



ICAO

*International Civil Aviation Organization*TENTH MEETING OF SPECTRUM REVIEW  
WORKING GROUP (SRWG/10)

Bangkok, Thailand, 04 – 06 February 2026

**Agenda Item 3:** Review Frequency planning requirements for the Asia/Pacific Region

3.2 HF Utilization in APAC

**UPDATE SURVEY RESULT OF THE UTILIZATION OF HF BANDS FOR  
AERONAUTICAL COMMUNICATION IN THE APAC REGION**

(Presented by Indonesia, on behalf of the HF Ad Hoc Group)

**SUMMARY**

This paper presents an updated survey confirms continued use of HF spectrum for aeronautical communications in the APAC Region, consistent with findings previously reported to SRWG/9. The results highlight that incomplete registration of HF frequency assignments in the ITU MIFR remains an outstanding issue requiring further attention.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 In accordance with *Decision SRWG/8/3*, a survey on the utilization of HF spectrum frequency bands for aeronautical communications, including the update of the HF frequency assignment table in the APAC Region, was developed by the HF ad-hoc group. The questionnaire was circulated to APAC States by the ICAO Secretariat through ICAO APAC State Letter Ref. T 8/8.1: AP094/24 (CNS), dated 8 August 2024.

1.2 Responses received from APAC States were compiled and shared with the HF ad-hoc group by the ICAO Secretariat in December 2024 and presented to SRWG/9 through [WP/05](#). The meeting further agreed on **Action Item 9-4**, requesting States/Administrations that had not yet responded to the survey to submit their responses.

1.3 Considering the above, this Paper is submitted to SRWG/10 to inform the meeting of the update survey results and to facilitate further discussion and reporting.

**2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 As of December 2025, ICAO APAC Regional Office received eighteen (**18**) responses from States/Administrations, including Afghanistan, Australia, Cambodia, China, Hongkong China, Macao China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand,

Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. A summary of the responses is provided below for meeting review.

States/Administration implement the HF bands between 2 850 kHz and 22 000 kHz for aeronautical purposes

2.2 Out of a total of 30 States/Administrations listed in the **New Table with HF Frequency Assignment**, as referenced in [WP/14](#) and **Appendix D** of the Report of SRWG/8, the ad-hoc group received responses from 18 States/Administrations. As illustrated in Figure 1, 15 of the responding States/Administrations confirmed the operational use of HF frequency bands, while 3 reported that HF frequencies are not used in their daily operations.

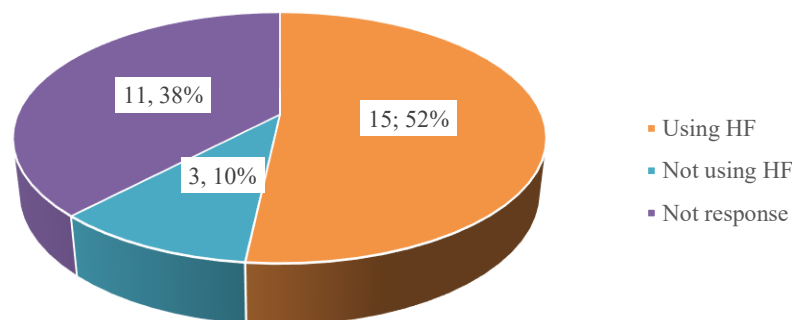


Figure 1 HF implementation status

2.3 The updated survey results confirm the observations previously reported in WP/05 presented to SRWG/9 that HF frequencies continue to be used by a range of stakeholders beyond ANSPs, including airline operators, search and rescue services, and data link applications. Responding States/Administrations reaffirmed the continued application of Appendix 27 of the ITU RR as the primary reference for HF frequency assignments under the Aeronautical Mobile (R) Service (AM(R)S). No material change in this practice was identified.

2.4 As reported in WP/05 of SRWG/9, some States/Administrations continue to indicate the use of frequency allocations associated with Appendix 26 of the ITU Radio Regulations for certain operational purposes. The updated responses do not indicate any change in the regulatory understanding that the Aeronautical Mobile (Off-Route) Service (AM(OR)S), as defined in Radio Regulation No. 1.34, is not intended for safety-of-life communications.

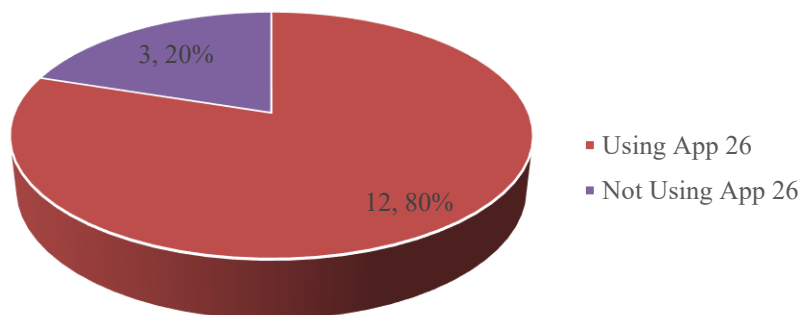


Figure 2 HF users under Appendix 26

Registration to ITU MIFR

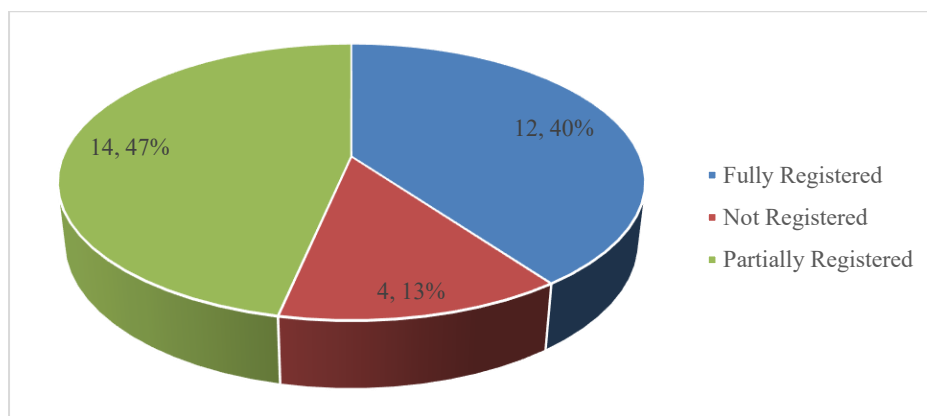
2.5 With reference to Question No. 10 concerning the registration of High Frequency (HF) allocations in the Master International Frequency Register (MIFR) maintained by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) with refer to the **New Table with HF Frequency Assignment**, the updated responses as shown in Table 1 and Figure 3 down below, indicate that several States/Administrations have yet to complete registration of their HF allocations. The reasons provided for non-registration remain broadly consistent with those reported in WP/05 (SRWG/9).

2.6 Consistent with the findings previously presented in WP/05 (SRWG/9), incomplete registration of HF frequency assignments in the MIFR continues to represent a challenge to achieving full international recognition and protection of aeronautical HF spectrum usage. In line with ICAO Doc 9718, Volume I - *ICAO Spectrum Strategy, Policy Statements and Related Information*, the importance of MIFR registration remains a key consideration for States/Administrations.

*Table 1 Survey Response and MIFR Registration Status*

| No. | States/Administrations | Survey Response Status | MIFR Registration Status |
|-----|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1.  | Afghanistan            | Response received      | Fully registered         |
| 2.  | Australia              | Response received      | Partially registered     |
| 3.  | Bangladesh             | No response received   | Partially registered     |
| 4.  | Bhutan                 | No response received   | Fully registered         |
| 5.  | China                  | Response received      | Partially registered     |
| 6.  | Hongkong China         | Response received      | Partially registered     |
| 7.  | Macao China            | Response received      | Partially registered     |
| 8.  | Fiji                   | No response received   | Fully registered         |
| 9.  | India                  | Response received      | Partially registered     |
| 10. | Indonesia              | Response received      | Partially registered     |
| 11. | Japan                  | Response received      | Partially registered     |
| 12. | Kiribati               | No response received   | Fully registered         |
| 13. | Malaysia               | No response received   | Partially registered     |
| 14. | Mongolia               | No response received   | Not registered           |
| 15. | Myanmar                | No response received   | Partially registered     |
| 16. | Nauru                  | No response received   | Partially registered     |
| 17. | New Zealand            | Response received      | Partially registered     |
| 18. | Pakistan               | Response received      | Not registered           |
| 19. | Papua New Guinea       | Response received      | Partially registered     |
| 20. | Philippines            | Response received      | Not registered           |
| 21. | Republic of Korea      | No response received   | Fully registered         |
| 22. | Samoa                  | No response received   | Fully registered         |
| 23. | Singapore              | Response received      | Fully registered         |
| 24. | Solomon Island         | No response received   | Not registered           |
| 25. | Sri Lanka              | No response received   | Partially registered     |
| 26. | Thailand               | Response received      | Fully registered         |
| 27. | Tonga                  | No response received   | Fully registered         |
| 28. | Tuvalu                 | No response received   | Fully registered         |

|     |          |                      |                  |
|-----|----------|----------------------|------------------|
| 29. | Vanuatu  | No response received | Fully registered |
| 30. | Viet Nam | No response received | Fully registered |



*Figure 3 Registration Status to the MIFR*

*Issues in assigning the HF bands to the operational condition*

2.7 The issues identified in response to Question No. 11 remain consistent with those previously reported in WP/05 (SRWG/9), with no new developments identified in the current responses received. The responses reconfirm that operational challenges affecting the use of HF communications in the APAC Region persist, including congestion on certain HF channels, delays in the implementation of frequency allotments in some States and Administrations, and technical limitations inherent to HF systems. As previously noted, these factors have led some States and Administrations to adapt their operational use of HF or to rely increasingly on alternative communication systems where available.

*Summary*

2.8 Based on the survey results and evaluations conducted, the ad-hoc group presents the following as conclusions.

2.8.1 Out of 29 States/Administrations, 18 responded; 15 confirmed HF usage, and 3 did not. HF bands are used not only by ANSPs but also by airlines, SAR, and others, referencing Appendix 27 of the ITU Radio Regulations. Some States/Administrations also use Appendix 26 allocations, though this band is not meant for safety-of-life services.

2.8.2 The updated survey responses reconfirm the findings presented in WP/05 (SRWG/9) that incomplete registration of HF frequency assignments in the ITU MIFR remains an outstanding issue. The continued relevance of this matter highlights the need for further attention by States/Administrations to strengthen international recognition and protection of aeronautical HF spectrum as in line with **Action Item 9-2** of SRWG/9, and particularly in preparation for future World Radiocommunication Conferences (WRCs).

**3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) encourage States/Administrations to register the HF in the ITU MIFR as in line with **Action Item 9-2** of SRWG/9; and
- c) discuss any relevant matter as appropriate.

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