



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

COM CO-ORDINATION MEETING
(People's Republic of China, Lao PDR, Nepal,
Myanmar and Thailand)
18 – 19 February 2014, Chengdu, China



Agenda Item 3: Develop an action plan for restoration of Yangon/Beijing AFS data circuit

REVIEW STATUS OF BEIJING/YANGON AFS DATA CIRCUIT

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper recalls the current status of Yangon/Beijing AFS data circuit and emphasized the need for restoration of its normal operation.

1. Introduction

1.1 The AFTN circuit between Beijing and Yangon had been out of service since 14 July 2008 due to the CU board of the VSAT system being out of order. The AFTN traffic between China and Myanmar is exchanged via alternate routing through Bangkok. There was no immediate plan in place to get the failed CU board repaired to restore the circuit.

1.2 The circuit specified in the regional Air Navigation Plan also plays a critical role as the alternate routing for Bangkok-Yangon circuit. The prolonged outage status has to be resolved as soon as possible without further delay.

2. Discussion

2.1 With rapid development of air traffic to/from Yangon and air traffic along ATS Rout A599, Myanmar was urged by ICAO regional office to take urgent action and China was requested to take collaborated action to re-establish the circuit in order to ensure flight safety and operational efficiency. Following was a recommendation to DCA Myanmar from ICAO Regional Office.

Recommendation – AFTN/AMHS connection between Yangon and Beijing

That,

- a) the Administration takes urgent action to have the AFTN/AMHS connection between Beijing and Yangon resumed for normal operation. The circuit is specified in the Regional Air Navigation Plan and its prolonged outage is not acceptable as there is no alternate routing for Yangon/Bangkok AFTN circuit; and

- b) ICAO Regional Office is requested to facilitate coordination with China for upgrading of VSAT system and/or establishment of the connection via leased landline.

Reliability Requirements for Critical Circuits supported by VSAT Links

2.2 VSAT is one of the reliable means of communications employed by several States in the APAC Region to support AFS, AMS and Surveillance services. Therefore, spare parts for critical modules and elements such as redundant channel cards, RF unit should be readily available for replacement to ensure rapid restoration during breakdown. A reliable power supply system was also considered an essential factor. It should be recognized that for those VSAT stations providing links for VHF RCAG, Radar data relay links, ATS direct speech and critical AFTN circuits with a same satellite network; an alternative communication link should be provided in order to assure required reliability. In light of above consideration, the following recommendation was also made in accordance with the APANPIRG Conclusion:

Conclusion 11/15 - Alternative arrangements for VSAT

That, States consider the provision of an alternative communication links for:

- a) critical AFS communications which are supported by a single VSAT system between States; and*
- b) remote control air-ground (RCAG) VHF stations supported by a single VSAT link.*

2.3 Based on the Action Item agreed in March 2013, both China and Myanmar are looking for the possibility to establish a landline connection to support both the data and ATS voice circuit. The current status needs to be updated.

3. Action by the meeting

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information contained this paper and update/amend the action plan for the Yangon/Beijing AFS Data Circuit.

3.2 The meeting is also requested to note that the requirement for ATN/AMHS which should also be met through establishment of new arrangement.
