



ICAO

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North American, Central American and Caribbean Office

WORKING PAPER

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Mexico City, Mexico, 27 to 31 May, 2019

Agenda Item 3: Global and Regional Air Navigation Developments

UPDATE AND PUBLICATION OF THE AIRPORT OBSTACLE CHART

(Presented by Secretariat on behalf of the PA-RAST)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP) in the region have been found to have outdated or incomplete Airport obstacle chart publication. The updating of outdated obstacle chart information has been noted by the ICAO Thirty Second Pan-America Regional Aviation Safety Team (PA-RAST/32) Meeting as a priority in addressing regional safety taking into account the accuracy of the information.	
Action:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Request ICAO NACC Regional Office to urge NACC States to update obstacle chart and terrain information, in accordance with existing ICAO provisions.b) Establish a timeline for States to review and update their obstacle charts in the AIPs.c) Establish a process to monitor and address future AIP's updates in the NACC Region.
<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety• Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency
<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ICAO Annex 4;• ICAO Annex 6• ICAO Annex 19

1. Introduction

1.1 The International Air Transport Association (IATA) Regional Coordination Group (RCG) performed a review of existing Airport Aeronautical Information Publications (AIP) in the region, which is the primary source for obstacle chart information. During the review, the RCG realized that there are several Airports, where the AIP information is outdated and/or insufficient in relation to type A charts, as prescribed by ICAO Annex 4.

1.2 In determining the potential hazard this brings to the system, the PA-RAST was provided with the review of the international civil aviation airports, which were found to be deficient in their AIP publication, considering relevant elements of obstacle charts information.

1.3 The PA-RAST/32 Meeting determined that the outdated obstacle chart information warranted further action/coordination in the region, as this presented a safety hazard for operators.

1.4 ICAO Annex 6 addresses the requirement for States to provide obstacle data that enables operators to develop procedures to clear all obstacles along the flight path by an adequate vertical or horizontal distance.

1.5 This Working Paper provides detailed information as it relates to outdated Aerodrome Obstacle Charts (ICAO Type A) Airports in the region, which are not published in the State AIPs.

2. Discussion

2.1 Preliminary review of some Airports in the North America, Central America and Caribbean (NAM/CAR) Regions showed that eighteen Airports in the following countries and territories: Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guadeloupe, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Puerto Rico and Trinidad & Tobago had obstacle information published that was outdated or lacked accuracy for the end users.

2.2 The following are the results from the review, which are presented in greater detail in **Appendix** of this working paper:

- a) seven did not present the required accuracy level on their AIPs
- b) three of the airports were noted as having insufficient information
- c) two Airports had no obstacle elevation information in the AIP
- d) eight of the airports either had no update or last update older than five years
- e) twelve airports, at the time of review, needed further review and validation

2.3 It is important to emphasize that ICAO Annex 4 requires the publication of obstacles information and, where no obstacles exist, it is required a chart indicating it. Lack of accurate and adequate information on Airport obstacle charts inhibits aircraft performance calculations.

2.4 ICAO Annex 19, as part of the State Safety Program (SSP) requires States to develop a process to identify actual and potential safety hazards and to assess their associated risks. It further expands that the State shall develop and maintain a process that ensures analysis, assessment and control of the safety risks associated with identified hazards. As part of this hazard identification, States should consider the lack of information/update of obstacle data as a priority, since it represents a risk to the system.

2.5 Considering all the information contained in this Working Paper, it is paramount that States update the Airport obstacle chart and terrain information in their AIPs. This effort will contribute to mitigate the safety hazards associated with the lack of situational awareness due to inaccurate aerodrome obstacle information.

3. Suggested action

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Take note of the information provided in this Working Paper.
- b) Request the ICAO NACC Regional Office to urge NACC States to update obstacle chart and terrain information, in accordance with existing ICAO provisions.
- c) Establish a timeline for States to review and update their obstacle charts information in the AIPs.
- d) Establish a process to monitor and address future AIPs updates in the NACC States.

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APPENDIX A

CAR and SAM States/Airports with Outdated Obstacle Information (ICAO Type A)

ICAO Region	ICAO Code	State Territory	AIP AD2.10	RWY	ICAO Type A Chart DATE	Remarks
SAM	MPTO	Panama				
CAR	MROC	Costa Rica	YES (28.11.2014)	07/25	11/29/2010	No Obst. Elev. Shown/no accuracy level shown
CAR	MMMMX	Mexico Mexico City				Latest information not available at time of review
CAR	MMUN	Mexico Cancun				Latest information not available at time of review
CAR	TJSJ	United States Puerto Rico				Latest information not available at time of review
CAR	MMGL	Mexico Guadalajara				Latest information not available at time of review
CAR	TNCA	Aruba	YES (02.02.2017)	1/29	3/31/2006	o.k./no accuracy level shown
CAR	MGGT	Guatemala	YES (04.01.2018)	02/20	1/4/2018	(02) No Obst. Elev. Shown/ accuracy level is questionable
CAR	MSLP	El Salvador	NO (12.12.2013)	07/25	NO	Insufficient
CAR	MNMG	Nicaragua				Latest information not available at time of review
CAR	MYNN	Bahamas	YES (22.08.2013)	14/32	8/22/2013	o.k./no accuracy level shown
CAR	TTPP	Trinidad and Tobago	NO	10/28	5/17/2001	o.k./no accuracy level shown
CAR	TAPA	Antigua and Barbuda	YES (10.03.2011)	07/25	5/17/2001	o.k./no accuracy level shown
CAR	TBPB	Barbados				Latest information not available at time of review
CAR	TFFR	France Pointe-à-Pitre	YES (29.03.2018)	12/30	9/17/2015	o.k./no accuracy level shown
CAR	MMMMY	Mexico, Monterrey				Latest information not available at time of review
CAR	MRLB	Costa Rica Liberia	YES (22.08.2014)	07/25	NO	Insufficient
CAR	MDLR	Dominican Republic La Romana	YES (17.01.2008)	11/29	NO	Insufficient

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