INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Second Meeting of the Africa - Indian Ocean Aviation System Planning and Implementation Group (AASPG/2)
Livingstone, Zambia, 2 - 6 November 2026

Agenda item 4: Implementation of safety and air navigation goals, targets and indicators, including priorities set in the Regional Aviation Safety and Air Navigation Plans

Update on the preparation of the AFI ANS Summit

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY
This working paper presents the status of the preparation of the AFI ANS Summit as directed by AASPG as well as the related implementation actions undertaken by the assigned stakeholders. **Action by the meeting is in paragraph 3.**
REFRENCE(S): - APIRG/25, APIRG/26, APIRG/27 & AASPG/1 Reports - Report of the Africa Aviation Infrastructure Gap Analysis - SoD of ANS SUMMIT Work@Lab 1
Related ICAO Strategic Goals(s): A- Every Flight is Safe and Secure C- Aviation Delivers Seamless, Accessible, and Reliable Mobility for All

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 APIRG/25, through conclusion 25/09 called for the implementation of harmonized, interoperable and seamless Air Traffic Management (ATM) systems in the region and the Secretariat to coordinate with relevant stakeholders for the convening of an ATM Summit by December 2024.

1.2 APIRG/26 meeting noted the need for an effective preparation of the AFI Air Navigation Service Summit, and tasked IATA in collaboration with ICAO to coordinate, a Team of Experts composed of all the stakeholders by March 2024. The Team was meant to review existing Air Navigation related frameworks, consolidate initiatives and expected outcomes, including the AUC/AFCAC/ICAO Aviation Infrastructure Gap Analysis for Africa, develop and compile costed projects, and identify specific activities with clear objectives, timelines and responsibilities of each stakeholder toward the conduct of the ANS Summit.

1.3 In application of APIRG/26 Decision 26/24, several preparatory meetings were conducted virtually as from January 2024 under the coordination of IATA. An initial roadmap as well as terms of reference of the contributory bodies of the summit were proposed and discussed. The first WORK@Lab took place in June 2024 in Bela Bela (South Africa).

1.4 APIRG/27 noted progress towards the Summit. However, some outstanding challenges needed to be addressed such as time and resource constraints, the low participation of States, the need for alignment with the AASPG procedural handbook provisions, the need to incorporate the outcomes of the Africa aviation infrastructure gap analysis, the need for clarification on the roles of stakeholders as well as the objectives of the Summit. The meeting therefore agreed on the postponement of the Summit to 2025 to provide more time for its preparation.

1.5 AASPG/1 reviewed and endorsed the new ANS Summit framework and its associated supporting documentation including the list of priority projects, project mapping and the summit preparation roadmap. The Meeting tasked ICAO and IATA to coordinate the preparation of the summit with all relevant stakeholders, with the objective of convening the Summit by the end of 2027

2. DISCUSSION

ANS Summit Preparatory activities

2.1 The ANS summit preparation roadmap includes several activities such as the establishment of small technical working groups, the development of projects templates, the conduct of State's consultation on identified priority projects through a regional survey, the customization of templates tailored to States needs and aligned with regional vision of seamless air navigation, the delivery of an ANS Master document consolidating all customized project documents.

2.2 To support the timely preparation of the Summit documentation, a Secretariat comprising ICAO ESAF and WACAF Regional Offices, IATA and the Chairpersons of AAO, IIM and SMO Sub-Groups was established. Members of the AAO and IIM Project Management Team were subsequently assigned responsibilities for implementing the activities set out in the roadmap.

2.3 Activities conducted to date include the regional survey on priority projects for the implementation of seamless ANS in the AFI region and the development of supporting projects templates. As of [date], responses had been received from 26 States, representing 54% of the States surveyed. The detailed status of responses is provided in Attachment A. The survey aims at gathering comprehensive information on the current status, challenges, and expectations related to ANS projects within States of the AFI region which will steer the development of costed projects aligned with State's needs and expectations and regional ANS vision. In parallel, the project teams are developing project templates including project business case, risk management, costing templates, a vendor register. The status of AFI ANS priority project survey is in Attachment A and the list of refined priority projects is in Appendix B.

2.4 The work of the Project teams is expected to be followed by the customization of project documents and a validation workshop. During the workshop, the deliverables will be reviewed and consolidated into one single AFI ANS Master document, for validation before submission to the AASPG. Timely completion of these activities depends largely on the receipt of complete and accurate responses from States.

Challenges and lessons learnt

2.5 Resource mobilization (human resources, time and funding) remains a significant constraint being given the delay between the current status of the preparation and the target date of the ANS Summit.

2.6 Despite follow-up efforts, the level and completeness of responses received from States remain insufficient to support the timely finalization of the AFI ANS Master Document and a reliable project catalogue. The resulting delays have affected subsequent activities dependent on the survey results. States are therefore called upon to actively support the preparation of the Summit by providing complete, consistent, and accurate information to enable the development of reliable project documentation. The structural layout of the ANS Master document is presented at Appendix D.

2.7 The ANS Summit preparation is being conducted amid several similar initiatives. AASPG called for coordinated efforts by all stakeholders within the framework of the ANS Summit to ensure a coordinated and collaborative implementation of seamless air navigation projects and reduce duplication of efforts. A consolidation work is still required to bring together all initiatives in alignment with AASPG/1 conclusion 1/27 calling for the integration of all regional ANS infrastructure improvement initiatives. Coordination work is ongoing between the ANS Summit Secretariat and AFI aviation infrastructure gap analysis Technical Working Group to integrate the outcomes of the gap analysis into the development of the AFI ANS Master document.

2.8 The additional coordination required and delays in receiving survey responses have resulted in significant slippage against the initial implementation timeline. A tentative revised roadmap has therefore been developed by the ANS Summit Secretariat and is presented in Appendix C for consideration by the Meeting.

2.9 In view of the revised timeline for completion, validation and endorsement of the AFI ANS Master Document, the initial objective of convening the Summit by the end of 2027 is no longer achievable. The Secretariat therefore proposes that the AFI ANS Summit be convened in the fourth quarter of 2028. The precise dates and venue would be determined in coordination with AFCAC, the African Union Commission, IATA and other relevant stakeholders, following confirmation that the principal preparatory milestones have been achieved

2.10 To minimize the risk of further slippage, the revised roadmap identifies critical deliverables, responsible entities and completion dates. The Secretariat will monitor implementation of the roadmap in coordination with the AASPG Chairpersons and bring any significant delay or adjustment affecting the Summit timeline to their attention. Confirmation of the precise Summit dates will be subject to completion of the principal preparatory milestones, including endorsement of the AFI ANS Master Document, confirmation of host arrangements and engagement of the key partners and stakeholders

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

The meeting is invited to:

a) take note of the information provided in this working paper;

b) urge States to provide timely, complete and accurate information required for the preparation of the ANS Summit;

c) encourage the Secretariat and relevant stakeholders to consolidate the outcomes of the Africa Aviation Infrastructure Gap Analysis and other related regional initiatives within the ANS Summit preparation process, to ensure coherence and avoid duplication;
d) review and endorse the revised AFI ANS Summit preparation roadmap presented in Appendix C, with the Summit planned for 2028, subject to achievement of the key preparatory milestones
e) request the Secretariat, in coordination with the AASPG Chairpersons and relevant partners, to monitor implementation of the revised roadmap and propose the precise dates and venue once the key readiness conditions have been met; and
f) Provide further guidance as deemed necessary.

APPENDIX A – STATUS OF RESPONSES TO THE ANS PRIORITY PROJECT SURVEY

ESAF STATES

STATE	STATUS
Angola	Submitted
Botswana	Submitted
Burundi	Not submitted
Comoros	Not submitted
Djibouti	Not submitted
Eritrea	Not submitted
Eswatini	Not submitted
Ethiopia	Not submitted
Kenya	Submitted
Lesotho	Not submitted
Madagascar	Not submitted
Malawi	Submitted
Mauritius	Submitted
Mozambique	Submitted
Namibia	Submitted
Rwanda	Not submitted
Seychelles	Submitted
Somalia	Not submitted
South Africa	Not submitted
South Sudan	Submitted
Tanzania	Submitted
Uganda	Submitted
Zambia	Submitted
Zimbabwe	Submitted

54%

WACAF STATES

STATE	STATUS
Benin	Not submitted
Burkina Faso	Not submitted
Cameroon	Submitted
Cabo Verde	Submitted
CAR	Not submitted
Chad	Not submitted
Congo	Submitted
Cote d'Ivoire	Submitted
DRC	Submitted
Equatorial Guinea	Submitted
Gabon	Not submitted
Gambia	Not submitted
Ghana	Submitted
Guinea	Submitted
Guinea Bissau	Submitted
Liberia	Not submitted
Mali	Submitted
Mauritania	Not submitted
Niger	Submitted
Nigeria	Not submitted
Sao Tome and Principe	Not submitted
Senegal	Submitted
Sierra Leone	Not submitted
Togo	Submitted

54%

APPENDIX B – LIST OF REFINE PRIORITY PROJECTS

Technical area	Priority projects
AOP	A-CDM Implementation
AIM	AIM AMDIFP: Implementation of Aerodrome mapping data sets and Instrument flight procedure data sets
	AIM AIXM: Implementation of the AIXM database and electronic AIP
	AIM TOD: Implementation of Terrain and Obstacle Data Set
ATM	Reduced and harmonized longitudinal separations in remote and oceanic airspace (AFI PBCS Implementation)
	Civil/Military Cooperation in ATM & Flexible Use of Airspace implementation
	Cross-border ATFM implementation
	Cross-border FRA implementation
	Cross-border contingency arrangement implementation
	AFI SWIM/FF-ICE Implementation
CNS	AFI-GGCOM: Regional Ground Communication Modernization
	AFI NAVMOD AFI: Navigation Modernization Initiative
	AFI SURVDATA: AFI Surveillance and Data Sharing Enhancement Initiative
	AFI-IATI: AFI Integrated Aeronautical Telecommunication Infrastructure
	AFI-COMMOD: Modernization of Air-Ground Communication Infrastructure
	AFI-CYRES: AFI Cyber Resilience in CNS/ATM Systems
MET	Project on Enhancing Space Weather Readiness and Service Provision in the AFI Region (AFI-SPWX)
	Project on Improving OPMET Delivery and MET Products Access in the AFI Region (DISMET-AFI)
	Project on Enhancing Digital Exchange of Aeronautical Meteorological Information in the AFI Region (DIGIMET-AFI)
	Implementation of the SADIS API system for the provision of WAFS gridded forecasts and datasets (AFI_SADIS)
	Implementation of aeronautical data link (D-VOLMET) and broadcasting (VOLMET) services (V-AFI)
	ATIS-AFI: Implementation of ATIS (voice-ATIS and D-ATIS) (ATIS-AFI)
PANS-OPS	Departure and arrival trajectories optimization at international airports (SID-CCO/STAR-CDO)
SAR	Multistate SAR agreement
	RCC/RSC efficiency enhancement
Capacity building	**AOP:** Training and Qualification of Aerodrome Operations and Inspectors
	AIM: Implementation of Competency-Based Training Standards for AIS personnel in the AFI Region
	ATM: Capacity enhancement for ATM Oversight technical staff
	CNS: Capacity building and harmonization of training for ATSEP
	MET: Strengthening Aeronautical Meteorological Personnel Competency Implementation in the AFI Region (AFI-AMP-COMP)
	PANS-OPS: Capacity building in IFP design, validation and approval
	SAR: Training and qualification of SAR Inspectors and RCC/RSC SMC

APPENDIX C – ANS SUMMIT PREPARATION ACTION PLAN

#Activity	Activity	Description	Start	Initial target End	Initial Duration (in days)	Status	New target start	New target duration (in days)	New target End	Stakeholders	Deliverables
Activity 1.	Secretariat Coordination Meeting #1	Conduct a restart meeting to discuss the timelines for the delivery of the ANS Summit programme material	11/5/2026	11/5/2026	1	Completed on 11/5/2026	NA	NA	NA	**Lead: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF)** Support: -IATA	-Agreed work plan and timelines -Project Teams identified
Activity 2.	Establishment of project teams	Establish sectorial project teams that do not exist in the framework of the ANS Summit	02/2/2026	12/5/2026	65	Completed on 12/5/2026	NA	NA	NA	**Lead: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF)** Support: -IATA - Chairpersons of AAO SG, IIM SG & SMO SG	-Project team members selected -Project coordinators designated
Activity 3.	Coordination meeting #1 with all project teams	Review the agreed ANS SUMMIT preparation work plan, milestones, deliverables and ultimate products	26/5/2026	26/5/2026	1	Completed on 26/5/2026	NA	NA	NA	**Lead: - IATA/ICAO** Support: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF) -IATA - Chairpersons	-Consolidated work plan, milestones and deliverables

#Activity	Activity	Description	Start	Initial target End	Initial Duration (in days)	Status	New target start	New target duration (in days)	New target End	Stakeholders	Deliverables
										of AAO SG, IIM SG & SMO SG -PMT Members	
Activity 4.	Project templates development & validation	Identify and develop and validate all required gap analysis and project implementation document templates (national and regional) as appropriate	05/6/2026	22/6/2026	20	Ongoing (Delayed) Reassessed on 5/10/2026	5/10/2026	+30	5/11/2026	**Lead: PMT Coordinators** Support: -PT Members -ICAO -IATA	- Gap analysis template developed -Project document templates developed
Activity 5.	ANS gap analysis in States and benchmarking	- Review the outcomes of the Africa Aviation infrastructure gap analysis - conduct further gap analysis in States as appropriate. -Conduct benchmarking on similar programmes in other regions	1/6/2026	30/6/2026	30	Ongoing (Delayed) Reassessed on 5/10/2026	9/10/2026	+30	9/11/2026	**Lead: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF)** Support : -IATA -States -PMTs	-ANS Data and information collected from States -Consolidated outcomes of Africa infrastructure gap analysis -Consolidated results of the benchmarking
Activity 6.	Validation of	Review and	1/7/2026	2/7/2026	+2	Not	19/11/2026	+5	20/11/2026	**Lead: -ICAO**	-Consolidated

#Activity	Activity	Description	Start	Initial target End	Initial Duration (in days)	Status	New target start	New target duration (in days)	New target End	Stakeholders	Deliverables
	the results of gap analysis and benchmarking	validate the results of the gap analysis and the benchmarking conducted in other regions				Started (Linked to Activity 5) Reassessed on 5/10/2026				**(ESAF & WACAF)** Support: -PMT Members -IATA -AFCAC -AUC	ANS gap analysis results -Benchmarked projects documented
Activity 7.	Development of customized project documents	Customize the sectorial project document templates based on regional and States' needs and leveraging the results of the gap analysis, benchmarking and costing	7/7/2026	7/8/2026	30	Not started (Linked to Activity 6) Reassessed on 5/10/2026	11/1/2027	+60	11/3/2027	**Lead: -PMT Coordinators** Support: -PMT Members -ICAO -IATA	-Customized sectorial Project documents
Activity 8.	Work@Lab #2	Conduct the 2nd work@lab to validate customized ANS Project documents	14/9/2026	18/9/2026	5	Not started (Linked to Activity 7) Reassessed on 5/10/2026	12/4/2027	+4	15/4/2027	**Lead: - IATA/ICAO** Support: -ICAO -Chairpersons of AAO/SG, IIM/SG & SMO/SG -PMTs -ASECNA -AFCAC	-Validated customized project document

#Activity	Activity	Description	Start	Initial target End	Initial Duration (in days)	Status	New target start	New target duration (in days)	New target End	Stakeholders	Deliverables
										-AUC	
Activity 9.	Development of the AFI ANS Master document	Develop the AFI ANS Master document as a catalogue of all sectorial costed projects and related process per State and sub-region as appropriate as validated at works@lab #2	21/9/2026	14/10/2026	15	Ongoing (Linked to Activity 8) Reassessed on 5/10/2026	End of activity 8	+45	15/6/2027	**Lead: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF)** Support: -PMT Members -IATA -AFCAC AUC	-Draft AFI ANS Master document
Activity 10.	Work@Lab #3	Conduct the 3rd work@lab to validate the draft AFI ANS Master document	19/10/2026	19/10/2026	+1	Not started (Linked to Activity 9) Reassessed on 5/10/2026	22/6/2027	+1	22/6/2027	**Lead: - IATA/ICAO** Support: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF) - Chairpersons of AAO SG, IIM SG & SMO SG -PMTs -AFCAC -AUC	Validated AFI ANS Master document
Activity 11.	Submission of AFI ANS Master Document	Review and support the proposed AFI ANS Master	1/07/2026	30/7/2026	30	Not started (Linked to Activity 10)	12/7/2027	+30	12/8/2027	**AASPG Sub-Groups (AAO, IIM, SMO)**	Proposed draft conclusion supporting the endorsement of

#Activity	Activity	Description	Start	Initial target End	Initial Duration (in days)	Status	New target start	New target duration (in days)	New target End	Stakeholders	Deliverables
		Document									ANS Master Document
Activity 12.	Review and acceptance of the AFI ANS Master document	Review and validation of the AFI ANS Master document	22/10/2026	22/10/2026	+2	Not started (Linked to Activity 11)	21/9/2027	+2	22/9/2027	**Lead: - PRCC/3** Support: -ICAO -IATA -Chairpersons of AAO/SG, IIM/SG & SMO/SG	-Draft conclusion supporting the endorsement of ANS Master Document reviewed and accepted
Activity 13.	Endorsement of the AFI ANS Master document	Review and endorse the AFI ANS Master document during the AASPG/3	2/11/2026	6/11/2026	5 +5	Not started (Linked to Activity 12)	1/11/27	+5	5/11/2027	**Lead: - AASPG/3** Support: -ICAO -IATA -AFCAC -AUC -States -ANSPs -Air operators -Airport operators	-Endorsed AFI ANS Master document
Activity 14.	Coordination & handover meeting	Conduct a coordination meeting to hand over the AFI ANS Master document to AFCAC and AUC to prepare for the	7/12/2026	8/12/2026	+2	Not started (Linked to Activity 13)	22/11/27	+2	23/11/2027	**Lead: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF)** Support: -IATA -AFCAC -AUC	- Coordination & handover meeting Report -AFI ANS Master document handed-over to AFCAC and AUC -AFI ANS

#Activity	Activity	Description	Start	Initial target End	Initial Duration (in days)	Status	New target start	New target duration (in days)	New target End	Stakeholders	Deliverables
		AFI ANS Summit; Review and validate the ANS Summit planning									Summit planning validated
Activity 15.	Briefing to ICAO council	Brief to the ICAO Council on the AFI ANS Master document and the planned AFI ANS Summit for advisory input	1/3/2027	30/3/2027	30	Not started (Linked to Activity 14)	1/3/2028	+30	30/3/2028	**Lead: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF)** Support -IATA	-Consolidated AFI ANS Master document incorporating ICAO Council advisory comments -ANS Summit implementation plan supported

APPENDIX D- STRUCTURE OF THE ANS MASTER DOCUMENT

