



*International Civil Aviation Organization*

**The Twentieth Meeting of the APANPIRG ATM/AIS/SAR Sub-Group  
(ATM/AIS/SAR/SG/20)**

Singapore, 05 – 09 July 2010

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**Agenda Item 5: Consider problems and make specific recommendations concerning the provision of ATM/AIS/SAR in the Asia/Pacific Region**

**OUTCOMES OF THE 46<sup>th</sup> DGCA CONFERENCE**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

**SUMMARY**

This paper presents the list of action items arising from the 46<sup>th</sup> Conference of Directors General of Civil Aviation, Asia/Pacific Regions, held in Osaka, Japan from 12 – 16 October 2009, for consideration by the meeting.

This paper relates to

**Strategic Objectives:**

- A: Safety – Enhance global civil aviation safety*
- B: Security – Enhance global civil aviation security*
- C: Environmental Protection – Minimize the adverse effect of global civil aviation on the environment*
- D: Efficiency – Enhance the efficiency of aviation operations*
- E: Continuity – Maintain the continuity of aviation operations*

**Global Plan Initiatives:**

- GPI-1 Flexible use of airspace*
- GPI-8 Collaborative airspace design and management*
- GPI-9 Situational awareness*
- GPI-12 Flight Management System (FMS) – based arrival procedures*
- GPI-21 Navigation systems*

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The 46<sup>th</sup> Conference of Directors General of Civil Aviation (DGCAs), Asia and Pacific Region was hosted by Japan Civil Aviation Bureau in Osaka, Japan from 12 to 16 October 2009. The Conference was attended by 215 delegates from 34 States/Administrations and 5 international organizations.

**2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 The Conference raised 12 Action Items, as shown in the **Attachment** to this paper.

Action Item 46/1 – Seamless Sky - ATM

2.2 Japan, while acknowledging the regional planning process of ICAO, highlighted the need to plan future ATM systems for the region and stated that whether the regional plan was short- or long-term, it should be developed by a planning and implementation regional group (PIRG), i.e. the Asia/Pacific Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APANPIRG) for Asia and Pacific Regions. Some States expressed the view that there was a need for seamless long-term planning, thus requiring a dedicated body for the long-term planning for the region. However, it was pointed out that further discussion would be needed to develop a better understanding.

2.3 The Conference noted that the *Global ATM Operational Concept* (doc 9854) and the *Global Air Navigation Plan* (Doc 9750) provided the global framework, but at the same time, felt that NextGen and SESAR type planning could be useful to the region. The Conference requested ICAO Regional Office to take a leadership role and arrange for further discussion on this matter.

2.4 The ICAO Council President stated that seamless sky was a priority of ICAO and was a mandate of ICAO Assembly. The President stressed on the need for developing specific Terms of Reference to support this concept and establish a starting point. After that, it will be necessary to find agreements of all States involved and keeping in mind the different considerations like political, economic and operational issues.

Action Item 46/6 – Implementation of Continuous Descent Operations

2.5 ICAO recognizes the efficiency and environmental benefits of Continuous Descent Operations (CDO) that many States have been developing over the years with different techniques, naming conventions and phraseology. Seeing the need to harmonize these operations, ICAO is developing a manual that will provide guidance on the development and implementation of CDO. The Manual will contain guidance material on the airspace design, instrument flight procedures, ATC facilitation and flight techniques necessary to enable Continuous Descent profiles.

**3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) note the action items from the 46<sup>th</sup> DGCA Conference;
- b) consider, based on the Action Item 46/1 raised by the 46<sup>th</sup> DGCA Conference, the following draft Conclusion; and

**Draft Conclusion 20/XX – Seamless Sky - ATM**

That, recognising the role of ICAO Asia and Pacific Office and the efforts of APANPIRG in promoting and fostering the implementation of ICAO provisions for short- and medium-terms according to the Regional Air Navigation Plan (Doc 9673), APANPIRG be requested to be the starting platform to discuss and plan the future ATM system including the need for the seamless sky of the Asia/Pacific Region including targets and a timeline through the collaboration with Asia/Pacific States.

- c) identify any initiatives to be taken by the Sub-Group in relation to the action items from the Conference.

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**LIST OF ACTION ITEMS ARISING FROM THE 46<sup>th</sup> CONFERENCE**

**Agenda Item 1**

**Action Item 46/1**

**Seamless Sky – ATM**

Recognizing the leadership role of ICAO Asia and Pacific Office and the efforts of APANPIRG in promoting and fostering the implementation of the ICAO provisions for the short and medium term according to the Regional Air Navigation Plans, the Conference requested the ICAO Asia Pacific Office to coordinate with Chairman APANPIRG and agreed that APANPIRG be the starting platform to discuss and plan the future ATM system of the Asia and Pacific Region including targets and a time schedule through the collaboration with Asia/Pacific States / Administrations.

**Agenda Item 46/2**

**Seamless Sky - Air Cargo, Security**

Recognizing that the security of air cargo is critical, and appreciating the need to enhance air cargo security and facilitate international trade, the Conference requested ICAO to examine the inclusion of provisions on air cargo security in ICAO Annex 17 with the aim of securing safety and protecting the entire cargo supply chain for transport of cargo by air.

**Agenda Item 46/3**

**Seamless Sky – Aviation Safety**

To ensure a high standard of safety the Conference urged States to:

- a) implement the State Safety Programme;
- b) ensure that service providers within their jurisdiction effectively implement safety management systems;
- c) monitor the safety of foreign aircraft operating into their jurisdictions, including the conduct of ramp inspections; and
- d) co-operate in the above efforts, in sharing such safety information, and in promoting harmonization.

**Agenda Item 2**

**Action Item 46/4**

**Submission of Implementation Status – List of Action Items**

Taking note of the low percentage of submission of implementation status on the Action Items arising from the earlier DGCA Conference by the States / Administrations, the Conference urged the States / Administrations to provide ICAO APAC Office with a summary of actions taken within the timeframe agreed by the DGCA Conference (six months of the Conference) and a follow-up report (at least two months) prior to the next Conference.

**Action Item 46/5**

**Asia Pacific Consultative Link**

Taking note of the progress made in establishing the APCL Portal and agreeing that the APCL has the potential to serve as an effective mechanism of communication among the Asia and Pacific DGCA's, the Conference urged States / Administrations that have not nominated their APCL Coordinators or who have not logged into the revamped APCL to do so as soon as possible.

**Agenda Item 3**

**Action Item 46/6**

**Implementation of Continuous Descent Operations**

Recognizing the efficiency and environmental benefits of Continuous Descent Operations (CDO), and the need to harmonize these operations in the interest of safety and efficiency, the Conference encouraged States to include implementation of Continuous Descent Operations (CDO) as part of their PBN implementation plans and to implement CDO in accordance with the ICAO CDO Manual, to be available by April of 2010.

**Action Item 46/7**

**Asia-Pacific Flight Procedure Programme**

Taking note of the lack of adequate procedure design capability as a major obstacle to meeting the PBN implementation goals of Assembly Resolution A36-23, the Conference, urged States to indicate their intention to participate in the Asia-Pacific Flight Procedure Programme by 22 October 2009 in order to build or improve their instrument flight procedure capabilities, meet the PBN implementation goals of Assembly resolution A36-23 and enhance flight safety, efficiency and environmental protection in their States and the region.

**Agenda Item 4**

**Action Item 46/8**

**Preparation for WRC 2011**

Recognizing the crucial importance of protecting the aeronautical frequency spectrum at the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-2011), the Conference strongly urged Asia Pacific States:

- a) to give high priority to ensure support to ICAO position for WRC-2011 through enhance coordination between the respective authorities; and
- b) to actively implement APANPIRG Conclusion 19/41 and 20/58.

**Agenda Item 5**

**Action Item 46/9**

**USOAP Pre-audit Documents**

Taking note of the lack of submission of the USOAP Compliance Checklists and the SAAQ by a sizeable number of States and recognizing the importance of establishing an effective Safety Oversight System, the Conference urged States:

- a) to note that the ultimate responsibility for safety oversight rests with the Contracting State, who should continuously review their respective safety oversight capabilities;
- b) to submit their pre-audit documents as required under the Comprehensive Systems Approach (CSA) audit [State Aviation Activity Questionnaire (SAAQ) and the Compliance Checklists (CC)] at the earliest so as to facilitate undertaking and better understanding by the audit team; and
- c) that have been audited to share their USOAP audit experience and provide assistance to States in need of help.

**Action Item 46/10**

**Language Proficiency Requirements**

Noting that language provisions address a safety concern and that the transition period to comply with the language proficiency requirements will terminate in March 2011, any additional measures will be considered by ICAO only if there is a clear and definite indication of widespread non-compliance among States, the Conference urged States to:

- a) ensure that the questionnaire attached to ICAO State letter AN 12/44.6-09/53 dated 17 July 2009 is completed and returned to ICAO Headquarters; and
- b) explore possibilities of technical co-operation and assistance amongst States in terms of training, expertise and experience.

**Agenda Item 8**

**Action Item 46/11**

**Technical Cooperation**

Recognizing the multifarious difficulties faced by Contracting States in fulfilling their obligations for the effective safety and security oversight of aviation activities taking place under their jurisdictions and, making note of the enormous potentials in the Regional Cooperative Arrangements to help solve such situations, the Conference:

- a) requested the States to actively participate at the various ongoing Regional Technical Cooperation Programmes such as CASP, CAPSCA, COSCAP and PASO etc.;
- b) requested the States to make the optimum use of the opportunities, facilities or services provided by such Programmes or Projects to meet their national requirements including the staff training;
- c) requested the international agencies and donor community to continue extending their support in cash and/or in kind for the wellbeing of the Regional Cooperative Programmes;
- d) appealed to States having necessary resources and expertise to join the ICAO Developing Countries Training Programmes in order to provide assistance to States for training of national staff; and
- e) requested the Developing States to make use of the opportunities provided under the ICAO Developing Countries Training Programmes for training of their national staff as and when they are made available.

**Agenda Item 9**

**Action Item 46/12**

Recognising the support from States to have "International Aviation and the Environment" as a separate Agenda Item in future Conferences of the DGCA's, the Conference urged States to submit papers under this Agenda Item for the 47th DGCA Conference.