



International Civil Aviation Organization

The Third Meeting of the Asia/Pacific ICAO Flight Plan and ATS Messages Implementation Task Force (FPL&AM/TF/3)

Bangkok, Thailand, 23 – 24 August 2010

Agenda Item 3: Review available documentation and guidance materials

Items of Interest from other Regional Task Forces Implementing Amendment 1 to PANS-ATM, DOC4444, 15TH Edition

(Presented by the United States of America)

SUMMARY

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) supports a harmonized, global approach for International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) regions during implementation of Amendment 1 to the *Procedures for Air Navigation Services — Air Traffic Management, Fifteenth Edition* (PANS-ATM, DOC 4444). This information paper provides a summary of task force activities.

1. Introduction

1.1 In June 2008, ICAO issued Amendment 1 to PANS-ATM, DOC 4444, to be implemented by 15 November 2012. The changes in Amendment 1 affect the ICAO Filed Flight Plan (FPL), related Air Traffic Service (ATS) messages and procedures.

1.2 In accordance with guidance issued by ICAO in 2009, a number of ICAO regions have established task forces (TF) to develop transition plans. Optimally, TF plans and initiatives should be coordinated widely among states and ANSPs so that dates and procedures will be harmonized. These efforts will substantially ease the transition for global users of aviation. A summary of conclusions and concerns from regional TF meetings is presented herein.

2. Terminology

2.1 The following terms are used as defined below in this paper:

2.1.1 Applicability Date – November 15, 2012; effective date of Amendment 1 to DOC 4444, 15th Edition.

2.1.2 PRESENT – ICAO flight planning and ATS message formats currently in use as specified in DOC 4444, 15th Edition.

2.1.3 NEW – ICAO flight planning and ATS message formats specified in Amendment 1 to DOC 4444, 15th Edition.

3. FAA Participation in Other Task Forces

3.1 EUROCONTROL 2012 FPL Task Force (2012 FPL TF) met September 2009 and February 2010 in Brussels, Belgium, 2012. No additional meetings are currently scheduled.

3.1.1 Transition Strategy: Most attendees expect to be ready by the Applicability Date; however, there were a few members who do not intend to make any changes for Amendment 1 as they plan to update flight data processing systems in the 2013/2014 timeframe. The 2012 FPL TF implementation plan will allow users to file NEW in spring 2012; however, EUROCONTROL will translate NEW to PRESENT, and only send PRESENT to member States and ANSPs until 12 November 2012.

3.2 Middle East ICAO New Flight Plan Format Study Group (INFPL SG) met in February 2010 and July 2010 in Cairo, Egypt. The FAA submitted an Information Paper on regional TF activities. INFPL SG/1 adopted a transition approach similar to the strategy adopted in FPL&AMTF/2.

3.3 Caribbean South American (CAR/SAM) Communications, Navigation and Surveillance/Air Traffic Management Subgroup (CNS/ATM/SG) Project C3, *Implement the new ICAO flight plan format.* CNS/ATM/SG/1 was held in March 2010 in Lima, Peru. The Meeting adopted the following items:

3.3.1 Adopt a CAR/SAM strategy for implementation of Amendment 1. The strategy harmonizes with dates and phases adopted by FPL&AMTF/2.

3.3.2 Establish a Project Team to oversee implementation of Amendment 1 in the CAR/SAM Regions. Group Project C3, *Implement the new ICAO flight plan format*, was established as part of the Automation and Situational Awareness Programme.

3.3.3 Conduct a seminar on the Implementation of Amendment 1 for the CAR/SAM Regions. A NAM/CAR ICAO 2012 Seminar and TF was held 12-13 July 2010 in Mexico City, Mexico. The FAA addressed the seminar and provided multiple presentations including an FAA case study for implementation of Amendment 1.

3.4 FAA and NAV CANADA (Canada) Bi-lateral TF (N12) met in September 2009 in Ottawa, Canada; monthly TF telcons began in January 2010. The TF plans a harmonized implementation based on the phased transition approach and dates set out by FPL&AM/TF2.

3.4.1 Item 10 Field 10a Definition of “Y”: NavCanada prescribes “Y” in PRESENT to indicate Canadian Minimum Navigation Performance Specification (CMNPS). NavCanada is aware that “Y” has a new definition in Amendment 1 (VHF with 8.33 kHz) and their intent is to discontinue use of “Y” as the indicator of CMNPS qualification.

3.5 FAA and SENEAM (Mexico) Bi-lateral Task Force (S12) met in October 2009 in Mexico City, Mexico; bi-monthly TF telcons began in March 2010. The FAA presented the phased transition approach to SENEAM for consideration, and the TF hopes to develop a harmonized strategy.

4. Other FAA activities

4.1 An FAA team meets monthly to plan all aspects of the FAA transition to NEW. Implementation directly affects four (4) FAA-owned systems and several FAA-contracted systems that receive FPLs.

4.2 The FAA has finalized an updated Conversion Table for NEW to PRESENT based on iterative work from participation in various TFs and internal meetings. The updated conversion table will be presented in a separate working paper.

4.3 The guidance to determine whether an FPL is PRESENT or NEW has been revised and will be presented in a separate working paper.

4.4 The FAA provides guidance to filers online at the following URL: www.faa.gov/ato?k=fpl. The shortcut to the URL to the ICAO 2012 information can be found at: www.faa.gov/go/fpl2012. The website includes information on the FAA implementation of Amendment 1 and on monthly telcons which discuss flight plan filing issues with the user community (“General Information” then “Flight Plan Filer (FPF) Telcons”). The website has been updated to include multiple presentations providing an overview of ICAO guidance and the changes introduced by Amendment 1 as well as a guidance and checklist for implementation.. These materials are also available upon request to frederick.ctr.carmona@faa.gov.

4.5 The FAA plans to address to the Airline Dispatcher’s Federation in Washington, D.C. on 12 October 2010.

5. Conclusion

5.1 The United States, working with other States and ANSPs in various ICAO regional task forces, seeks to harmonize a phased transition approach.
