



SAM/IG/3
WP/14
30/03/09

**International Civil Aviation Organization
South American Regional Office**

**THIRD WORKSHOP/MEETING OF THE SAM IMPLEMENTATION GROUP (SAM/IG/3)
REGIONAL PROJECT RLA/06/901**

Lima, Peru, 20-24 April 2009

Agenda Item 5: Implementation of Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM) in the SAM Region

Review of the Status of Implementation of the ATFM Roadmap

(Presented by Roberto Arca-Uruguay)

Summary

This working paper contains a review of the status of implementation of the ATFM Roadmap and discusses the need to harmonise a uniform methodology to estimate airport and ATC sector capacity for adoption by the SAM Region, as well as the convenience of harmonising it with other adjacent Regions. Likewise, and as a follow-up to the action plan, the States of the Region are urged to begin tasks aimed at defining the capacity of their main airports and associated ATC sectors.

References:

- Doc. 4444, Chapter 3
- SAMIG/1, SAMIG/2 meetings
- ATFM Roadmap
- ATFM Manual
- Course on the Calculation of Airport and ATC Sector Capacity, in Brazil, on 23-27 March 2009.

1 Background

1.1 Pursuant to Doc. 4444, Chapter 3, Capacity Management, States should periodically review ATS capacity with respect to traffic demand, and assess and declare their ATC capacity with respect to control areas, control sectors within the control area, and aerodromes. This ATC capacity should be expressed as a maximum number of aircraft that can be accepted within a given period of time within the airspace or aerodrome involved.

1.2 On the other hand, in order to fulfil ATFM implementation tasks, the SAMIG/1 meeting agreed to engage an ATFM expert through Project RLA 06/901, who developed an ATFM questionnaire to be completed by States and international organisations, the ATFM Roadmap, and an initial draft ATFM Procedural Handbook directly related to the Roadmap. All this work was submitted to, and approved by the SAMIG/2 meeting.

1.3 To supplement these actions, and under the sponsorship of Regional Project 06/901, SAM States were invited to participate in a Course on the Calculation of Airport and ATC Sector Capacity offered free-of-cost by the Brazilian Administration in Rio, on 23-27 March 2009, at the facilities of the Air Navigation Management Centre (CGNA) the purpose of which was to present the methodology for estimating runway and ATC sector capacity applied in Brazil.

1.4 The level of the material and instructors at the course offered by the Brazilian Administration at the CGNA facilities was excellent, just like the hands-on exercises carried out at the ATC facilities of the Galeon Aripport in Rio. Most South American States participated in the course.

1.5 Finally, it should be noted that, under Agenda Item 4 of the SAMIG/2 report, the meeting was advised that Brazil and the United States had agreed to conduct an analysis and develop a single methodology based on those already available, to be submitted to this SAM/IG/3 meeting.

2 Discussion

2.1 The initial steps for the development of the ATFM Roadmap and action plan include a task to be performed by the States to determine airport and en-route sector capacity by March 2010:

2.2 Although some States of the Region and international organisations have already completed these tasks and have made significant progress towards implementation, most SAM States have taken note of the methodology for calculating capacity through the course given by the Brazilian Administration in late March 2009.

2.3 Likewise, as established and defined in the ATFM Manual presented at the SAMIG/2 meeting, for purposes of demand and capacity balancing, it is first necessary to determine the airport acceptance rate (AAR), the airport departure rate (ADR), total airport capacity (a combination of AAR and ADR), and the capacity of the various ATC sectors.

2.4 Once these capacities have been established, measures can be taken to monitor and assess air traffic demand, and implement measures to balance demand and declared capacity. Although there is a variety of methods to estimate these values, the SAM Region has agreed to develop a common methodology to be used by States.

2.5 Considering that the delegates of the States participating in Project RLA 06/901 have already been exposed to at least one methodology for calculating airport and ATC sector capacity, and in order to demonstrate the benefits achieved in the recent course, they should start estimating the capacity of their main airports and associated ATC sectors and present their initial results at the SAMIG/4 meeting to be held in November 2009.

3. **Suggested action**

3.1 The Meeting is invited to review this working paper and to:

- a) encourage SAM States to implement the methodology for calculating airport and ATC sector capacity, and to submit the initial results of this task to the SAM/IG/4 meeting; and
- b) proceed with the plans of Project RLA/06/901 in terms of drafting a guide for applying a common methodology for calculating airport and ATC sector capacity in the SAM Region, seeking the harmonisation of said methodology with those used in other regions.

* * * * *