



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: Achievements in infrastructure and Information Management

3.4. Progress in the Implementation of AASPG IIM Projects

WP3.4D Progress of the AFI Aviation Spectrum Coordination and Protection Initiative

(Presented by PTC SPECTRA PROJECT)

SUMMARY
This paper provides an update on the establishment and implementation progress of the AFI Aviation Spectrum Coordination and Protection Initiative (AFI SPECTRA) project. The project was established under the AASPG Infrastructure and Information Management Sub-Group (IIM/SG) to strengthen the coordination, management and protection of aeronautical radio frequency spectrum resources used by communication, navigation and surveillance (CNS) systems, thereby supporting safe and uninterrupted air navigation services across the AFI Region. Action by the meeting in paragraph 3
REFERENCE(S): ▪ Annex 10 – Aeronautical Telecommunications ▪ DOC 9718 – Handbook on Radio Frequency Spectrum Requirements for Civil Aviation. ▪ AASPG Handbook ▪ Electronic Air Navigation Plan— Africa-Indian Ocean Region (eANP- AFI) ▪ ASBU framework of the GANP
This working document relates to ICAO Strategic Goals: A - Every Flight is safe and secure, C - Aviation delivers seamless, accessible and reliable mobility for all

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The first AASPG meeting, held in November 2025 under decision 1/11, endorsed the AFI SPECTRA project, which was developed and approved at the 7th IIM subgroup meeting. The key objective is to enhance the capacity of AFI States and regional bodies to coordinate, manage, and protect aviation spectrum effectively, ensuring safe and uninterrupted ANS operations.
- 1.2 Aviation spectrum management and protection have become increasingly important due to growing demand for radio frequency spectrum from both aviation and non-aviation sectors. Emerging technologies, including 5G mobile communications, artificial intelligence, automation and Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) continue to increase pressure on limited spectrum resources. Consequently, safeguarding spectrum allocated to aviation safety services remains essential to ensure the safe and efficient provision of air navigation services.

- 1.3 The International Telecommunication Union, a specialized agency of the United Nations (UN), is responsible for the global management of radio frequency spectrum. Given the limited availability of spectrum, increasing demands for spectrum sharing continue to present challenges for aviation spectrum protection.
- 1.4 It is therefore important for ICAO and its Member States to continue advocating for the protection of existing aeronautical frequency allocations and to support the identification of additional spectrum resources required to implement current and future aviation technologies.

2. DISCUSSIONS

- 2.1 The AFI-SPECTRA Project was established under the restructured AASPG IIM/SG project framework and endorsed by the First AASPG Meeting through Decision AASPG/1-11.
- 2.2 Following the endorsement of the project, ICAO invited AFI States to nominate experts, established the project team and formally launched the AFI-SPECTRA Project on 11 May 2026. Mr. Gerald Agaba (Uganda) was subsequently appointed Project Team Coordinator by consensus of the project team.
- 2.3 The SPECTRA project comprises 13 members from 10 AFI member states. These include Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Guinea, Madagascar, Malawi, Niger, Senegal, Togo, and Uganda.
- 2.4 The project seeks to strengthen the capacity of the AFI States and regional organizations to effectively coordinate, manage and protect aeronautical radio frequency spectrum resources, thereby supporting safe and uninterrupted air navigation services.
- 2.5 The project held its first meeting on 4 June 2026 with ten (10) experts and the ICAO Secretariat. During the meeting, the project governance structure was established, including the appointment the Vice Chair, Mr. Victor Arnaud Penda Tonye; the Secretary, Laurianne Else Maguendji; and the Vice Secretary, Kalimudin. The Project Organization Document and working methodology were reviewed and endorsed.
- 2.6 The project agreed on the following key deliverables:
- CAA- National Frequency Regulator Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) template
 - Frequency assignment coordination procedures,
 - Frequency interference management procedures,
 - GNSS Radio Frequency Interference (GNSS RFI) reporting mechanism,
 - Workshops or webinars on Frequency Finder, and
 - Preparatory workshops for future World Radiocommunication Conferences (WRCs).

2.6.1 Summary of AFI-SPECTRA Project implementation of Status

No.	Deliverable	Task/activity	Status	Comments
1.	Selection of project Team Experts	To Include 5G issues affecting radio altimeter	Done	ICAO Secretariat and IIM Subgroup leadership
2.	Project Launch	Review of collaboration currently at hand and drafting of template	Done	ICAO Secretariat and IIM Subgroup leadership
3.	1 st SPECTRA Project Meeting /Engagement	Nomination of Vice Chair	Done	Report of 1 st SPECTRA project meeting
		Appointment of Secretary and Vice Secretary	Done	
		Endorsement of Project organisation Documents and working methodology	Done	

No.	Deliverable	Task/activity	Status	Comments
4.	Project Team Engagement/ meeting	CAA and Spectrum Authorities MoU/Agreement Template	TBD	
5.	Project Team Engagement/ meeting	Frequency assignment coordination Procedures	TBD	
6.	Project Team Engagement/ meeting	Frequency interferences management procedures	TBD	
7.	Project Team Engagement/ meeting	GNSS RFI reporting mechanism	TBD	
8.	Project Team Engagement/ meeting	Workshop or Webinar on Frequency Finder	TBD	
9.	Project Team Engagement/ meeting	WRC preparation Workshops	TBD	

3. ACTIONS BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the Content of this working paper.
- b) encourage AFI States and Organizations to actively support project activities through the provision of expertise, operational information and participation in project deliverables
- c) encourage States to report GNSS Radio Frequency Interference (GNSS RFI) occurrences and spectrum-related challenges to support regional monitoring and mitigation efforts