



International Civil Aviation Organization

**Eight Meeting of the Communications/Navigation/Surveillance and
Meteorology Sub-Group (CNS/MET SG/8) of APANPIRG**

Bangkok, Thailand, 12-16 July 2004

Agenda Item 3: Aeronautical Fixed Service

**DEVELOP AERONAUTICAL TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK AIR TRAFFIC
SERVICE MESSAGE HANDLING SYSTEM (ATN/AMHS)
PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS AND ESTABLISH
AN AERONAUTICAL FIXED TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK (AFTN)
OPERATIONAL SUNSET DATE**

(Presented by the United States)

SUMMARY

As the United States and Japan prepare to implement ATN/AMHS and the Asia/Pacific Region evolves to adopt ATN/AMHS beginning in 2005, this paper discusses the need for the CNS/MET/SG to develop ATN/AMHS performance characteristics to be included in the Part IV-Communication/Navigation/Surveillance (CNS) of the Basic Air Navigation Plan (ANP) and establish an AFTN operational sunset date. Products of these efforts would include amendments to the Asia/Pacific ANP Part IV CNS and the Facilities and Services Implementation Document (FASID).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 According to a letter from the International Civil Aviation Organization, Regional Office for Asia and Pacific, dated 16 September 2003, Reference APAC 03/8 CNS and APAC 03/9-CNS: AP-CNS020803, the above proposals were processed to amend Part IV CNS of the ASIA/PAC Basic Air Navigation Plan (ANP) and Facilities and Services Implementation Document (FASID). The letter stated that the AFTN and ATN Gateway information would be included in Section 2, under a new paragraph 2.2.2.3; and that a central registry for AMHS and the Network Service Access Point address registration has been noted and the text updated. The letter also recommended that the ATN Transition Task Force (ATNTTF) establish an operational sunset date for AFTN and include ATN/AMHS performance characteristics in the introductory text of Part IV CNS of Asia/Pacific Basic Air Navigation Plan.

1.2 With the United States and Japan preparing to implement ATN/AMHS service this year and Asia/Pacific Region member States to begin ATN/AMHS transition in 2005, it is clear that the ATN/AMHS performance characteristics need to be clearly defined in Part IV-CNS of the Basic ANP. These performance characteristics are needed regardless of the network protocol/transmission media being used, e.g. TCP/IP, frame relay, X.25, landline or satellite. With the Asia/Pacific States beginning to consider their ATN/AMHS configuration and direction, the ATN TTF should be tasked with providing member States the performance characteristics upon which to base their procurement tenders and requests for industry technical information. Also, it must be taken into consideration that the cost to operate dual systems (AMHS and AFTN) simultaneously will prove to be expensive and time consuming for maintenance support.

1.3 As ATN/AMHS and its infrastructure mature, AFTN service will begin to decline. It becomes necessary for the ATN Transition Task Force to plan an end date for AFTN service and to prepare for the decommissioning of this service.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 Delegate the following two tasks to the ATN Transition Task Force: 1) develop ATN/AMHS performance characteristics as soon as possible to meet the service implementation/transition date of 2005 and 2) establish a sunset date for AFTN service. Note: The results of the ATN Transition Task Force efforts would then be incorporated into the introductory text of Part IV, CNS of the Asia/ Pacific Basic Air Navigation Plan.
