



ICAO

*International Civil Aviation Organization***THE THIRTIETH MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS / NAVIGATION AND
SURVEILLANCE SUB-GROUP (CNS SG/30)
OF APANPIRG***Bangkok, Thailand, 06 - 10 July 2026*

Agenda Item 14: Review of ToR and action items

REVIEW OF TOR AND ACTION ITEMS

(Presented by Secretariat, China, Hong Kong China, Thailand and United States)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the outcome of the CNS Sub-group Ad-hoc Task Force on reviewing Terms of Reference (ToR), and the Action Items List of the CNS Sub-Group for review and updates.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The CNS Sub-Group (CNS SG) Terms of Reference (ToR) were first adopted under APANPIRG/22 in 2011 and became effective with the 2013 meeting cycle. The ToR established the scope, objectives and reporting lines for CNS SG and its contributory bodies in support of APANPIRG's Communication, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) work.

1.2 In 2014, CNS SG/18 pointed out that these ToRs may need to be updated based on the ASBU-based performance implementation approach. In the same year, APANPIRG/25 established a contributory bodies structure review Task Force (ABSRTF) to align its working arrangements with the revised Global ANP. APANPIRG noted that in light of the performance-based approach to air navigation planning and implementation, there was a need to align the work programme of States, Regions and ICAO. The APANPIRG also noted that in this regard, within the ASBU framework, due consideration should be given to planning, implementation, and performance measurement, monitoring and reporting aspects and that a project-based approach for ASBU's should be applied to APANPIRG Contributory Bodies (Sub Groups, Working Groups, Task Forces) as necessary. The APANPIRG/25 meeting adopted Decision 25/50 regarding the establishment of a structure review task force.

1.3 The ABSRTF meeting formulated several draft Decisions and endorsed by the APANPIRG/26 meeting in 2015, including empowerment of the Sub Groups and proposed the revised Terms of Reference of APANPIRG Sub-groups. The APANPIRG Procedural Handbook was amended in line with the new APANPIRG structure and to promote the project management principles to be implemented. Thereafter, the CNS SG ToR has not been reviewed until CNS SG/29, in which called for an action item to review its ToR, with an Ad-hoc ToR Review Task Force established with **China, Hong Kong China, Thailand and the United States** volunteered to be the members of the Task Force.

1.4 This paper reviews the work done by this Ad-hoc Task Force, and the proposal on suggested amendments of CNS SG ToR.

1.5 The list of action items for CNS SG was updated by the CNS SG/29 Meeting in June 2025. Sixteen (16) new action items were identified during the CNS SG/29 Meeting, which need to be reviewed by this meeting.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 In the CNS SG/29, it was discussed and agreed that several changes have been made in the last 10 years, including the role and responsibilities of CNS SG, which should be reflected in the revised ToR. In addition, the ToR missed certain information about composition, chairpersonship, and other essential data usually incorporated in standard ToR.

2.2 As such, two online meetings were conducted in April and May 2026 with the Task Force Member States and with the generous support from the ICAO Secretariat. The Task Force reviewed in the first meeting the key components of a common ToR, and made references to ToRs of other Sub-Groups under APANPIRG, as well as ToRs of other CNS Sub-groups in other Regions. The Task Force then deliberated in the second meeting on details to be included, and draft wordings to be used in the revised ToR.

2.3 Throughout the discussion, the Task Force has duly discussed and considered the following aspects:

- Core objective of CNS Sub-group as a **Regional platform** for continuous and coherent **planning, implementation and development of CNS** parts of APAC Regional Air Navigation Plan, in a **harmonized and interoperable** manner with adjacent Regions, ICAO SARPs, GANP and GASP;
- Components that are observed in this CNS Sub-group but less in other Sub-groups, e.g. **Introduction and Implementation of Innovation and New Technologies**, to promote the importance of those in CNS. Examples in previous CNS SG meetings includes GNSS RFI Monitoring and Detection system, UAS Traffic Management Systems, Interference Prevention Technique using High-performance Frequency Simulator, FOD detection using AI etc;
- Important information including **Composition, Establishment and Chairpersonship**, which there are nil or only minimal description provided in the APANPIRG Procedure Handbook's section of contributory bodies;
- ToR revisions from other APANAPIRG Sub-groups.

2.4 The meeting is invited to review the drafted Terms of Reference of CNS SG provided in **Appendix A** of this paper, and to endorse the following Draft Decision for APANPIRG/37 adoption:

Draft Decision CNS/SG/30/XX - Revised Terms of Reference of CNS SG	
What: That, the Revised Terms of Reference (ToR) of CNS SG provided in Appendix A of this paper be adopted.	Expected impact: ☐ Political / Global ☐ Inter-regional ☐ Economic ☐ Environmental ☒ Ops/Technical
Why: To update the Terms of Reference as identified in CNS SG/29	Follow-up: ☐ Required from States
When: 10-Jul-26	Status: Draft to be adopted by PIRG
Who: ☒ Sub groups ☐ APAC States ☒ ICAO APAC RO ☐ ICAO HQ ☐ Other:	

2.5 The meeting was also invited to review and update the Action Items List for CNS SG/29 provided in **Appendix B** of this paper.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information presented in this paper;
- b) consider adopting the Draft Decision for the revised Terms of Reference of the CNS Sub-group provided in **Appendix A**;
- c) review and update the Action Items List for CNS SG in **Appendix B**; and
- d) discuss any relevant matter as appropriate.

Appendix A

Terms of Reference for APANPIRG Communications, Navigation and Surveillance Sub Group (CNS SG)

1. The **Objectives** of the CNS SG are to:

- a) *provide a Regional platform to ensure continuous and coherent planning, implementation and development of the CNS parts of the Asia/Pacific Regional Air Navigation Plan (APAC ANP) in a manner that is harmonized and interoperable with adjacent regions, consistent with ICAO SARPs, the Global Air Navigation Plan and the Global Aviation Safety Plan;*
- b) *facilitate the implementation of CNS systems and services identified in the APAC ANP, Aviation System Block Upgrade (ASBU) priority modules and Asia/Pacific Seamless ~~ATM~~ ~~ANS~~ Plan elements using the project management principles where appropriate;*
- c) *review, identify and address deficiencies that impede the implementation or provision of efficient CNS services in the Asia & Pacific Regions;*
- d) *facilitate the introduction and implementation of innovation and new technologies in CNS systems to enhance capacity, efficiency and safety of CNS services, to capacitate the adoption of new airspace users to better address concerns related to provision of efficient CNS services in the Asia & Pacific Regions.*

Deliverables to meet the Objectives:

- a) *Progress report to be **submitted** to APANPIRG addressing the CNS SG deliverables (listed in ~~2a~~ to ~~9j~~ below);*
- b) *CNS parts of the APAC ANP to be **reviewed** and, as necessary, amendment proposals prepared to update the APAC ANP to reflect changes in the operational and global requirements;*
- c) *Level of implementation of CNS systems and services to be **monitored** and, as necessary, facilitated to support the effective implementation of ASBU priority modules and the Asia/Pacific Seamless ~~ATM-ANS~~ Plan elements;*
- d) *Air navigation deficiencies in the field of CNS to be **identified** (which may require any necessary systems performance monitoring to be **facilitated**) and, where necessary, appropriate corrective action **proposed** and the development and implementation of action plans by States/~~Administrations~~ to resolve identified deficiencies **facilitated**;*
- e) *Air navigation deficiencies in the field of CNS (as listed in the APANPIRG database) to be **reviewed** and, as necessary, **updated** to reflect the current situation;*
- f) *Innovation, new technologies, ~~R~~research and development, trials and demonstrations in the field of CNS and other relevant areas to be **monitored** and, as necessary, the transfer of this information and expertise between States/~~Administrations~~ **facilitated**;*

- g) *Specific recommendations to be **made**, and guidance materials **developed**, aimed at improving CNS services by the use of existing and/or new procedures, facilities and technologies;*
- h) *Inter-regional and intra-regional co-ordination issues in the field of CNS to be **reviewed** and **identified** and, as necessary, actions recommended addressing those issues;*
- i) *CNS environmental and other Global / Regional initiatives are consistently identified and progressed; and report outcomes from CNS environmental and other Global / Regional initiatives;*
- j) *Draft Conclusions and Decisions to be **formulated** relating to matters in the field of CNS that come within the scope of the APANPIRG work plan.*

2. Composition

The Sub-Group is composed of:

- a) *APAC Member States/Administrations;*
- b) *International and Regional Organizations concerned or having experience in relevant fields as observers; and*
- c) *other representatives from industry including equipment/systems/technology providers nominated by States/Administrations from Asia/Pacific Regions as observers when required.*

3. Establishment

The APANPIRG established the CNS SG to assist in its planning and implementation work, charging CNS SG with preparatory work on specifically defined problems in the field of CNS requiring expert advice for their resolution. APANPIRG also appointed CNS SG as the 'parent' group for other contributory bodies working in the field of CNS for APANPIRG.

4. Chairpersonship

The CNS SG shall elect a Chairperson, and Vice-Chairperson if deemed required, from the experts provided by States/Administrations. The maximum term of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson is four years per election.

ACTION ITEMS OF CNS SG/29					
Action Item	Subject	Status / Target Date	Action Party	Status	Remarks / follow-up
.29-1	ICAO Secretariat would share the decision made by CRV OG/14 with delegates of member States/Administrations participating in ACSICG/12 and CNS SG/29 to seek their endorsement on the decision, and feedback/comments, if any, by email	Nov-25	ICAO Secretariat, ACSICG/12, CNS SG/29	Open	
.29-2	The CNS SG/29 Meeting agreed to defer to the SRWG to study the need for a group under CNS SG to assess and analyze the incidents shared by APAC Member States/Administrations and GNSS and Data Link Disruption Ad-Hoc Group to develop mitigation strategies, considering the global development in this domain	CNS SG/30	ICAO Secretariat, SRWG	Open	
.29-3	. The Meeting requested that APAC States/Administrations that have not responded to the SELCAL survey share their readiness with the ICAO APAC Office	CNS SG/30	APAC States/Administrations	Open	
.29-4	A question about the need for deployment of 8.33 KHz channel spacing in the APAC region in the near future, when space-based VHF will be implemented, was raised. It was also shared that there is a need to assess the effect of the deployment of space-based VHF on terrestrial VHF systems in the APAC region. The Meeting agreed that SRWG should discuss the proposed needs and share updates with CNS SG at the next meeting	CNS SG/30	ICAO Secretariat, SRWG	Open	
.29-5	Considering the significance of the list of recommendations for GNSS RFI mitigations presented to the Meeting, the Meeting suggested that ICAO consider publishing them at the global level and sharing them with all States/Administrations officially	CNS SG/30	ICAO HQ	Open	
.29-6	The Meeting found the information of IP/13 of CNS SG/29 very useful and encouraged China to present this information at the GBAS/SBAS ITF meetings	CNS SG/30	China	Open	
.29-7	The Meeting shared the significance of the information shared in the ADS-B Quality Performance Monitoring – Japan (WP/24) and suggested that Japan present this information in future SURICG Meetings	CNS SG/30	Japan	Open	

ACTION ITEMS OF CNS SG/29					
Action Item	Subject	Status / Target Date	Action Party	Status	Remarks / follow-up
.29-8	It was informed that the ICAO APAC office manages the ADS-B avionics problem reporting database. In addition, the Surveillance Panel (SP) maintains the FAA No Services Aircraft List (NASL), which is the list indicating all aircraft that do not comply with minimum ADS-B requirements. The SURICG Co-Chair informed that SURICG is discussing the need to maintain the proposed databases, and the outcomes will be shared at the CNS SG meeting	CNS SG/30	SURICG	Open	
.29-9	A question was asked about the expectation to submit reporting by States/Administrations once a year or twice, as in the ANS Reporting Tool currently, the report period is the first half of a year and the second half of a year. It was informed that ICAO expects States to submit updates up to the end of last year “at least once annually”, preferably before 28 February of the year. It was added that the report period column would be modified so that States/Administrations could submit updates at least once annually	CNS SG/30	ICAO Secretariat (ATM Section)	Open	
.29-10	As only a few States/Administrations have submitted their information on the reporting tool, it was suggested that all remaining States/Administrations submit their information about 2024 so that the ICAO Secretariat can make further analysis of the ‘as-is’ status before the ATM SG/13 meeting planned in August 2025	CNS SG/30	APAC States/Administrations	Open	
.29-11	It was informed that the ICAO Secretariat will issue a State Letter to all States/Administrations for necessary action after the CNS SG/29 meeting. States/Administrations are requested to update the required information in ICAO APAC e-ANP Vol II	CNS SG/30	ICAO Secretariat	Open	
.29-12	Hong Kong China shared inconsistencies it observed in the ANS Reporting Tool in the “Seamless Plan or ASBU Reference” column and the corresponding column in “Seamless Plan Explanation.” It was requested that while updating the reporting tool for Seamless ANS Plan 4.0, the ICAO Secretariat consider a comprehensive review of all ASBUs and associated descriptions/definitions for States/Administrations to refrain from adding wrong interpretations	CNS SG/30	ICAO Secretariat (ATM Section)	Open	

ACTION ITEMS OF CNS SG/29					
Action Item	Subject	Status / Target Date	Action Party	Status	Remarks / follow-up
.29-13	Pakistan informed that the AFS communication link between Pakistan and Afghanistan remains non-operational due to the absence of a functioning AFS system on the Afghanistan side. Pakistan is fully prepared and available to activate the link as soon as Afghanistan establishes the required AFS infrastructure. Afghanistan had not given any tentative timelines. Therefore, it was requested that this deficiency be removed from Pakistan's side.	CNS SG/30	ICAO Secretariat, Pakistan	Open	
.29-14	Australia, China, Japan (TBC), Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand and the USA volunteered to join the group. It was agreed that the ANSIA TF would prepare the draft Terms of Reference (ToR), its key deliverables, and plan in close coordination with CRV OG, ACSICG, SWIM TF, TFP Secretary and Information Management Panel Secretary	CNS SG/30	ANSIA TF	Open	
.29-15	It was also agreed that the first meeting of ANSIA TF would be conducted in Q1-2026	CNS SG/30	ANSIA TF	Open	
.29-16	It was agreed to form an ad-hoc group composed of members from China, Hong Kong China, Thailand and the USA. In reviewing the ToR, the ad-hoc group was advised to refer to the CNS ToR of other regions. The revised ToR will be presented by the ad-hoc group at the next CNS SG meeting.	CNS SG/30	ICAO Secretariat, China, Hong Kong China, Thailand and the USA	Open	