



International Civil Aviation Organization  
Eastern and Southern African Office

**Thirteenth Meeting of the Air Traffic Management/Aeronautical Information  
Management/Search and Rescue Sub-Group (ATM/AIM/SAR SG/13)  
(Nairobi, Kenya, 16 - 19 September 2013)**

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**Agenda Item 5: RVSM Operations and Monitoring**

**SCRUTINY TASKS INCORPORATED INTO TAG/AIAG**

*(Presented by ARMA)*

**SUMMARY**

This information paper discusses the Scrutiny Group tasks already incorporated into the TAG and AIAG. The three groups have the same core members reporting to the same structures. The review of RVSM operational errors through the TAG bi-weekly teleconferences continues to add value to the process and proves to be very effective and contributes to the expectations of the Scrutiny Group.

Action by the meeting is at **paragraph 4**.

This information paper is related to Strategic Objectives: **A**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Regional Monitoring Agencies, RMA's, are expected to have a Scrutiny Groups as per the ICAO Document 9937 Appendix K, which has recently been published, and released to RMA's. The Scrutiny Group was presented during ATM SG meetings, reviewed by APRIG as well as presented to the AFI RAN 8 meeting along with the establishment of TAG.

1.2 A number of improvements have taken place with the centralized UCR database and the bi-weekly TAG telephone conferences which are unique to Africa and are functioning well which have now been tested to be highly effective and have changed the need for a full Scrutiny Group.

1.3 In order to eliminate duplication, save on costs and effort it is good management to rationalise on the Scrutiny Group and yet not lose any outputs. This is effectively achieved via the TAG and AIAG meeting processes.

## **2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 The TAG normally meets bi-weekly via telephone conference when UCR's are reviewed according to the TOR. The ARMA thus has the opportunity via the TAG to address any RVSM issues that the Scrutiny Group would anyway attend to with the same members. This is in actual fact done on a more regular basis achieving a faster and effective result with the same members as the Scrutiny Group. The TAG also produces a report to APIRG structures. This should all remain unchanged.

2.2 The AIAG is a well-established comprehensive process, incorporating RVSM UCR's, which once completed results in a report applicable to RVSM as well. The same members are once again involved. A paper is presented to APIRG structures informing the aviation community as to the findings and tendencies. The AIAG report in its totality is used for the compiling of the Collision Risk Assessment, CRA, which is placed in the public domain and presented to the APIRG structures. This should remain unchanged.

2.3 Most of the Scrutiny Group tasks are therefore well covered by the TAG and AIAG and are managed by the same members that belong to the Scrutiny Group giving all the transparency and participation that is required. It therefore remains, after the TAG and AIAG process, for the Scrutiny Group to prepare the applicable finalised UCR's for inclusion into the CRA. This would only require determining applicability of UCR to CRA and the accompanying mathematical calculations for each. The results of the CRA are required to be presented to the APIRG structures which are a totally different product to the TAG and AIAG.

2.4 The Scrutiny Group by way of evolution of the RVSM system in Africa has been rationalised to prepare the UCR's for the CRA by utilising two or three specialist persons in the immediate vicinity of ARMA as required. The process is now effectively undertaken by two members from ARMA and one from IFALPA when the need arises to assist with aircraft performance during the calculations.

## **3. CONCLUSION**

3.1 The rationalisation of the AFIRVSM Scrutiny Group has not negatively affected the required outcomes. The current process has improved the quality, transparency and participation in the analysis of RVSM safety events. Further to this, financial expenditure has been minimised. It is envisaged that this process will be maintained for the foreseeable future.

## **3. ACTION BY THE MEETING:**

3.1 The meeting is invited to take note of the information provided, notably the Conclusion under paragraph 3 to this information paper.

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