



International Civil Aviation Organization

**THE SEVENTH MEETING OF AERONAUTICAL  
TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK (ATN)  
TRANSITION TASK FORCE OF APANPIRG**

Shanghai, China, 18-22 April 2005.




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**Agenda Item 7:           Review States' ATN implementation/operational activities and issues**

**DRAFT STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF GROUND-TO- GROUND ATN IN THE  
ASIA/PAC REGION**

(Presented by the Chairman and the Secretariat)

**SUMMARY**

This paper presents a draft strategy for implementation of the ground-to-ground ATN in the ASIA/Pac region for review by the meeting

**1.                   INTRODUCTION**

1.1               This document presents, in the attachment, a draft strategy for implementation of the ground-to-ground ATN in the ASIA/Pac region for review by the meeting.

**2.                   DISCUSSION**

2.1               The Eleventh meeting of the ATN Transition Task Force Working Group held in Bangkok from 13 to 17 September 2004 had recognized a need to develop a strategy for implementation of the ground-to-ground ATN in the ASIA/PAC region in order to provide guidance to States to proceed with implementation activities as per the agreed strategy. It was also agreed that the Strategy should be presented at the Seventh meeting of the Task Force.

3.2               The draft strategy has been prepared based on the framework provided by the Chairman of the Task Force.

3.3               The strategy needs to be reviewed from time to time in light of developments and as required, amendments developed should be processed for review and adoption by APANPIRG.

**3.                   ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1               The meeting is expected to review the Attached document, make changes as required and take appropriate action.

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**STRATEGY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF GROUND-TO-GROUND  
AERONAUTICAL TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK (ATN)  
IN THE ASIA/PAC REGION**

Considering that:

- a) the requirement for a robust ground-to-ground Aeronautical Telecommunication Network (ATN) to meet growing need for a digital data communications to support the Air Traffic Management Operational Concept;
- b) the availability of ICAO SAPRs and Technical Manuals for implementation of ATN;
- c) the awareness generated in States for replacement of the present AFTN with digital data network by conducting various seminars and meetings;
- d) the availability of several guidance materials, interface control documents (ICDs) required to assist States to ensure harmonization of procedures and protocol to assure inter-operability within the region;
- e) the agreement in EUR region to provide gateways to support ATN ISO/OSI protocol implemented in adjacent region;
- f) the feasibility of introducing SARPs compliant air-ground application in a secure private network without prolonged delay;
- g) the lack of SARPs for an alternative TCP/IP protocol for immediate use and introduction of material on the use of TCP/IP for air-ground application, require significant technical work, which is not likely to be completed for amendment to Annex 10 SARPs and associated technical provisions in ATN documentations;
- h) the need to migrate to Binary Universal form of representation of meteorological data (BUFR) coded OPMET messages; the emerging need to use lower case letters in NOTAM messages; and
- i) the trial and demonstrations conducted by several States in the ASIA/PAC region for implementation of AMHS and actions taken by several States for introduction of AMHS;

**THE GENERAL STRATEGY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GROUND-TO-GROUND ATN AND ASSOCIATED APPLICATIONS IN THE ASIA/PAC REGION ARE:**

- a) implementation of the existing SARPs compliant ground-to-ground ATN applications;
- b) in the ASIA/PAC region ground-to-ground ATN will initially support the implementation of ATS Message Handling System (AMHS) to replace AFTN;
- c) strategically deploy a limited number of ATN Backbone routers to support other ground-to-ground and air-ground applications;
- d) during the transition phase, some AFTN system may remain in operation. A reasonable time frame should be established for their replacement with AMHS;
- e) BBIS concerned should provide AFTN/AMHS gateways during the transition phase;

- f) implementation shall be full compliance with existing SARPs, PANS; and ICDs and guidance materials adopted by APANPIRG;
- g) States should work co-operatively to assist each other on a multinational basis to implement ATN to ensure system inter-operability;
- h) States should undertake training to provide necessary operational knowledge to introduce ground-to-ground applications (AMHS and AIDC);
- i) upon successful deployment of ground-to-ground ATN infrastructures and applications States, gradually introduce ATN air-ground applications.

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