



ICAO

*International Civil Aviation Organization*

**The Thirteenth Meeting of the South China Sea Traffic Flow  
Review Group (SCSTFRG/13)**

Beijing China, 16 – 18 July 2025

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**Agenda Item 7: Any Other Business**

**UPCOMING THE FREE ROUTE AIRSPACE (FRA) IMPLEMENTATION WEBINAR**  
(Presented by Secretary)

**SUMMARY**

This paper presents ICAO announces the plan for the FRA Webinar for member States/Administrations in the APAC region, aimed at introducing the regulatory concept, sharing the technical implementing method, successful cases, and fostering dialogue.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 With air traffic demand rising in the Asia-Pacific region, modernizing efficient airspace systems has become essential. ICAO has helped Member States introduce the importance of solutions like Free Route Airspace (FRA), which offers greater flexibility and efficiency in flight route planning.

1.2 The 2023 FRA Webinar introduced the concept, objectives, and operational benefits of FRA as outlined in the ASBU framework, along with global implementation experiences. Building on this, the 2024 FRA Workshop in Bangkok focused on procedural steps and implementation challenges. The upcoming 2025 webinar will offer a more in-depth exploration of FRA, covering both foundational concepts and advanced topics. Further information is provided in the Discussion section below.

1.3 As States in the Asia-Pacific region move toward FRA implementation, the exchange of practical experience and technical know-how is increasingly important. This two-day webinar will cover key operational and technical considerations for FRA deployment, including cross-border coordination. Further details can be found on the ICAO APAC webpage at <https://www.icao.int/APAC/Meetings/Pages/2025-FRA-IMPLEMENTATION-WEBINAR.aspx>.

**2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 The FRA Webinar is scheduled to take place on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> September 2025, 03:00~06:00 (UTC) via video conference. The key objectives of the webinar include:

- a) **Introducing the Regulatory Concept and Benefits of Free Route Airspace:** Member States/Administrations will gain valuable insights into the current FRA provisional concept, its potential benefits, and its significance in optimizing airspace utilization and enhancing operational efficiency.
- b) **Practical Implementation Challenges and Resolving Method:** To address challenges in stakeholder coordination and airspace management during FRA planning and implementation.

- To share data-driven strategies, tools, and metrics to evaluate the operational and environmental benefits of FRA.
- To support the development of procedures and training needed to transition toward FRA.

**c) Fostering Dialogue and Knowledge Exchange:** The webinar will be a platform for government regulators, air navigation service providers, operators, and other stakeholders to engage in dialogue, discuss challenges and opportunities, and exchange knowledge on FRA implementation.

**d) Interactive Q&A Sessions:** Participants will have the opportunity to address questions and receive expert insights, clarifying any queries and deepening their understanding of FRA implementation.

2.2 The two-day program is roughly as the **Attachment** to this paper. Please kindly note that the current program is subject to slight changes as experts are being recruited for presentations and further discussions are ongoing.

### 3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) publicize this webinar in its States/Administrations/International Organizations;
- c) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

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## **Attachment**

### **PROGRAMME OUTLINES**

(12:00 – 15:00 in Beijing Time / 04:00-07:00 in UTC)

#### **Session 1 – Stakeholder Coordination, Procedures & Training**

This session is going to help the States on policies, training, and coordination among stakeholders for seamless FRA operations which mainly contains:

- FRA concept & definition in current regulation, and key takeaways from the webinar (presented by ICAO)
  - Civil-military coordination in FRA settings (presented by ICAO)
  - Stakeholder engagement and cooperation procedures (ANSPs, AUs, Regulators)
  - ATCO and stakeholder training: tools, briefings, and simulations
  - FIR Transfer-of-Control (TOC) challenges and solutions
  - Bilateral agreements and stakeholders' coordination in FRA settings
  - Managing mixed operations (day/night, ATS vs FRA, unpublished points), etc.
- Free Route Airspace (**FRA**), Air Navigation Service Providers (**ANSPs**), Airspace Users (**AUs**), Air Traffic Controllers (**ATCO**), and Air Traffic Services (**ATS**)

#### **Session 2 – Data-Driven Implementation & Operational Integration**

This session will invite States in the Region to apply analytics, technical readiness, and operational improvements to FRA from the following aspects:

- Use of data and metrics in FRA planning and benefit measurement
  - Flight level allocation challenges and real-world resolutions
  - Role of aircraft operators in flight plan validation
  - ATM system feasibility assessment and operational readiness
  - Post-implementation review: monitoring traffic and continuous improvement
- Air Traffic Management (**ATM**)

#### **Session 3 – Discussions and Wrap up**

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