



International Civil Aviation Organization

**EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE COMMUNICATIONS/NAVIGATION
AND SURVEILLANCE SUB-GROUP (CNS SG/18) OF APANPIRG**

Asia and Pacific Regional Sub-Office, Beijing, China
(21 – 25 July 2014)

Agenda Item 4: Aeronautical Fixed Service (AFS)

4.3) Review outcome of COM coordination meetings

OUTCOME OF COM. COORDINATION MEETING

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents outcome of a COM coordination meeting between China, Cambodia, Myanmar, Nepal and Thailand for review by the meeting.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 A COM Co-ordination Meeting, hosted by Air Traffic Management Bureau of CAAC (ATMB) was held in Chengdu, China from 18-19 February 2014. The meeting was attended by 22 participants from China, Cambodia, Myanmar, Nepal and Thailand. This was a follow-up meeting to the COM coordination meeting held in March 2013.

1.2 The objective of the meeting were to review status of implementation of the required AFTN/ATS direct speech circuits and to develop a coordinated action plan for implementation of the required AFS circuits and implementing ATN/AMHS connection between the concerned Administrations to satisfy the established operational requirements.

1.3 The report of the meeting is posted at following ICAO APAC webpage:
<http://www.icao.int/APAC/Meetings/Pages/2014-CCM.aspx>

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The COM Coordination meeting reviewed the AFS requirements as specified in the regional air navigation plan and relevant Conclusions and guidance material adopted by APANPIRG. Current operational status of AFS among the States were also reviewed and discussed at the meeting. The meeting further reviewed the action plan agreed at the previous meeting.

2.2 The meeting developed following action plans including implementation plan of ATN/AMHS between States:

ACTION AGREED NO. 1 - MID TERM, CHINA, MYANMAR

That, considering that the aging C-band VSAT – TES terminal at Yangon site system was very costly to be reactivated, China and Myanmar agreed to establish a new IP based VSAT circuit by July 2014. The detailed plan for implementation of the new VSAT system were discussed and agreed that DCA. Myanmar will purchase and install the required equipment according to recommended list of parts provided in **Appendix A** to this Report. The satellite going to be used would be CHINASAT No.10. The VSAT will support both AFS Data circuit requirement between Beijing and Yangon and voice channel between Kunming and Yangon.

(Remark: China will further provide the cost for bandwidth required for the two channels within two weeks from conclusion of the meeting. China will also provide free of charge service for the network management service and commissioning support).

ACTION AGREED NO. 2 – NEAR TERM, CHINA AND MYANMAR

That, China and Myanmar expedite implementation of the AFS data circuit between Beijing and Yangon with target date of June 2014 using leased 2 M-byte (E1) circuit between Yangon and Beijing to support both AFS data circuit (including AMHS connection) and ATS voice communication requirement. Both sides agreed to use HUAWEI multiplexer and associated modem equipment for the circuit. China will provide model and type of the equipment by 28 February 2014 for consideration by DCA. Myanmar would purchase the equipment locally in Myanmar. The model/type of the Huawei terminal equipment will also be attached to the report of this meeting as **Appendix 2**.

(Remark: the dedicated leased line was initiated by both China and Myanmar in November 2013. The lease line has already reached the border through China Unicom and Myanmar Telecom. The service providers of both sides were finalizing the connection. The splitter should be installed in Beijing for further connecting to Kunming through domestic civil aviation network of CAAC).

ACTION AGREED NO. 3 – IMMEDIATE NEPAL AND CHINA

That, China and Nepal implement ATN/AMHS connection in accordance with draft TMC discussed and agreed at the previous COM coordination meeting. Both sides agreed that the service provider at Chinese side for the dedicated lease E1 circuit (2-Mbytes) was preferred to be China Telecom while at Nepal side will be Nepal Telecom.

It was further agreed that the leased line will be via Hong Kong China and the voice channel between Lhasa and Kathmandu will be over the E1 circuit through a router/multiplexer at Beijing where further connecting to Lhasa ATC through the domestic civil aviation network of CAAC.

(Remark: The type/model of multiplexers/router to be used at both sides is provided in **Appendix 2**. The Administrations were urged to sign the TMC as soon as possible, in any case no later than 21 April 2014).

ACTION AGREED NO. 4 – MID TO LONG TERM NEPAL AND CHINA

That, China and Nepal consider the following option as alternate routing for meeting the AFS requirements between two States:

Replacing the existing VSAT (TES) system (300 Baud used) with an IP based VSAT system as the second priority. The technical specification and a list of the recommended parts is provided in the Appendix 1 to this report. The satellite used would be CHINASAT No. 10. The cost of operating cost for the circuit was further discussed. The channel cost of the bandwidth required will be provided to Nepal within two weeks from conclusion of the meeting. Timeline for the implementation of the new VSAT system was also discussed. Nepal will inform China about their choice of the proposed three scenarios by China.

ACTION AGREED NO. 5 – MID TERM, LAOS PDR, CHINA AND THAILAND

That,

The ATS Direct Speech Circuit over the PES VSAT circuit between Kunming and Vientiane will be changed to TES VSAT system. China will be ready for such change by 21 April 2014. The TES system will be tentatively used till 2016 subject to readiness of Laos PDR for upgrading their VSAT system into Linkway;

China will consider upgrading its TES system to new system at due time.

ACTION AGREED NO.6 – MID TERM, CAMBODIA AND THAILAND

That, Thailand facilitate Cambodia for the possibility of using VoIP based on VSAT channel used connecting with Ho Chi Minh and Vientiane to support ATS Voice Direct speech circuits requirements.

ACTION AGREED NO.7 – MID TERM, ALTERNATE ROUTING FOR AMHS

That, Cambodia prepare a proposal for consideration by ACSICG/1 meeting regarding AMHS alternate connection between Phnom Penh and Vientiane or between Phnom Penh and Ho Chi Minh.

ATN/AMHS and AIDC implementation plan including agreed the target operational date

2.3 Cambodia, China and Thailand made presentations on the current status of ATN/AMHS implementation in their countries (IP/02, IP04 and WP/08). The States at the meeting were urged to coordinate with each other developing target date for testing and implementation. China proposed to implement AIDC between Kunming and Yangon when the leased E1 line becomes available.

2.4 Further coordination was carried out between Administrations after the meeting regarding implementation of the action items agreed.

2.5 Participants of the COM Coordination meeting thanked ATMB for hosting the meeting.

Other communication meeting required

2.6 The poor AFS communication between Afghanistan and Pakistan and remedial plan agreed earlier between two States had not progressed, so the Afghanistan Civil Aviation Authority has agreed recently for a need for another coordination meeting with Pakistan and India, scheduled for 9-10 December 2014 in India.

2.7 At the Nineteenth Meeting of the Regional Airspace Safety Monitoring Advisory Group (RASMAG/19) held in Pattaya, in May 2014, China RMA noted the continued problems they had experienced with the interface between Urumqi and Lahore (Pakistan) FIRs. It was stated that China had proposed enhancements to communications and ATS surveillance near the border, but had encountered difficulties in establishing the facilities, which might best be sited in Pakistan (but this posed questions regarding ownership and maintenance). China again requested ICAO to work with Pakistan to resolve the problem, as they were concerned about the safety risks at the PURPA crossing point. The Secretariat informed the meeting that there was an outstanding task regarding the need for a Special Coordination Meeting between Pakistan and China to address this high risk situation. (RASMAG Report refers).

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information provided in this paper and States concerned are urged to provide updates on the current status of action plan to the ICAO Regional Office.

3.2 The Administrations concerned are also encouraged to actively participate the COM coordination meeting to be held in the near future to address crucial aeronautical communication issues between Administrations.
