

**Report on Attendance at the First Meeting of the  
ANSP Seamless Airspace Working Group (SAWG/1)  
Bangkok, Thailand  
15 – 17 May 2007**

by  
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ICAO Asia and Pacific Regional Office**

**1. VENUE AND DURATION**

1.1 The First Meeting of the ANSP Seamless Airspace Working Group (SAWG/1) was hosted by Aeronautical Radio of Thailand Ltd. and was held at AEROTHAI Headquarters, Bangkok, Thailand from 15 – 17 May 2007.

**2. ATTENDANCE**

2.1 The meeting was attended by thirty-two participants from Australia, China, Hong Kong China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Viet Nam, ICAO, IATA and IFATCA. A list of participants is at **Appendix A**. The meeting reviewed 11 Working Papers and 1 Information Papers; a List of Papers is included as **Appendix B**.

**3. OFFICERS AND SECRETARIAT**

3.1 Mr. Ron Rigney, ATM Manager, Airservices Australia acted as Moderator of the meeting, assisted by Mr. Piyawut Tantimekabut, System Engineer, AEROTHAI. AEROTHAI provided Secretariat and support services to the meeting.

**4. BACKGROUND**

4.1 In August 2006, Airservices Australia initiated an inaugural meeting of Asia and Pacific Regional Air Navigation Service Providers designed to promote practical cooperation between regional ANSPs and airlines with the objective of improving regional service and safety.

2.2 Air navigation service providers, airlines and regulators from 12 countries attended the conference and concluded that:

- Even though air transport is a very safe mode of transport in the region, improved cooperation and coordination between regional ANSPs, airlines and regulators will improve the safety and efficiency of air transport.
- Air traffic in the Asia/Pacific region is forecast to continue to grow strongly over the next 20 years, imposing severe capacity constraints on airports, airlines and airspace.
- The Conference welcomed the offer of the Directorate General of Air Communications of the Republic of Indonesia to host the second Asia Pacific Regional ANSP Conference in Bali in 2007.

- The Conference agreed to establish two Working Groups to further the process of improved regional cooperation and coordination initiated by the Conference. The two Working Groups will focus on: smooth transitions across flight boundaries - 'seamless airspace'; and the creation of a regional safety road map to underpin the Global Aviation Safety Roadmap endorsed by ICAO.
- The Working Groups established were considered to be informal working groups similar to other ATS Coordination Groups established for Oceanic airspace within the Asia/Pacific region. Like these other Groups, reports will be submitted to APANPIRG via the ATM/AIS/SAR/SG to facilitate regional cooperation.

## 5. REVIEW OUTCOMES OF SAWG/1

5.1 The second group formed from the ANSP Conference was the Seamless Airspace Working Group (SAWG). The main purpose of the SAWG is to work toward the following initiatives:

- To improve regional cooperation and coordination in CNS/ATM matters;
- To work together with representatives of regional ANSPs and Airline Operators towards a smooth transition across FIR boundaries – i.e. “Seamless Airspace”;
- To identify homogenous airspace blocks or air traffic routes conducive to further studies and trials between Asia and Pacific ANSPs and international airlines.

### *Objectives of the Meeting*

5.2 The Objectives of the SAWG/1 meeting were to:

- a) Identify current regional areas where harmonisation could gain efficiencies;
- b) Identify possible projects to commence in the short term;
- c) Define a common (minimum) Communication and Surveillance capability across the region.
- d) Recognize the value of bilateral and multilateral negotiations in accelerating the delivery of SAWG outcomes.
- e) Recognise the importance of effective Civil/Military coordination and the role that it plays in the delivery of “seamless airspace” and encourage the involvement of military airspace authorities in the work of SAWG.
- f) Develop a longer term strategy of work required; and
- g) Decide on next steps and actions.

### *Work programme*

5.3 The SAWG/1 meeting agreed that its work would complement the efforts already commenced by ICAO, IATA and other industry groups. Recognizing the significant amount of ICAO activities already in place throughout the region, the meeting agreed to the following initiatives:

- Develop a Working Paper for presentation to the next meeting of the South East Asia Coordination Group (SEACG/14) on a uniform application of Radar spacing on ATS Route A1 into the Hong Kong FIR and additional concerned routes north of the Hong Kong FIR to Tokyo.
- In consideration of anticipated traffic growth in the South China Sea area, undertake studies and analysis for the planning and implementation of Flow Management in this area.
- Undertake an initial review of existing separation standards employed by ANSPs within the region with the objective of delivering improved efficiencies through increased harmonization across FIR boundaries. As part of this task, Melbourne and Colombo ACCs agreed to work towards the reduction of the 15 minutes Longitudinal Standard to 10 minutes between the Colombo and Melbourne FIRs. Further, Colombo ACC urged Melbourne and Jakarta ACCs to collaborate in the reduction of longitudinal standards from 15 minutes to 10 minutes along other ATS routes which affect Colombo FIR. In the longer term, both Colombo and Melbourne ACCs agreed to work on RNP and ADS-C based separation minima (e.g. 50NM Longitudinal).
- Airservices Australia, in conjunction with other Asia/Pacific ANSPs, agreed to continue developing the Matrix of CNS/ATM capabilities for the major traffic flows Australia-Southeast Asia-Middle East and Southeast Asia-Northeast Asia

## **6. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

6.1 The SAWG/1 meeting adopted Terms of Reference for SAWG as follows:

- a) To develop strategies, initiatives and dialogue necessary for the smooth transitions across Flight Information Regions - i.e “Seamless Airspace”;
- b) To maximize capacity and optimize the flow of air traffic utilising existing and near-term CNS/ATM systems, taking into account safety and efficiency considerations.
- c) To enhance and facilitate the orderly and efficient flow of air traffic Along the major traffic flows within the Asia region;
- d) Identify areas where capacity constraints presently exist or are forecast to emerge.
- e) To assess the economic and environmental benefits that will flow from the implementation of a harmonized ATM environment.

*NOTE: The SAWG is an informal working group similar to other ATS Coordination Groups established for Oceanic airspace within the Asia/Pacific region. As like these other Groups, it will submit reports to APANPIRG via the ATM/AIS/SAR/SG to facilitate regional planning*

**7. APPENDICES:**

Appendix A – List of Participants

Appendix B – List of Working and Information Papers

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**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

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**APPENDIX A**

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**APPENDIX A**

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**LIST OF WORKING PAPERS (WPs) AND INFORMATION PAPERS (IPs)**

**WORKING PAPERS**

<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>AGENDA</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PRESENTED BY</b>
WP/1	1	Adoption of Agenda	Secretariat
WP/2	3	Aircraft COM/NAV Capabilities - Asia/Pacific Region	Airservices
WP/3	8	ATM Related Activities of the ICAO Asia/Pacific Office, Bangkok	ICAO
WP/4	2	Harmonisation of Enroute Air Traffic Management	Airservices
WP/5	2	ATM Capabilities – Asia/Pacific (Mid/Asia) Region	Airservices
WP/6	5	ATFM Through Kabul FIR – Should we expand to other areas?	AEROTHAI
WP/7		Intentionally left Blank	
WP/8	2	Global Navigation Plan Initiatives	Airservices
WP/9	4	The Airline Perspective	IATA
WP/10	6	Regional ADS-B Managed Service Model	Airservices
WP/11	2	ATM Enhancement on ATS Route A1/P901/G581/M750	AEROTHAI

**INFORMATION PAPERS**

<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>AGENDA</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>PRESENTED BY</b>
IP/1	-	List of Working Papers (WPs) and Information Papers (IPs)	Secretariat

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