



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization

The Tenth Meeting of the Aerodromes Operations and
Planning Sub-Group (AOP/SG/10)

Bangkok, Thailand, 10 to 14 August 2026

Agenda Item 4: Provision of AOP in the Asia/Pacific Region

– Planning, Design, & Construction/Modernization of Aerodromes

ICAO HQ UPDATE ON AGA MATTERS

(Presented by the SECRETARIAT)

SUMMARY

This paper presents information related to aerodrome activities carried out recently in the Airport Operations and Infrastructure section, Air Navigation Bureau, ICAO Montreal.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Airport Operations and Infrastructure Section (AOI) delivers ICAO provisions on aerodrome matters to support States, air navigation service providers, aerodrome operators and air operators to achieve the relevant regulatory and operational improvements through its multi-disciplinary work programmes and technical expertise. The Section advises States, ICAO Council and Air Navigation Commission (ANC) on aerodrome matters with overall responsibility for Annex 14, Volume I & II - *Aerodromes and Heliports*, Procedures for Air Navigation Services (PANS) - Aerodromes (Doc 9981) and related guidance materials.

1.2 In order to achieve the above, various programmes and activities had been conducted with the assistance of the Aerodrome Design and Operations Panel (ADOP). The Panel carries out its tasks with greater emphasis on safety, efficiency and capacity issues through its various working groups, task forces and expert groups. It also undertakes specific studies and subsequently develops provisions relating to aerodrome design and operations, as outlined in the Global Air Navigation Plan ([ICAO GANP Portal](#)) and Global Aviation Safety Plan ([Doc 10004](#)).

2. DISCUSSION

Updates to Aerodrome Related Documents

2.1 As part of the ongoing process of continual updates to guidance materials, ICAO has successfully updated, and/or developed new guidance materials, as shown below:

- Doc 9137 Part 6 (Control of Obstacles) – unedited version published. This is a complete rewrite supporting Amendment 18 to Annex 14, Volume I;
- Doc 9157, Part 1 (Runways) – additional guidance included to support Amendment 18 to Annex 14, Volume I;

- Doc 9157, Part 2 (Taxiways, Aprons and Holding Bays) – additional guidance included to support Amendment 18 to Annex 14, Volume I;
- Doc 9157, Part 4 (Visual Aids) – extensive guidance related to visual aids for runway closure and runway distance remaining signs included to support Amendment 18 to Annex 14, Volume I;
- Doc 9261, Part 1 (Onshore Heliports) – new version published;
- Doc 9261, Part 2 (Offshore Heliports) – new version published;
- Doc 9261, Part 3 (Certification and SMS for Heliports) – new version (soon to be published); and
- Circular 364 – Water Aerodrome Design and Operations.

In addition,

- Annex 14, Volume I has been updated to incorporate provisions resulting from the adoption of Amendment 18;
- Annex 14, Volume II has been updated to incorporate provisions resulting from the adoption of Amendment 10; and
- PANS-Aerodromes (Doc 9981) has been updated to incorporate provisions resulting from the approval of Amendment 10.

Adoption/Approval of Amendment Proposals

2.2 The amendment proposals arising from ADOP/5 meeting were sent for State letter consultation - Ref. AN 4/1.1.60-25/79 dated 12 August 2025. The response from States and international organizations have been compiled and the ANC will do the final review of the amendment proposals in September 2026. The Council is expected to adopt/approve these proposals in Q1 2027.

2.3 The amendment proposals are related to:

- a) Phase II Ground handling and integrating RPAS at aerodromes with applicability dates expected to be 23 November 2028, subject to ANC decisions; and
- b) Provisions related to assistance to aircraft accident victims and their families, rescue and firefighting, and aircraft Braking Action Report (ABAR) and improvements in Global Reporting Format (GRF) with applicability date, 25 November 2027, subject to the outcomes of the discussions at the ANC during the final review.

ADOP/WG/9 Meeting

2.4 The Ninth Meeting of the Aerodrome Design and Operations Panel Working Group (ADOP/WG/9) was convened in Montreal from 15 to 19 June 2026 and attended by 57 participants. The meeting reviewed the work programme of the Panel based on the updates and feedback provided by the rapporteurs of its subgroups and job card leaders.

2.5 The meeting noted the outcomes of the 42nd ICAO Assembly and agreed to review and consider the incorporation of appropriate content to the ADOP work programme, subject to the availability of resources and approval by the ANC.

2.6 The ADOP/WG/9 meeting discussed extensively the following topics:

- a) Publication of aircraft arresting systems in Aeronautical Charts;
- b) Provisions related to Runway Starter Extension;
- c) Aerodrome operations related matters such as, ACDM/TAM, rescue and firefighting, A-SMGCS, emergency response planning, apron management and aerodrome maintenance, runway surface condition reporting, introduction of autonomous vehicles in airside operations, aircraft powered by alternate fuel sources, etc.;
- d) Consideration of climate change in aerodrome pavement related provisions;
- e) Consequential amendments to Chapters 3, 6 and 9 of Annex 14, Volume I, based on the new Obstacle Limitation Surface (OLS) provisions;
- f) Possible amendments to Obstacle Protection Surface (OPS);
- g) Proposal to publish the interim findings of the Vertical Flight Infrastructure Working Group related to Vertiports;
- h) Amendment proposals related to visual aids arising from VAWG discussions, incident investigation findings, outcomes of ICAO regional office meetings, and the need for editorial corrections;
- i) Proposals for new job cards related to harmonization of alternative apron taxiway and aircraft stand taxi lane system, Innovative Technology in Aerodrome Visual Aids, and Maintenance of Visual Aids-Related Provisions; and
- j) Performance based aerodrome operating minima.

2.7 The outcomes of these discussions and the feedback provided during the ADOP/WG/9 meeting will be reviewed by the respective subgroups. Final proposals will be presented at the ADOP/6 meeting, to be held in April 2027. Subject to their maturity, these proposals will form part of the next package of amendments developed by ADOP.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information contained in this Information Paper.

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