



International Civil Aviation Organization

**The Fourth Meeting of the Regional Airspace Safety Monitoring Advisory Group
(RASMAG/4)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 25 – 28 October 2005

Agenda Item 4: Review the airspace safety monitoring arrangements in the Asia/Pacific Region and the activities of regional airspace safety monitoring agencies

**OUTCOMES OF SPECIAL ATS COORDINATION MEETING FOR RVSM TASK FORCE
– REVIEW OF WESTERN PACIFIC/SOUTH CHINA SEA (WPAC/SCS)
FLIGHT LEVEL ORIENTATION SCHEME (FLOS)**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper brings to the attention of RASMAG relevant extracts from the Report of the Special ATS Coordination Meeting for RVSM Task Force – Review of WPAC/SCS FLOS (SCM RVSM FLOS) which was held on 20 September 2005.

Action by the meeting is at Paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The SCM RVSM FLOS was held at AEROTHAI Headquarters, Bangkok, Thailand, on 20 September 2005. The meeting was held to progress the implementation of the new flight level arrangements proposed for the Western Pacific/South China Sea (WPAC/SCS) area, in preparation for the RVSM/TF/28 FLOS Review Meeting which will be held from 24 – 28 April 2006.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The 22nd meeting of the RVSM Implementation Task Force (RVSM/TF/22) was held from 20 – 27 September 2004 at ICAO Asia and Pacific Office, Bangkok. The RVSM/TF/22 reviewed the modified single alternate FLOS currently used in the WPAC/SCS area and developed a new FLOS based on proposals from the Philippines and Thailand. The implementation of the new scheme, however, had been delayed for one year because of the non provision of traffic data from States and consequent inability of MAAR to conduct the safety assessment.

2.2 The SCM RVSM FLOS considered the following issues:

- a) Updates of traffic sample data (TSD) for July 2004 and monthly large height deviation (LHD) provided by WPAC/SCS States;
- b) TSD collection in December 2005 for WPAC/SCS and November 2005 for Japan and the Republic of Korea (ROK) 90 day review;
- c) Safety oversight for WPAC/SCS RVSM implementation using current FLOS (modified single alternate) with available data;

- d) Revise TSD and LHD template and instructions, and the notification process to States (WPAC/SCS, Bay of Bengal and Japan/ROK);
- e) Summary on FLOS scenario to be assessed; and
- f) Meeting dates for the 90 day review of the Japan/ROK implementation and the FLOS review meeting.

Safety Assessment Scenarios

2.3 Monitoring Agency for Asia Region (MAAR) provided SCM RVSM FLOS with three scenarios as a basis for conducting the safety assessments for the FLOS review as follows:

- a) Base case: Current FLOS in WPAC/SCS;
- b) Scenario 1: Proposed FLOS change at the RVSM/TF/22; and
- c) Scenario 2: Scenario 1 with minor FLOS change on A1/P901.

2.4 Base case is the current FLOS used in the WPAC/SCS area. The flight level allocation is as follows:

- a) Class I (Parallel routes):
Northbound (NB)/Southbound (SB): FL 300, 320, 340, 360, 380, 400
- b) Class II (Route crossing parallels):
Eastbound (EB): FL 290, 330, 370, 410
Westbound (WB): FL 310, 350, 390
- c) Class III (Route not crossing parallels but crossing class II routes)
- d) Class IV (Route not crossing parallel or Class II route, i.e. A1 and P901)
EB: FL 330, 370, 410
WB: FL 310, 350, 390

2.5 Scenario 1 was the FLOS change proposed at the RVSM/TF/22. The flight allocation is as follows:

- a) Class I: NB/SB: FL 310, 320, 350, 360, 390, 400
- b) Class II: EB: FL 290, 330, 370, 410
WB: FL 300, 340, 380
- c) Class III: EB: FL 310, 350, 390
WB: FL 320, 360, 400
- d) Class IV: EB: all odd levels
WB: all even levels

2.6 Scenario 2 was essentially the same as Scenario 1, but with minor changes on A1/P901. In order to eliminate existing transition issues while reducing the passing frequency on A1/P901, the following FLOS on this particular route was proposed by MAAR for further considerations of the RVSM Task Force:

- a) Classes I, II and III: same as in Scenario 1
- b) Class IV:
 - EB: FL 290, 310, 330, 370, 410
 - WB: FL 300, 340, 380, 400

2.7 MAAR advised SCM RVSM FLOS that in Scenario 2, two flight levels were taken out for each direction of flight to reduce the passing frequency. The decision on which flight levels could be removed should be coordinated with affected States, including China, Hong Kong, China, Lao PDR, Viet Nam. The meeting agreed that the Regional Office would undertake coordination with affected States in this respect.

2.8 The Chairman of the RVSM/TF noted that not all the States concerned had been present at the RVSM/TF/22 which developed the Scenario 1. Also, in order to facilitate the discussion at the RVSM/TF/28, the Chairman suggested that it would be useful to include the scenarios in the invitation letter for States to be able to consider in advance. The Regional Office agreed to advise States by letter of the different scenarios and request that States complete required safety and simulation of the scenarios as soon as possible, in preparation for RVSM/TF/28.

TSD and LHD Reports

2.9 MAAR updated the meeting with the current status of TSD and LHD reports submitted by States. It was noted that one State still had not submitted data, although both MAAR and the Regional Office had reminded the State to submit the data. The State was upgrading ATS system, and it was anticipated that it would now be possible to provide daily detailed data of all flights operating in the FIRs. The meeting was advised that in the future, TSD would be more readily available from the State and the December 2005 TSD should be provided on time.

Review of the LHD reports in WPAC/SCS Area

2.10 MAAR also provided the meeting with the summary of the LHD occurrences in the WPAC/SCS area. It was reported that the number of LHD occurrence from January 2003 to August 2005 was 123.

Schedule for RVSM/TF/27 and 28

2.11 The meeting considered the schedule for the RVSM/TF/27 and 28 meetings. It was agreed that the RVSM/TF/27 be held from 27 February to 1 March 2006 and the RVSM/TF/28 from 24 to 28 April 2006.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) review the extract from the Report of the SCM RVSM FLOS;
- b) note the scenarios presented by MAAR and recommend the States concerned to study the scenarios; and
- c) urge States to submit the TSD and LHD as required by the Regional Monitoring Agencies.

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