INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP
EIGHTEENTH MEETING (APIRG/18)
Kampala, Uganda (27 – 30 March 2012)

Agenda Item 3.5: AIM Issues

AIM GLOBAL DEVELOPMENTS

(Information Paper Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY
This paper presents the outcomes of the Fourth and Fifth Meetings of the AIS-AIM Study Group held in Bordeaux, France, 23-27May 2011, and Montréal, Canada 7-11 November 2011 respectively. Action by APIRG/18 is contained in Paragraph 3.
REFRENCE(S):   Fourth Meeting of the AIS-AIM Study Group held in Bordeaux, France, 23-27 May 2011,   Fifth Meeting of the AIS-AIM Study Group held in Montréal, Canada 7-11 November 2011
Related ICAO Strategic Objective(s): A and C

1.   INTRODUCTION

1.1   The First Meeting of the AFI Region AIM Implementation Task Force was held in Dakar, Senegal from 20-22 July 2011 and was attended by a total of 20 participants, from 9 ICAO Contracting States and 1 International Aviation Agency. This was followed by the ATM/AIM/SAR SG-12 Meeting held in Dakar, Senegal from 25-29 July 2011 and was attended by a total of 79 participants and experts from 28 States and 6 International Organization.

2.   DISCUSSION

2.1   The AFI AIM TF/1 Meeting re-iterated the need for the development of national plans for the transmission from AIS to AIM and reviewed the progress made towards the implementation of the different *21 steps of the ICAO Roadmap for transition to AIM* in the AFI Region.

2.2   The meeting was apprised of the activities and main outcome of the Aeronautical Information Services-Aeronautical Information Management Study Group (AIS-AIMSG).

2.3   The meeting recalled the definition of Aeronautical Information Management as agreed by the AIS-AIMSG:

> *Aeronautical Information Management (AIM). The dynamic, integrated management of aeronautical information services — safely, economically and efficiently — through the provision and exchange of quality-assured digital aeronautical data in collaboration with all parties.*

Development of Annex 15 Amendment 37 and 38

2.4   The meeting noted that the AIS/AIM SG/4 meeting (Bordeaux, France, 23 - 27 May 2011) was presented with the work of the ad-hoc group on AIM development related to Amendment 37 to Annex 15. It was noted that the AIS/AIM SG/4 meeting expressed its appreciation of the scope of

work accomplished and progress of the work; and was of view that Amendment 37 work would take precedence over further development of Amendment 38.

2.5   The meeting noted that the aggregated draft Amendment 37 proposal in its current state is attached as Appendix D to the Summary of Discussion of the AIS-AIM SG/4 meeting which is available at: http://www2.icao.int/en/ais-aimsg/Lists/Meetings/AllItems.aspx.

AIM Roadmap, AIM Operational Concept and PANS-AIM

2.6   The meeting noted that the AIS/AIM SG/4 meeting recognized the gap that exists between the SARPs contained in Annex 15 and the guidance provided in the *Manual of Aeronautical Information Services,* Doc 8126. In this respect, it was highlighted that Annex 15 contains a significant amount of procedure and format specifications while the procedures and protocols contained in Doc 8126 are often needed for uniform application.

2.7   It was further noted that the Study Group noted that the possibility of developing a *Procedures for Air Navigation Services* document (PANS-AIM) to span this gap has been outlined and discussed in a number of forums and there is emerging consensus as to the value and utility of such a document. The meeting agreed that the development of PANS-AIM would provide a core element of provisions to be published concurrently with Annex 15, Amendment 38.

2.8   The AIS-AIM SG expressed support also for the development of an AIM Operational Concept that would provide a visionary statement for the expected development of AIM and form the basis of an updated Roadmap. The meeting was informed that the development of updated Roadmaps for Communications, Surveillance, Navigation, and AIM is planned for incorporation into the Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP) for global review at the 12th Air Navigation Conference.

2.9   The meeting noted that the AIS/AIM SG/4 meeting was presented with a proposal to amend Annex 15 Chapter 10 (e-TOD), as being worked out by the EUROCAE WG44/RTCA SC217 group. The proposal aims to align Annex 14 & 15, simplify the collection of data, remove inconsistencies but also slightly increase the data collection requirements.

Airport Mapping Database (AMDB)

2.10   The meeting noted that the AIS/AIM SG/4 meeting concluded that the development and implementation of AMDB would have significant safety benefit and would be a prerequisite to deliver certain operational capabilities being envisioned as a result of the Global ATM Operational Concept. Nevertheless, the Study Group was apprised of a number of reservations on the subject expressed especially by the Aerodrome Experts. Nonetheless, the Study Group agreed to continue to support the initiative to include AMDB provisions in ICAO material.

Vertical Reference System

2.11   It was noted that the AIS/AIM SG/4 meeting was apprised of the EUROCONTROL guidance material related to heighting issues and expressed its appreciation for it. It noted that the specification identifies a number of methods by which the heighting requirements of ICAO Annex 15 can be met and that no single method is appropriate to all States and that regional reference systems will always exist. It requested the ICAO secretariat to consider updating Doc 9674 based on the provided guidance material.

Use of automation and digital NOTAM

2.12   With the overall objective of improved timeliness, quality, efficiency and cost-effectiveness, the meeting noted that it was agreed to propose standards for the automation and digital data exchange based upon performance requirements throughout the data chain. It was also agreed to include a

standard ensuring consistent data delivery through printed and electronic media. A recommendation was agreed to enable the availability of the whole AIP in electronic format. Furthermore, it was agreed to postpone any reference to digital NOTAM until Amendment 38 to Annex 15.

NOTAM

2.13   The meeting noted the ongoing investigations/developments related to the NOTAM Selection Criteria Tables in Doc 8126, SNOWTAM Template and Volcanic Ash NOTAM Template.

Integrated Briefing

2.14   The meeting noted that integrated briefing would be an important component of further service delivery and agreed that it should be further considered in the development of the AIM operational concept and in particular its relationship to SWIM. In this respect, it was highlighted that the Study Group noted that there was still a gap in determining the user requirement from the perspective of what the AIS/AIM service role should be as compared to what is expected to be provided by 3rd part service providers. Accordingly, the AIS/AIM SG/4 meeting agreed that the ad-hoc group on AIM development consider the future utility and need of the integrated aeronautical information package (IAIP) and in particular, the PIB, in developing the AIM Operational Concept and AIM Roadmap.

System Wide Information Management (SWIM)

2.15   The AIS/AIM SG/4 meeting was apprised of the SESAR SWIM developments including the Information Management, SWIM Infrastructure, ATM information Reference Model, the Information Service Reference Model, and the registry. It was highlighted that it would be good to stay aware of the SWIM developments and the possible impact on AIM especially in consideration of developing revised provisions earmarks for Amendment 38.

2.16   The meeting noted that the AIS-AIM SG/4 meeting underlined that SWIM is an area that should assume some priority and that for meaningful consensus on a SWIM definition, SWIM regional activities and desired outcomes to be reached at the 12th Air Navigation Conference, a coordinated SWIM concept would be needed as a matter of priority.

MET Integration

2.17   The meeting was informed of the ongoing initiatives to change Annex 3 along the lines of Annex 15 Amendment 37 and 38 changes and the proposal to develop a PANS-MET document.

AIM Quality Manual

2.18   The meeting was informed that the AIM Quality Manual had entered the ICAO editorial process and it's expected that the Manual would be available for publication in April 2012.

Data integrity

2.19   The meeting noted that it was agreed that in the development of Amendment 37 to Annex 15, the numerical integrity values would be removed from SARPs material and consequential changes to other Annexes and the WGS-84 Manual had been identified.

AIM Training Development Manual

2.20   The meeting was apprised of the progress achieved for the development of the *"AIM Training Development Manual"*. It was further noted that the ad-hoc group would finish the work by the next AIS-AIM SG meeting and the Manual would be available for publication in April 2012.

2.21   It was observed however that the matter of AIM training was of imperative interest to a number of States and Regions and that the evolving *"AIM Training Development Manual"* may not meet the detail desired by certain organizations for specific guidance. It was noted that guidance in the form of a document may not be sufficient to meet those more specific needs which may also include guidance on AIM development and implementation.

AIS/AIM SG Terms of Reference and Future Work Programme

2.22   The meeting noted that existing Terms of Reference (TOR) of the AIS-AIM SG envisioned completion of the work in 2012. In recognition of the ANConf/12, the time to develop Amendment 38 and the new work on PANS-AIM, the AIM operational Concept and the AIM Roadmap, it was considered that this date is no longer realistic. Consequently the AIS-AIM SG/4 meeting agreed to amend the TOR to include the deliverables planned up to Amendment 38, a meeting frequency of twice a year, and a planned completion date in 2016. The meeting urged States to review in detail the draft Amendment 37 to Annex 15 in its current state and provide any comment or suggestion to ICAO prior to **15 July 2011.** The meeting invited also States to follow-up the AIM developments, especially, by keeping an eye on the documentation/information posted on the AIS-AIM SG website: http://www2.icao.int/en/ais-aimsg.

3.   Action by the Meeting

3.1   The meeting is invited to:
   a)   note the information contained in this paper; and

   b)   take into consideration the global AIM developments during the discussion of the progress made towards AIM implementation in the AFI Region.

   c)   review and note the information contained in Appendices A and B to this information paper.