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INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Sixth Meeting of the Steering Committee (SC/6) of the Cooperative Development of Aeronautical Meteorology Services Project in the Africa- Indian Ocean Region

Abuja, Nigeria, from 6 to 8 October 2025

Agenda Item 5: Challenges in the implementation of the project activities

SC6 wp5.1 Challenges in the implementation of the project activities

(Presented by the Chairperson).

SUMMARY	
This working paper presents challenges faced by the CODEVMET AFI Project in the implementation of its activities and calls for appropriate actions to address them.	
Action by the meeting in paragraph 3.	
REFERENCES <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Project Management Service Agreement (MSA)▪ Project Document for the CODEVMET-AFI Project (RAF16802 revision C ProDoc)▪ 2024/2025 Project Work Plan▪ Report of SC/5 CODEVMET-AFI	
<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	<i>A – Safety, B – Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency</i>

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Cooperative Development of Aeronautical Meteorology Services in the Africa-Indian Ocean Region (CODEVMET-AFI) Project, designed in 2016 to assist States in addressing long-standing critical deficiencies in air navigation related to MET services, has been recognized as highly relevant to the priorities of Member States. The project directly supports the AFI regional priorities (safety, operational integration) as well as the needs of the Member States.

1.2 The objectives of the CODEVMET-AFI Project, as defined in Revision C of the project document referenced RAF 16802, are to:

- a) Strengthen the regulatory authority capacities of States in implementing the oversight of aeronautical meteorology (MET) safety services, through the adoption of a comprehensive systemic approach; and

- b) Establish a basic and on-demand system to enable MET service providers in Member States to comply with international aviation safety standards, particularly in terms of quality management systems and the provision of meteorological information in digital format.
- 1.3 The project will benefit all States in the Eastern and Southern Africa (ESAF) and Western and Central Africa (WACAF) regions, as well as relevant organizations within the AFI region.
- 1.4 Despite the efforts made in implementing project activities, the project continues to face persistent challenges that hinder its ability to achieve its objectives. This working paper identifies these challenges and proposes measures to overcome them.

2 DISCUSSION

Challenges

- 2.1 The Project is facing several challenges that are impeding the effective implementation of its activities, as detailed below:

Low Membership and Participation of States

- 2.2 The low level of membership from States, particularly reflected in the limited number of signed Management Service Agreements (MSA) by ESAF and WACAF States, along with their reduced participation in project activities, significantly compromises the expected progress. This situation undermines the overall effectiveness of the project by restricting the scope of work and limiting regional representation. The lack of commitment from the concerned States results in difficult coordination, delays in implementing planned activities, and insufficient ownership of the outcomes.

Delays in updating the Project's Generic Documentation

- 2.3 Delays have been observed in the revision and update of the project's generic documentation, which is essential for harmonizing efforts among the various teams. This documentation serves as a shared reference, ensuring coherence in actions and alignment with project objectives. The absence of regular updates leads to divergent interpretations, complicates the technical implementation of activities, and slows the project's overall progress.

Low implementation rate of Action Plans from assistance activities

- 2.4 There has been a low implementation rate of action plans developed following assistance activities. Despite the targeted support provided to States, the recommendations issued during these interventions are only partially implemented or not implemented at all in many cases. This limits the impact of the assistance activities and slows the expected progress in terms of compliance and capacity building.

Lack of reactivity of States/Organization Focal Points for the Project

- 2.5 The SC/4 meeting held in Freetown in 2023, raised concerns regarding the monitoring of States contributions' payments requests, and requested through Decision 4/02 that States/Organizations' project focal points shall be in copy of all related correspondences, including the payment request. The 2024 payment were issued taking into account this Decision.

- 2.6 Furthermore, the SC/5 meeting in Abidjan, through Decision 5/03 tasked the Secretariat to update the list of State focal points for the CODEVMET-AFI project and organize briefing meetings with them on the project and the scope of their mandate. A State letter was circulated to States. Only seventeen (17) responses were received.
- 2.7 The primary role of the Focal Point is to coordinate project implementation activities within the State/organization, in close collaboration with the Secretariat and the designated experts.
- 2.8 However, in practice, several Focal Points remain unresponsive to messages or coordination efforts initiated by the Secretariat and experts.
- 2.9 In particular, no feedback is often received from State Focal Points regarding the status of CAP implementation for QMS and/or MET Safety.

Proposed Measures to Overcome these Challenges

Strengthening State Membership and participation

2.5. To overcome this challenge, several measures have been identified:

- Conduct targeted awareness campaigns, through communication initiatives and regional workshops, to better inform about the objectives, benefits, and concrete outcomes of the project and to encourage non-signatory States to join;
- Establish individualized follow-up mechanisms, with designated focal points in each State, to identify specific obstacles and provide tailored support; and
- Highlight the contributions of already engaged States by showcasing their achievements as best practices, to serve as a lever for broader participation.

Accelerating the update of the Project's Generic Documentation

2.6 To address this issue, the following measures are proposed:

- Enrol additional experts to meet the growing needs of the project and effectively support the documentation update process;
- Set up a revision schedule, with biannual or annual deadlines, to ensure regular and predictable updates;
- Assign documentation focal points within each sub-group, with clear deadlines and simplified validation procedures; and
- Provide targeted technical support to teams facing difficulties, particularly regarding methodological and writing aspects, to ensure the quality and consistency of the documents produced.

Improving implementation of Action Plans from assistance activities

2.7 To address these shortcomings, the following actions are being considered:

- Strengthen post-assistance follow-up, including virtual visits, periodic reporting, and dashboards to assess the effective implementation of action plans; and
- Integrate action plans into national safety or compliance priorities to ensure more systematic ownership by competent authorities.

Strengthening reactivity of State Focal Point and coordination between the Secretariat and States/Organization Focal Points for the Project

- 2.8 States /Organization Focal Points to effectively interact with the Secretariat and Experts to enable the implementation of State CAP; and
- 2.9. State/Organization Focal Points should ensure effective coordination with the designated Project Expert and provide periodic progress reports on CAP implementation.

3 ACTIONS BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- Take note of the challenges outlined in this document, which are currently affecting the effective implementation of CODEVMET-AFI Project activities;
- Review the proposed actions to overcome these challenges; and
- Request the Secretariat to report on the measures taken to address the identified challenges at the next meeting of the Steering Committee.

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