehicle Launch and Re-entry Coordination Small Working Group (SVLRC SWG). This group was established following a decision by ATM/SG/10 in October 2022. The working paper proposed replacing the current regional guidance in the Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan Version 3.0 and the Asia/Pacific Planning Checklist for Space Launch and Space Re-Entry Operations, which were approved by APANPIRG/29, with the new regional guidance document.

1.2 This paper supplements the working paper by incorporating editorial changes, clarifications based on ICAO Annex 15 and PANS-AIM, a Draft Conclusion to replace the regional guidance, and a Decision to dissolve the SWG as the task is now complete.

2. DISCUSSION

Editorial changes

2.1 The draft guidance incorporates editorial changes proposed by the Secretariat, which are highlighted in yellow and attached to WP/22 provided by the SWG.

Clarification based on ICAO Annex 15 and PANS-AIM

2.2 Paragraph 3.1.1 of the draft regional guidance stated: "*Identifies the appropriate ATS authority responsible for coordination of space activities, including designating the proper entity to initiate NOTAM request for space object launch and re-entry activities within the FIR/s assigned to the launching State.*"

2.3 However, the second half of the statement may be ambiguous and may contravene Annex 15 Section 2.1 refers:

2.1.2 Each Contracting State shall ensure that the provision of aeronautical data and aeronautical information covers its own territory and those areas over the high seas for which it is responsible for the provision of air traffic services (ATS).

2.1.3 The State concerned shall remain responsible for the aeronautical data and aeronautical information provided in accordance with 2.1.2. Aeronautical data and aeronautical information provided for and on behalf of a State shall clearly indicate that they are provided under the authority of that State, irrespective of the format in which they are provided.

2.4 Therefore, the revised text was proposed: “Identifies the appropriate ATS authority responsible for coordination of space activities, including identifying ~~designating~~ the proper entity to initiate NOTAM request for space object launch and re-entry activities within the FIR/s assigned to the launching State in accordance to Annex 15, Section 2.1.”

2.5 Subsequently, the paragraph 5.32 of the Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan would be updated to reflect the new regional guidance document. The Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS plan V3.5 refers:

5.32 ~~A State Planning Checklist and additional guidance for Space Vehicle launch and re-entry activity~~ Asia/Pacific Regional Guidance for Space Object Launch and Re-Entry Activities Coordination is at [updated ICAO webpage hyperlink]

Draft Conclusion to replace the regional guidance

2.6 As WP/22 suggests replacing the existing regional guidance in the Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan Version 3.0 and the Asia/Pacific Planning Checklist for Space Launch and Space Re-Entry Operations, which were approved by APANPIRG/29, with a new regional guidance document, the following Draft Conclusion is proposed for discussion at the meeting

Draft Conclusion ATM/SG/12-XX: Regional Guidance for Space Object Launch and Re-Entry Coordination

1. That the Asia/Pacific Regional Guidance for Space Object Launch and Re-Entry Activities at Appendix X to the Report:
 - a) be uploaded to the Asia/Pacific Regional Office website, to replace the existing Asia/Pacific Planning Checklist for Ballistic Launch and Space Re-entry;
 - b) be referenced in the Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan; and
2. the related ballistic launch and space re-entry guidance and performance expectations in the Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan be updated accordingly.

Decision to Dissolve the SWG

2.7 The SWG was established at the ATM/SG/10 in 2022 to:

1. Study global practices and procedures for the coordination of space vehicle launch and re-entry activities, with a view to making recommendations for best practices to be adopted in the Asia/Pacific Region;
2. Consolidate and update Asia/Pacific regional guidance material on space vehicle launch and re-entry coordination and response; and

3. Recommend consolidated guidance and performance expectations for inclusion in the 2023 update of the Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan.

2.8 As the SWG has completed the above tasks, the below Decision is proposed to be discussed at the meeting.

Decision ATM/SG/12-XX: Dissolution of the Space Vehicle Launch and Re-entry Coordination Small Working Group (SVLRC SWG)

That, the Space Vehicle Launch and Re-entry Coordination Small Working Group (SVLRC SWG), having completed all tasks as per the Decision ATM/SG/10-8, be dissolved.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to:
- note the information contained in this paper;
 - discuss and agree to the Draft Conclusion on para 2.6;
 - discuss and agree to the Decision on para 2.8; and
 - discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

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| Draft Conclusion ATM/SG/12-XX: Regional Guidance for Space Object Launch and Re-Entry Coordination | | |
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| What: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> That, the Asia/Pacific Regional Guidance for Space Object Launch and Re-Entry Activities at Appendix X to the Report: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> be uploaded to the Asia/Pacific Regional Office website, to replace the existing Asia/Pacific Planning Checklist for Ballistic Launch and Space Re-entry; be referenced in the Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan; and the related ballistic launch and space re-entry guidance and performance expectations in the Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan be updated accordingly. | | 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 revise guidance to APAC States/Administration to outline consistent and repeatable coordination procedures to achieve timely and efficient collection and dissemination of space object launch and re-entry information that will assist with avoiding hazards to civil aircraft and minimize interference with the normal operation of such aircraft. | Follow-up: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Required from States | |
| When: 27 Nov 2024 | Status: Draft to be adopted by Subgroup | |

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| 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 type="checkbox"/> Other: XXXX |
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| Decision ATM/SG/12-XX: Dissolution of the Space Vehicle Launch and Re-entry Coordination Small Working Group (SVLRC SWG) | |
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| What: That, the Space Vehicle Launch and Re-entry Coordination Small Working Group (SVLRC SWG), having completed all tasks as per the Decision ATM/SG/10-8, be dissolved. | 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 |
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| Why: All tasks as per the Decision ATM/SG/10-8 completed | Follow-up: <input type="checkbox"/> Required from States |
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| When: 27-Sep-24 | Status: Draft to be adopted by Subgroup |
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