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*International Civil Aviation Organization*

**The Fifth Meeting of the South Asia, Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia ATM Coordination Group (SAIOSEACG/5)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 13 – 16 January 2026

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**Agenda Item 6: ATM Contingency Plans and Search and Rescue**

**AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT (ATM) CONTINGENCY PLAN OF THE PHILIPPINES**  
(Presented by Philippines)

**SUMMARY**

This paper provides an update on the progress of the Air Traffic Management Contingency Plan of the Philippines.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Annex 11 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation stipulates that Air Traffic Services Authorities must formulate and publish contingency plans to be put into action in the event of disruptions or potential disruptions to air traffic services and the related supporting services within their airspace of jurisdiction. These plans should be developed with the assistance of ICAO as required and in close coordination with neighboring air traffic services authorities and relevant airspace users.

1.2 The identified vulnerabilities in the current Philippine ATMC setup and the lesson learned from the January 01, 2023 power failure incident drives the development or improvement of the Level 1 and level 2 ATM contingency plans to ensure flight safety and sustained flight operations in Manila FIR, albeit limited, in the event of disruption.

**2. DISCUSSION**

**Outcome of the Collaborations between Manila Area Control Center and Adjacent Area Control Centers**

2.1 The Philippines has developed a Level 2 ATM Contingency Plan in coordination with its neighboring Flight Information Regions (FIRs) to ensure the safe and orderly provision of air traffic services during contingency situations.

2.2 The outcome of the close collaboration with the adjacent Area Control Centers was the successful conclusion and signing of a formal agreement, reinforcing coordinated operational arrangements and mutual readiness to implement the ATM Contingency Plan in the event of service disruptions. This agreement supports the formalization of Level 2 contingency arrangements between neighboring ATS units as recommended in ICAO contingency planning guidance.

2.3 The ATM Contingency Plan Agreement between Manila Area Control Center (ACC) and Singapore ACC was initially signed in October 2019 and subsequently revised and re-signed in May 2024 in Manila, Philippines.

2.4 In October 2024, a Supplementary Letter of Operational Coordination Agreement on the ATM Contingency Plan was signed between Ho Chi Minh ACC and Manila ACC in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam.

2.5 Further bilateral arrangements were concluded in 2025, including the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the ATM Contingency Plan between Manila ACC and Hong Kong ATCC in June 2025, and a Supplementary Letter of Operational Coordination Agreement between Manila ACC and Taipei ACC in August 2025.

2.6 The Memorandum of Understanding on the Implementation of the ATM Contingency Plan between Manila ACC and Fukuoka ACC was signed during the East Asia Traffic Management Coordination Group (EATMCG/17) Meeting in Fukuoka, Japan, last November 25, 2025.

2.7 On 22 December 2025, the ATM Contingency Plan between Manila ACC and Ujung ACC was discussed and finalized during an online bilateral meeting. The agreed provisions will be incorporated into a Supplementary Letter of Operational Agreement, which is planned to be signed in April 2026.

2.8 With these developments, the Philippine ATM Contingency Plan will be published in the AIP by Q12026

2.9 The Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines, through the Manila Area Control Center, expresses its sincere gratitude to neighboring air navigation service providers for their constructive review and meaningful comments, which have contributed to the refinement of the Philippine ATM Contingency Plan. Their continued patience, collaboration and commitment have materially improved the plan and this progress would not have been possible without their support.

2.10 Sustained joint effort among us remains vital as we strive together for safe skies and look forward to maintaining these relationships to achieve our shared operational and service objectives.

### 3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

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