



## INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

### Eighth Meeting of the AASPG Airspace and Aerodrome Operations Sub-Group (AAO/SG8)

Dakar, Senegal, 14-18 July 2025

#### Agenda Item 3: Achievements in AOP and ATM/SAR

#### ACTITIVIES OF THE PBN AORTA PMT

*(Presented by PBN PMT)*

SUMMARY
<p>This paper presents the activity report of the PBN AORTA project management team (PMT) between August 2024 and June 2025. It also announces the revision of the initial terms of reference of the project and the AFI PBN Airspace Questionnaire, which will be submitted for validation to the meeting.</p> <p><b>Action by the Meeting is in paragraph 3</b></p>
<p><b>REFERENCE(S):</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. AASPG Handbook</li> <li>2. AAO/SG7 Report</li> </ol>
<p><b>Related ICAO Strategic Objective(s):</b> A-Aviation Safety B- Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency, E-Environnement Protection</p>

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In 2010, the APIRG/17 meeting, in its decision 17/10, decided to launch the PBN AORTA project aimed at coordinating the implementation of PBN in the AFI region while assisting, if needed, States experiencing difficulties in PBN implementation. A team was established to manage this project, but it did not produce the expected results.

1.2 Following the evolutions of the Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP), and more particularly the changes introduced by its sixth edition, which introduces a restructuring of the Aviation System Block Upgrades (ASBU), and to support the implementation of the identified ASBU modules, it was decided within the framework of implementing conclusion 24/14 of APIRG/24 to revive the project team, while making the necessary changes to the team's composition to make it more dynamic and effective

1.3 Thus, on May 13, 2024, the WACAF and ESAF Regional Offices sent letters to the States requiring them to designate new experts who could join the project. The new

project management team is now made up of experts from Angola, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Togo, South Africa, Uganda, IATA, and ICAO.

1.4 The PBN AORTA project is a project aimed at coordinating the implementation of PBN in the AFI region and assisting States that encounter difficulties in implementing this concept. Four ASBU modules are directly impacted by this project, naming APTA-B0, APTA-B1, FRTO-B0, FRTO-B1. The objective of this project is therefore to ensure the implementation of the basic modules related to PBN of block B0 by the States while ensuring the transition to the more advanced block B1 modules.

1.5 During the latest AAO sub-group meeting, the project team was assigned as a priority activity to update the project's Terms of Reference to align them with the evolutions of the sixth edition of the GANP, develop a questionnaire on the gap analysis concerning the optimization of airspace for PBN implementation and revise the AFI PBN plan. This paper reports on the progress made in carrying out these activities while presenting a roadmap identifying all the activities to be carried out to achieve the project's objectives.

## **2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 From August 2024 to June 2025, the work of the project team effectively began in coordination with the ICAO Regional Offices. The project's Terms of Reference (TOR) have been revised and submitted for validation at this meeting.

2.2 A questionnaire on the gap analysis relating to the optimization of airspace in the AFI region was also prepared for the States to assess the progress of each States on this issue. This questionnaire covers aspects such as the organization of Airspace, the management of ATS routes and 5LNC, the level of PBN implementation, and the training of personnel involved in airspace management and planning.

2.3 The project team is nevertheless facing some difficulties, including the unavailability of certain experts, but above all the low response rate of States to the questionnaire that was sent to them. Indeed, barely 25% of States in the WACAF region and 30% in ESAF have responded to this questionnaire to date. This situation does not allow for the precise identification of the weaknesses of States in terms of airspace optimization, which can then be addressed within the framework of this project.

## **3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Take note of the progress made by the PBN AORTA PMT ; and
- b) Endorse the amended TOR of the PBN AORTA project.

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APPENDIX-

- A. ToR
- B. AFI AIRSPACE QUESTIONNAIRE