



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization

**SEVENTH MEETING OF THE ASIA/PACIFIC AIR
TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AUTOMATION SYSTEM
TASK FORCE (ATMAS TF/7)**

Bangkok, Thailand 2-4 June 2026

Agenda Item 8: Review of the Terms of Reference (ToR) and Task List

REVIEW OF TOR AND TASK LIST

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the ToR and Action Items of ATMAS TF for meeting review and update.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Twenty-third Meeting of the CNS Sub-Group (CNS SG/23) of APANPIRG in September 2019 adopted the Decision CNS SG/23/13 for the establishment of the ATM Automation System Task Force (ATMAS TF).

Decision CNS SG/23/13 (SURICG/4/5) - Establishment of ATM Automation System Task Force (ATMAS TF)

The ATM Automation System Task Force (ATMAS TF) with ToR provided in Appendix L to the CNS SG/23 Report will be established.

1.2 This paper presents the ToR and Action Items of ATMAS TF for meeting review and update.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The CNS subgroup of APANPIRG emphasized the need for proactive efforts in organizing forums in this Region on the subject of ATM automation systems in order to share operational and technical experience and shape the future development roadmap and performance-based guidance for the ATM automation system. The ICAO Asia Pacific Regional ATM Automation System Symposium (APAC RATMS) was held in Nanjing, China, from 22 to 23 November 2018.

2.2 The objectives of ATMAS TF were to take forward all matters arising in the APAC RATMS and to address the regional needs, such as developing regional guidance to facilitate the implementation, enhancements, operation and maintenance of ATM automation systems and services in the Region.

2.3 During the ATMAS TF/1, the Meeting discussed various Action Items proposed by brainstorming sessions with alignment to AI 2.2 and AI 2.3, based on a proposed draft by China, Hong Kong China and Singapore. The ATMAS TF/2 meeting updated the Action Item list for ATMAS TF,

reviewed the Action Items arising from the APA Task Force, and agreed to consolidate APA TF work in ATMAS TF/3.

2.4 After the dissolution of the APA TF adopted by CNS SG/25 through **Decision CNS SG/25/16**, the ongoing AIDC implementation work was taken up by ATMAS TF, while ACSICG agreed to handle communications-related issues. In order to integrate APA TF ToR into ATMAS TF ToR, the revised ATMAS TF ToR proposed by the ATMAS TF/2 was adopted by CNS SG/25 through **Decision CNS SG/25/17**.

2.5 The ATMAS TF/6 Meeting reviewed the ToR and agreed on the need to modify it further to accommodate the latest needs of ATMAS TF, such as accommodating FF-ICE and SWIM requirements. An ad-hoc group consisting of China, Hong Kong China, India, New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand, and the USA was formed to review the ToR. The proposed draft Terms of Reference (ToR) is provided in **Appendix A** for review and amendment by the Meeting.

2.6 The Meeting is invited to endorse the following Draft Decision on the Revised Terms of Reference of the ATMAS TF for adoption by the CNS SG/30 Meeting planned to be held from 06-10 July 2026.

| | |
|---|--|
| Draft Decision ATMAS TF/7/1 – Revised Terms of Reference of the Asia/Pacific Air Traffic Management Automation System Task Force (ATMAS) | |
| What: That, the revised Terms of Reference (ToR) provided in Appendix A be adopted. | 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 accommodate the latest needs of ATMAS TF, such as accommodating FF-ICE and SWIM requirements. | Follow-up: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Required from States |
| When: 03-Jun-2026 | Status: Draft to be adopted by Subgroup |
| Who: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sub groups <input type="checkbox"/> APAC States <input type="checkbox"/> ICAO APAC RO <input type="checkbox"/> ICAO HQ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: ATMAS TF | |

2.7 To follow up on **Action Item 2-6** of ATMAS TF/2 to consolidate Action Items arising from APA Task Force into ATMAS TF Action Item list, the Secretariat revised the format of the APA TF Action List from a Word file into Excel format to be consistent with the Action Item List with ATMAS TF and supplemented the follow-up actions from the former APA TF meetings. The ATMAS TF/3 reviewed and updated the Action Item list and agreed to combine the outstanding action items from APA TF into the ATMAS TF action item list.

2.8 The Action Item List updated by the ATMAS TF/6 meeting is provided in **Appendix B** to this paper for meeting review and update.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) review and revise the ToR in **Appendix A** if necessary;
- c) review and update Action Items provided in **Appendix B**; and
- d) discuss any relevant matter as appropriate.

Presentation of the initial proposal:

1. The *Background* and *Comments* are provided in *italic text*.
2. The text of the proposed amendment is arranged to show deleted text with a line through it and new text highlighted with grey shading, as shown below:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| a) Text to be deleted is shown with a line through it. | text to be deleted |
| b) New text to be inserted is highlighted with grey shading. | new text to be inserted |
| c) Text to be deleted is shown with a line through it followed by the replacement text which is highlighted with grey shading. | new text to replace existing text |

**REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE OF
ASIA AND PACIFIC
ATM AUTOMATION SYSTEM TASK FORCE (ATMAS/TF)**

Consists of objectives and deliverables as follows:

The Objectives of the APAC ATMAS/TF are to:

- 1) *Keep abreast of the latest developments in ATM automation systems and associated technologies to cope with forthcoming development and implementation of ICAO SARPs, the Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP), the Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP) and Asia/Pacific Seamless Air Navigation Service (ANS) Plan (APSAP);*
- 2) *Facilitate the implementation, enhancements, operation and maintenance of ATM automation systems and services identified in the Aviation System Block Upgrades (ASBU) elements and APSAP elements using the project management principles where appropriate;*
- 3) *Ensure continuous and coherent development of the ATM automation systems that is harmonized with adjacent regions to enhance systems robustness, resilience, interoperability and cybersecurity; and*
- 4) *Review, identify and address major issues in technical, operational, safety and regulatory aspects to facilitate the implementation or provision of safe, efficient and orderly ATM services;*
- 5) *Encourage collaboration among ANSPs in implementing ATM automation systems so as to reduce operating costs and enable quick implementation of new requirements to cope with new challenges;*
- 6) *Follow up, oversee and share experiences of the AIDC implementation and provide a coordination framework among States for wider and effective implementation of AIDC across the APAC region.*
- 7) *Facilitate transition planning to and technical interoperability between legacy systems and SWIM-enabled capabilities such as FF-ICE and TBO.*

Deliverables to meet the Objectives:

1) To submit progress report to the ICAO CNS Sub-group while keeping ATM Sub-group informed of addressing the APAC ATMAS/TF deliverables (listed in 2 to 7 below);

2) To support the ICAO in making specific recommendations and developing guidance materials, such as minimum functional/performance requirements and additional/local requirements, which aim at facilitating the implementation or provision of robust, safe, efficient and orderly ATM services by the use of existing and/or new procedures, facilities and technologies in relation to ATM automation systems;

3) To review outcome of the AN-Conf., DGCA Conference, APANPIRG, CNS Sub-group, ATM Sub-group, RASMAG, and SURICG related to ATM automation systems, revise and update a tasks list and action items for the ATMAS/TF;

4) To study and identify applicable applications, share experience, and recommend the best industry practice in the Asia and Pacific Regions considering:

- Systems planning and design
- Open / Service Oriented Architecture
- HMI adaptation, data synchronization and operational enhancements
- Safety nets
- ICAO roadmap in the GANP / ASBU
- Systems interoperability
- Standardization of information exchange
- AIDC Implementation
- Operation and maintenance practice
- Acceptance and certification
- Flight inspection
- Cybersecurity
- Safety assessment
- Training
- Transition

5) To encourage research and development, trials and demonstrations of applications and technologies, and, as necessary, facilitate ~~steer for~~ the sharing of this information and expertise between States/Administrations through organizing educational seminars and symposia to educate States/Administrations and airspace users;

6) To formulate draft Conclusions and Decisions relating to matters in the field of ATM automation systems that come within the scope of the APANPIRG, CNS Sub-group, ATM Sub-group, and RASMAG work plan; and

7) To collaborate with relevant international organizations (such as EuroControl) for harmonization of ATM system requirements.

8) To provide guidance materials to assist States in facilitating the integration of ATM automation systems (ATMAS) into the SWIM environment, which includes defining the operational requirements and interface specifications for ATMAS to operate within a SWIM-enabled environment and promoting the harmonization of communication infrastructure and protocols.

9) To identify and share transition considerations, including milestones, timelines and dependencies, related to the evolution of ATMAS towards future operational concepts.

10) To consolidate implementation materials from the various expert groups that impact the design considerations for ATM Automation Systems, of the following but not limited to:

- SWIM implementation guidance material which includes service registry
- FF-ICE ad-hoc group implementation guidance material and regional decisions, such as FIXM formats and their extension, harmonized rules, and interpretation of FF-ICE responses
- AAITF updates on materials relating to DNOTAM/DORIS
- ATFM Concept of Operations updates

11) To report on States' timelines for automation system enhancement to support such enablers as SWIM, FF-ICE, and DNOTAM.

12) To review and assess the need to harmonize existing definitions/terms used by the various ATMAS, (e.g. ATM automation systems, Air Traffic Flow Management Systems, etc.) to address potential mismatch of information during data exchanges.

Timeframe for Deliverables:

For deliverable item 2 on guidance materials, with the ATMAS TF having created the *Air Traffic Management Automation System Implementation and Operations Guidance Document*, such document it is anticipated that a first draft could be made available in 3 years after establishment of the Task Force for seeking endorsement by CNS Sub group, after which the guidance materials would be updated/enhanced on an on-going basis. For other deliverable items 3-712, they will be made available as appropriate subject to review by the Task Force. The life time of the Task Force would be subject to review after endorsement of the first edition of the guidance materials. The Task Force should study and share technical considerations related to the evolution of ATM automation systems in support of future concepts of operation (ConOps), such as FF-ICE and TBO, and identify potential future work areas as regional needs evolve.

Meeting:

The APAC ATMAS/TF shall convene annually with at least one face-to-face meeting per year, which is supplemented by teleconference meetings (e.g. WebEx) as appropriate.

Membership:

All APAC member States/Administrations providing air navigation services in the Asia and Pacific Regions. APAC members should nominate Subject Matter Experts from Civil Aviation Authorities, ANSPs, and other organizations with strong background in engineering and operation in relation to ATM automation systems to participate in the Task Force. The Task Force would also invite representatives of International Organizations recognized by the ICAO Council as representing important civil aviation interests to participate in its work in a consultative capacity.
