



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Ninth Meeting of the AASPG Infrastructure and Information Management Sub-Group (IIM/SG9)

Dakar, Senegal, from 3 to 7 August 2026.

Agenda Item 3: Other Air Navigation initiatives

Update on the preparation of the AFI ANS SUMMIT

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY
This working paper presents the status of the preparation of the AFI ANS Summit as directed by AASPG as well as related implementation actions undertaken by the assigned stakeholders. Action by the meeting is in paragraph 3.
REFERENCE(S): - APIRG/25, 26,27 & AASPG/1 Reports - Report of the Africa Aviation Infrastructure Gap Analysis - SoD of ANS SUMMIT Work@Lab 1
Related ICAO Strategic Goal(s): <i>A - Every Flight is Safe and Secure</i> <i>B - Aviation Delivers Seamless, Accessible, and Reliable Mobility for All</i>

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 APIRG/25, through conclusion 25/09 called on the implementation of a harmonized, interoperable and seamless Air Traffic Management (ATM) systems in the region and the Secretariat to coordinate with relevant stakeholders for the convening of an ATM Summit by December 2024.

1.2 APIRG/26 meeting noted the need for an effective preparation of the AFI Air Navigation Service Summit, and tasked IATA in collaboration with ICAO to coordinate by March 2024, a Team of Experts composed of all the stakeholders to review existing Air Navigation related frameworks, consolidate initiatives and expected outcomes, including the AU/AFCAC/ICAO Aviation Infrastructure Gap Analysis for Africa, develop and compile costed projects, and identify specific activities with clear objectives, timelines and responsibilities of each stakeholder toward the conduct of the ANS Summit.

1.3 In application of APIRG/26 Decision 26/24, several preparatory meetings were conducted virtually as from January 2024 under the coordination of IATA. An initial roadmap as well as a term of reference of the contributory bodies of the summit were proposed and discussed. The first WORK@Lab took place in June 2024 in Bela Bela (South Africa).

1.4 APIRG/27 noted progress towards the Summit. However, some outstanding challenges needed to be addressed such as time resource constraint, the low participation of States, the need for alignment with the AASPG procedural handbook provisions, the need to incorporate the outcomes of the Africa aviation infrastructure gap analysis, the need for clarification on the roles of stakeholders as well as the objectives of the Summit. The meeting therefore agreed on the postponement of the Summit in 2025 to provide more time for its preparation.

1.5 AASPG/1 reviewed and endorsed the new ANS Summit framework and its associated supporting documentation including the list of priority projects, project mapping and the summit preparation roadmap. The Meeting tasked ICAO and IATA to coordinate the preparation of the summit with all relevant stakeholders to ensure the conduct of the Summit by end of 2027.

2. DISCUSSION

ANS Summit Preparatory activities

2.1 The ANS summit preparation roadmap includes several activities such as the establishment of small technical working groups, the development of projects templates, the conduct of State's consultation on identified priority projects through a regional survey, the customization of templates tailored to States needs and aligned with regional vision of seamless air navigation, the delivery of an ANS Master document consolidating all customized project documents.

2.2 To ensure an effective and timely delivery of the ANS Summit artifacts, the ANS Summit preparation Secretariat made of ICAO Regional Offices ESAF and WACAF, IATA and AAO and IIM Subgroups Chairpersons was established; followed by the establishment of small working groups composed of AAO and IIM Project Management Team Members to carry out activities lined up in the roadmap.

2.3 Ongoing preparatory activities include the conduct of the regional survey on priority projects for the implementation of seamless ANS in AFI. The survey aims at gathering comprehensive information on the current status, challenges, and expectations related to ANS projects within AFI States which will steer the development of bankable and non-bankable costed projects that aligned with State's expectations and regional ANS vision. The survey is conducted in parallel with the development of project templates by the small technical working groups. The action plan for the preparation of the ANS Summit is in Appendix A.

2.4 It is expected that the tasks of the small technical working groups be immediately followed by the customization works and the validation workshop to be held in September 2026 where all deliverables will be reviewed, consolidated into one single ANS Mater document and validated before submission to the AASPG Programme Review and Coordination Committee (PRCC) by end of September 2026.

Challenges and lessons learnt

2.5 Resource mobilization remains a constraint being given the delay between the current status of the preparation and the target date of the ANS Summit. Some strategies such as fast tracking or crashing could be appropriate to speed up the work left; however, the preparation of the Summit is only done through voluntary contributions of in-kind nature from States and organizations which limits the possibility of adding more workforce to stretch the delay. Nonetheless, significant progress can be expected within the given time frame thanks to the dedication and commitment of the small technical working groups members. The list of members of small technical working groups is in Appendix B.

2.6 State's timely response to projects information request remains a challenge that may seriously hamper

the timely delivery of ANS Master document as well as the consistency of project catalogues due to incomplete or lack of information. States are therefore call on to closely collaborate in the preparation of the Summit through the timely provision of complete, consistent, coherent and accurate information to enable the deliverable of reliable project documentation.

2.7 The ANS Summit preparation is being conducted amid several similar initiatives. AASPG requested a synergetic effort from all stakeholders under the framework of the ANS Summit to ensure a coordinated and collaborative implementation of seamless air navigation projects and reduce duplication of efforts. A consolidation work is still required to bring together all initiatives in alignment with AASPG/1 conclusion 1/27 calling for the integration of all regional ANS infrastructure improvement initiatives.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

The meeting is invited to:

- a) Take note of the information provided in this working paper;
- b) Encourage States to contribute to the success of the preparation of the ANS Summit;
- c) Encourage joint efforts from all stakeholders to reduce duplication and ensure collaborative implementation; and
- d) Provide further guidance as deemed necessary.

END

APPENDIX 1 – ANS SUMMIT PREPARATION ACTION PLAN

#Activity	Activity	Description	Start	End	Stakeholders	Deliverables	Status
Activity 1.	Secretariat Coordination Meeting #1	Conduct a restart meeting to discuss the timelines for the delivery of the ANS Summit programme material	11/5/2026	11/5/2026	Lead: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF) Support: -IATA	-Agreed work plan and timelines -Project Teams identified	Completed
Activity 2.	Establishment of project teams	Establish sectorial project teams that do not exist in the framework of the ANS Summit	02/2/2026	12/5/2026	Lead: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF) Support: -IATA - Chairpersons of AAO SG, IIM SG & SMO SG	-Project team members selected -Project coordinators designated	Completed
Activity 3.	Coordination meeting #1 with all project teams	Review the agreed ANS SUMMIT preparation work plan, milestones, deliverables and ultimate products	26/5/2026	26/5/2026	Lead: - IATA/ICAO Support: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF) -IATA - Chairpersons of AAO SG, IIM SG & SMO SG -PT Members	-Consolidated work plan, milestones and deliverables	Completed
Activity 4.	Project templates development & validation	Identify and develop and validate all required gap analysis and project implementation document templates (national and regional) as appropriate	05/6/2026	22/6/2026	Lead: PMT Coordinators Support: -PT Members -ICAO -IATA	- Gap analysis template developed -Project document templates developed	Ongoing

#Activity	Activity	Description	Start	End	Stakeholders	Deliverables	Status
Activity 5.	ANS gap analysis in States and benchmarking	Review the outcomes of the Africa Aviation infrastructure gap analysis and conduct further gap analysis in States as appropriate. Conduct benchmarking on similar programmes in other regions	1/6/2026	30/6/2026	Lead: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF) Support : -IATA -States -PTs	-ANS Data and information collected from States -Consolidated outcomes of Africa infrastructure gap analysis -Consolidated results of the benchmarking	Ongoing
Activity 6.	Validation of the results of gap analysis and benchmarking	Review and validate the results of the gap analysis and the benchmarking conducted in other regions	1/7/2026	2/7/2026	Lead: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF) Support: -PT Members -IATA -AFCAC -AUC	-Consolidated ANS gap analysis results -Benchmarked projects documented	Not started
Activity 7.	Development of customized project documents	Customize the sectorial project document templates based on regional and States' needs and leveraging the results of the gap analysis, benchmarking and costing	7/7/2026	7/8/2026	Lead: -PMT Coordinators Support: -PT Members -ICAO -IATA	-Customized sectorial Project documents	Not started
Activity 8.	Work@Lab #2	Conduct the 2 nd work@lab to validate customized ANS Project documents	14/9/2026	18/9/2026	Lead: -IATA/ICAO Support: -ICAO -Chairpersons of AAO SG, IIM SG & SMO SG -PMTs -ASECNA -AFCAC -AUC	-Validated project document templates	Not started

#Activity	Activity	Description	Start	End	Stakeholders	Deliverables	Status
Activity 9.	Development of the AFI ANS Master document	Develop the AFI ANS Master document as a catalogue of all sectorial costed projects and related process per State and sub-region as appropriate as validated at works@lab #2	21/9/2026	14/10/2026	Lead: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF) Support: -PT Members -IATA -AFCAC AUC	-Draft ANS Master document	Not started
Activity 10.	Work@Lab #3	Conduct the 3 rd work@lab to pre-validate the draft AFI ANS Master document	19/10/2026	19/10/2026	Lead: -IATA/ICAO Support: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF) - Chairpersons of AAO SG, IIM SG & SMO SG -PMTs -AFCAC -AUC	-Pre-validated AFI ANS Master document	Not started
Activity 11.	Validation of the AFI ANS Master document	Review and validation of the AFI ANS Master document	22/10/2026	22/10/2026	Lead: -PRCC Support: -ICAO -IATA -Chairpersons of AAO SG, IIM SG & SMO SG	-Validated AFI ANS Master document	Not started
Activity 12.	Endorsement of the AFI ANS Master document	Review and endorse the AFI ANS Master document during the AAPSG/2	2/11/2026	6/11/2026	Lead: -AASPG Support: -ICAO -IATA -AFCAC -AUC -States -ANSPs -Air operators -Airport operators	-Endorsed AFI ANS Master document	Not started

#Activity	Activity	Description	Start	End	Stakeholders	Deliverables	Status
Activity 13.	Coordination & handover meeting	Conduct a coordination meeting to hand over the AFI ANS Master document to AFCAC and AUC to prepare for the AFI ANS Summit; Review and validate the ANS Summit planning	7/12/2026	8/12/2027	Lead: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF) Support: -IATA -AFCAC -AUC	- Coordination & handover meeting Report -AFI ANS Master document transferred to AFCAC and AUC -AFI ANS Summit planning validated	Not started
Activity 14.	Briefing to ICAO council	Prepare a briefing note to the ICAO council on the AFI ANS Master document and the planned AFI ANS Summit for advisory input	1/3/2027	30/3/2027	Lead: -ICAO (ESAF & WACAF) Support -IATA	-Consolidated AFI ANS Master document incorporating ICAO council advisory comments -ANS Summit implementation plan supported	Not started

APPENDIX 2 – LIST OF SMALL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS

Group 1: Survey questionnaire-Projects prioritization criteria in States-Risk and quality Management plans			
Tasks		1. Review and improve the survey questionnaire (clarity, consistency, coherence, completeness) 2. Develop projects prioritization criteria (key factors to consider geographical location, GDP, national/CER aviation development policies etc.) 3. Develop a risk management plan template (include technical, management, environmental aspects) 4. Develop a Quality management plan template (Include monitoring and control process)	
#	Name	Role	Contact
1.	Ms. Joyce Asante	Coordinator	
2.	Mr. James Davis	Member	
3.	Mr. Anoba Yao Kuma	Member	
4.	Mr. Fortunato Clemente	Member	
5.	Ms. Carolyn Kavinya Mbiti	Member	
6.	Mr. Steven Wabwire	Member	
7.	Mr. Boussou Kouakou Dominique	Member	
8.	Mr. Léonel Mba Nkilli	Member	
9.	Mr. Houeto Videsse Arnaud	Member	
10.	Mr. Leonidas Papa Afful	Member	

Group 2: Project initiation templates			
Tasks		1. Develop a project charter template 2. Develop a project business case template 3. Develop a project costing template	
#	Name	Role	Contact
1.	Mr. Nathan Kaluba	Coordinator	
2.	Mr. Geoffrey Okot	Member	
3.	Ms. Aba Fianko Amaglo	Member	
4.	Mr. Joseph Katongole	Member	
5.	Mr. Coulibaly Sionhagnigui	Member	
6.	Dr. Rendani Nndanganeni	Member	
7.	Mr. Njock Tanguy	Member	

8.	Mr. David Muhati	Member	
9.	Mr. Madjidingam Ngarénon	Member	
10.	Mr. Raoul Bestler	Member	

Group 3: Project initiation templates			
Tasks		4. Develop a project charter template 5. Develop a project business case template 6. Develop a project costing template	
#	Name	Role	Contact
1.	Ms. Suzan Nafuna	Coordinator	
2.	Mr. Mukuka Besa	Member	
3.	Mr. William Gyamerah Agyare	Member	
4.	Mr. Achirimi Kokouvi	Member	
5.	Mr. Cosse Wade	Member	
6.	Mr. Gerald Etta Nfongang	Member	
7.	Mr. Billy Diabasenga	Member	
8.	Col. Patrick Akono	Member	
9.	Mr. Maluta Tshifaro	Member	
10.	Mr. Gerald Agaba	Member	