



ICAO

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Eighth Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean Regional Aviation Safety Group (RASG-AFI/8) Kigali, Rwanda, 7 - 11 November 2022

Agenda Item 3: 3.3. Other Safety initiatives.

AIMing for Safety

(Presented by IATA)

SUMMARY

Safety and Aeronautical Information are intrinsically intertwined and can be considered the heart of the Air Navigation System (ANS). Aeronautical information has direct safety consequences when not accessible, misinterpreted, or inaccurate and can certainly be a contributory factor to events such as loss of separation, runway incursion/excursion and even accidents.

Aeronautical Information must be included in regional safety priorities and must be provided with the required resources for the effective oversight and implementation of processes, procedures, and systems for the immediate address of aeronautical information publication deficiencies and the transition to Aeronautical Information Management.

Action by the Meeting is provided at **Paragraph 3** of this paper.

<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	Safety Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency
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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Current and future Air Navigation Systems and Services, ground- and air-based, are reliant on timely, high quality and accurate aeronautical information to deliver their mandate.
- 1.2 Much work has been done globally and regionally to transition Aeronautical Information Services (AIS) to Aeronautical Information Management (AIM). However, this transition in the AFI region has been slow and not delivered the desired outcome of ensuring high quality, timely and accurate aeronautical information.
- 1.3 Inaccessible, ambiguous, and inaccurate aeronautical information can hinder safe and efficient air traffic management as well as flight operations.
- 1.4 Aeronautical information has direct safety consequences when not accessible, misinterpreted, or inaccurate and can certainly be a contributory factor to events such as loss of separation, runway incursion/excursion and even accidents.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1. Airspace users rely on State published aeronautical information regarding Air Navigation infrastructure, facilities and services for strategic, pre-tactical and tactical planning, safety and security evaluation for flight operations. This becomes particularly critical during “non-normal” or contingency operational environments.

2.2 Annex 15 to the Chicago Convention, Chapter 2, requires States, and by extension the organs of the State such as Air Navigation, Aerodrome, Search and Rescue and Metrological Service Providers and the associated authorities, to “provide an Aeronautical Information Service (AIS)”, and to “ensure that the aeronautical data and aeronautical information provided are of required quality”

2.3. Within the AFI region numerous examples exist of deficiencies in the publication, availability and updating of aeronautical information pertaining to subjects such as aerodrome infrastructure, facilities and services as well as non-compliance to the AIRAC requirements which have direct safety impact on flight operations.

2.4. A common interpretation and effective implementation of ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPS) and global best practices such as the European Operational Procedures for Dynamic Data (OPADD) is essential to the production of fit for purpose, high quality, accurate aeronautical information that supports safe and efficient flight operations and air traffic management.

2.5. The effective engagement and collaboration of the various role players in the aeronautical information value chain including data originators, regulators, users, and providers is crucial to the improvement of current and future aeronautical information in the region.

2.6. Aeronautical Information must be included in the safety activities in Africa. The effective oversight and monitoring of the implementation of processes, procedures and systems for the immediate address of aeronautical information publication deficiencies must be prioritized.

3 ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to,

- a) Take note of the content of this working paper;
- b) Consider the Aeronautical Information as a regional safety priority;
- c) Urge States to actively participate in established AIM projects under the APIRG IIM/SG and the AFI AIM Action Group
- d) Encourage States to allocate resources to the implementation of:
 - Aeronautical information training and development
 - Certification of Quality Management System (QMS) and Safety Management System (SMS) in AIS/M
 - the transition to Aeronautical Information Management