

**59th CONFERENCE OF
DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
ASIA AND PACIFIC REGIONS**

*Cebu, Philippines
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GENDA ITEM 4: AIR NAVIGATION

**MULTILATERAL ATFM COLLABORATION ACTIVITIES AT
THE REGIONAL LEVEL**

(Presented by Republic of Korea)

SUMMARY

The Republic of Korea (ROK) emphasizes the importance of Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM) for increasing airspace capacity, balancing air traffic demand, and reducing carbon emissions. ROK joined the APAC Cross-Border Multi-Nodal ATFM Collaboration (AMNAC) group in March 2024, following its participation in the North-Asia Regional ATFM Harmonization Group (NARAHG) since 2014. The collaboration has led to positive effects such as reduced passenger waiting and ground delay time. However, challenges remain, including the duplication of ATFM measures. Developing harmonized approaches for both AMNAC and NARAHG activities is expected to be a potential challenge. ROK aims to bridge both groups and contribute to regional ATFM activities.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Republic of Korea (ROK) believes that Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM) is not only a means to increase the capacity of limited airspace resources but also supports the safe operation of Air Traffic Services (ATS) by balancing air traffic demand with air traffic control capacity, while also contributing to the achievement of the long-term global aspirational goal (LTAG) by positively impacting the reduction of carbon emissions.

1.2 However, for many of the States, effective implementation of ATFM cannot be achieved only by a single State but mostly multilateral collaboration with Member States in the region is essential as because of complexity of FIR boundaries. This discussion paper shares recent updates on ROK joining the APAC Cross-Border Multi-Nodal ATFM Collaboration (AMNAC) group as an effort to contribute to regional ATFM activity.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Recovering from COVID-19, the daily average air traffic volume in Incheon Flight Information Region (FIR) this year, has been increased by approximately 21% compared to 2023. With about 25% of the increased air traffic either bound for or transiting the airspace of APAC countries, the importance of actively implementing ATFM in close cooperation with regional Member States has become increasingly evident for effective management.

2.2 Responding to this air traffic demand, ROK officially joined AMNAC in March this year and started its collaboration with twelve Member States. It is the second group joining for ATFM collaboration, since its first participation in North-Asia Regional ATFM Harmonization Group (NARAHG) in 2014.

2.3 Having different flow management approaches from NARAHG, which issues Minutes In Trail or Miles in Trail for ATFM measures, ROK has started flow management by issuing calculated take-off times (CTOTs) to aircraft in and out of some AMNAC Member States through the adoption of the Distributed Multi-Nodal ATFM concept. Although still in its early stages, ROK is already experiencing positive effects, such as reduction in passenger waiting and ground delay time.

2.4 Besides these positive impacts, there are also challenges to overcome.

2.5 Due to the complexity of FIR boundaries and multiple neighboring States, duplication of ATFM measures on the same flow happens continuously, which needs to be identified and prevented to avoid unnecessary efforts.

2.6 In addition, developing a mechanism to harmonize approaches on both AMNAC and NARAHG activities is expected to become a potential challenge in the near future. Due to its geographical location, ROK has become a potential facilitator, able to bridge both NARAHG and AMNAC in the future and appreciates opportunities to contribute.

2.7 Active sharing of ATFM-related information, best practices and challenges among Member States and multilateral collaboration groups across the APAC region might be beneficial for Member States to improve procedures and overcome challenges.

3. ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE

3.1 The Conference is invited to:

- a) recognize that ATFM is an essential means to improve safety, efficiency and sustainability;

- b) actively share and regularly update ATFM implementation status with the APAC regional office based on ATFM/SG programme; and
- c) promote sharing experience, best practices and challenges among State and multilateral ATFM collaboration group to facilitate efficient implementation, especially experience participating in multiple ATFM programs.

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