



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

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SIXTH MEETING OF THE AERODROMES
OPERATIONAL PLANNING SUB-GROUP (AOP/SG/6)
(Nairobi, Kenya, 11 – 13 May 2005)

Agenda 14 Item 4: Follow-up on specific Annex 14, Volume I provisions

4.1.1: Certification of aerodromes

(Presented by Algeria)

SUMMARY

The attached information paper describes the aerodrome certification process in Algeria.

1. Preamble

1.1 Pursuant to Article 28 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation, each Contracting State undertakes to provide, in its territory, airports and other air navigation facilities and services in accordance with the Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) contained in the ICAO Annex 14, Volume I (Aerodrome Design and Operations)

1.2 Responsibility for ensuring safety, regularity and efficiency at all aerodromes open to public use under their respective jurisdiction, rests with individual States.

1.3 Whenever, therefore, the operation and/or management of an aerodrome is delegated to an operator, the State shall retain its overseeing responsibility.

2. Aerodrome certification process in Algeria

2.1 Civil Aviation in Algeria is governed under Act No. 98-06 of 27 June 1998 as duly amended and complemented by Order No. 03-10 of 13 August 2003 on establishment of the civil aviation general rules and regulations.

2.2 In accordance with amendment No. 4 to the ICAO Annex 14, Volume I (Aerodrome Design and Operations), effective from 27 November 2001, the Directorate of Civil Aviation and Meteorology (DACM), under the authority of the Ministry of Transport, has promulgated Circular No. 3538/DACM of 18 November 2002 on the subject of aerodrome certification procedures to be used for international public operations, thus paving the way for implementation of the aerodrome certification process in Algeria.

2.3 In the context of the above-mentioned circular, DACM department started with the setting up of a Committee on Aerodrome Certification. The composition of this committee is constituted of qualified inspectors, specializing in airport and air navigation infrastructures and entrusted with the following duties and responsibilities:

- on-site verification of the aerodrome data;
- on-site verification of aerodrome operating procedures;
- on-site checking of aerodrome facilities and equipment;
- safety audit of the Aerodrome Manual.

2.4 Amongst institutions which have been commissioned to drive this operation, we shall mention, inter alia:

- the institution responsible for the management of airport services (EGSA) in Algiers, Oran and Constantine;
- the State institution of air navigation (ENNA) as the senior partner;
- the National Agency for Meteorology (ONM), as well as the Department of Public Works which, all together, take an allied part only in the overall organizational structure.

2.5 The certification operation is established in two different phases, namely:

- Phase one: deals with all aerodromes which are open to public use for international aircraft operations;
- Phase two: deals with aerodromes open to public use for domestic operations.

3. Aerodrome certification procedures

Development of Certification Procedures

3.1 Promulgation, by DACM, of a Sample Aerodrome Manual prepared in compliance with the relevant ICAO guidance material as contained in the Manual on Certification of Aerodromes (Doc 9774).

Duration of an Aerodrome Certificate

3.2 An aerodrome certificate shall be valid for five (5) years or until it is suspended or cancelled, whichever is earlier.

Endorsement of Conditions on an Aerodrome Certificate

3.3 After successful completion of the processing of the application and inspection of the aerodrome, the Directorate of Civil Aviation and Meteorology (DACM), when granting the aerodrome certificate, will endorse the conditions for the type of use of the aerodrome and other relevant details.

Notification to the Aeronautical Information Service (AIS)

3.4 The Aeronautical Information Service shall be advised promptly of the status of the aerodrome (i.e. whether certified or non-certified) or the closure of the aerodrome, as the case

may be, in order to take appropriate action in accordance with Annex 14, Volume I to the Convention on International Civil Aviation.

4. Information and awareness requirements

- Participation of aerodrome operators in national and international seminars and workshops aimed at creating awareness on the importance of the aerodrome certification process and its impact on air safety; enhancement of experience exchange and cooperation between all airport stakeholders;
- Convening, under the chairmanship of DACM, of working sessions for all airport stakeholders with a view to bringing them more aware of the subject matter and to responding to their queries;
- Publication, in the magazine titled “AEROPORT INFOs” which is peculiar to EGSA/Algiers (2003, 2004, 2005), of topics relating to “AERODROME CERTIFICATION AND SAFETY/SECURITY”.

5. Aerodrome inspections

5.1 Inspections are carried out primarily at civil aerodromes open to public use for international operations and will deal with the following tasks:

- o Pre-inspection briefing;
- o Administrative inspection;
- o Movement area inspection;
- o Rescue and fire-fighting;
- o Fuel facilities;
- o Post-inspection briefing.

Inspection Programming

5.2 Aerodrome inspections were carried out from 21 October 2003 to 27 January 2004, covering 11 airports, namely: Algiers, Annaba, Batna, Bejaia, Biskra, Constantine, Ghardaia, In-Amenas, Oran, Tamanrasset, Tlemcen. However, due to the then on-going construction works of a new terminal building and the strengthening of basic infrastructures at the aerodrome of Hassi-Messaoud, the date of inspection of this airport was postponed to 2 June 2004. Inspection of Adrar and Djanet aerodromes is now scheduled for 2 May and 14 May 2005 respectively.

Inspection Reporting

5.3 Following each inspection, a detailed evaluation report on the assessed aerodrome is compiled by the Certification Committee and handed over by DACM to all interested parties for appropriate action to be taken on the findings as provided for in Circular 3538 and in accordance with the relevant ICAO SARPs.

5.4 The operators (EGSA/s, ENNA) have, in association with DACM, undertaken to complete those tasks which are likely to raise the infrastructures of certain identified airports to the desired level.

5.5 The Aerodrome Certification Committee can now report that:

- certification was completed in respect of 3 aerodromes: Algiers, Annaba and Batna;
- certification process is in progress at the following aerodromes: Bejaia, Biskra, Constantine, Ghardaia, Hassi Messaoud, In-Amenas, Oran, Tamanrasset and Tlemcen.

6. Conclusion

6.1 The certification process of civil aerodromes, which was launched on 18 October 2002, is proving too heavy, considering that it represents an operation which requires that all airport stakeholders adopt stringent measures at all times and in all places.

6.2 To ensure full compliance with national and international rules and regulations governing the aerodrome certification process, everyone collectively must be persuaded that coordination remains the basic criterion for a successful process to be achieved.

6.3 It should be noted that Algeria, like many other countries in the world, was late in updating its basic infrastructures which, in terms of the target dates established by DACM, were identified as containing critical deficiencies.

6.4 The elimination of those deficiencies as advocated in Circular 3538 and in accordance with the specifications of Annex 14, Volume I and other relevant ICAO documents, involves large investments which, in some instances, cannot be raised by an aerodrome operator alone.

6.5 Similarly, the elimination of deficiencies in respect of all aerodromes countrywide cannot be carried out in one single operation, considering the large sums of money involved.

6.6 In view of the above considerations, the elimination of the identified serious deficiencies could not be completed on time in respect of a number of airports and aerodromes, owing to the difficulties encountered during field-works.

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