



**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN OFFICE**

**THIRD MEETING OF THE APIRG COMMUNICATIONS,
NAVIGATION AND SURVEILLANCE SUB-GROUP (CNS/SG/3)**

(Nairobi, 26 - 30 April 2010)

**Agenda Item 10 IMPLEMENTATION OF ICAO FIVE – LETTER NAME –
CODES IN AFI**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This information paper highlights the importance of AFI joining ICAO Five – letter Name- Codes.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 ICAO Five – Letter Name –Codes (ICARD) is a planning tool to ensure unique designators allocation for each five letter code. The system is web based. The website can be accessed at:- <http://www.eurocontrol.int/icard> The program was developed and run by EUROCONTROL on behalf of ICAO EUR/NAT office Paris.

2 DISCUSSION

2.1 In 1960 the list of Five-Letter codes contains 140,670 Codes. They were distributed as follows:-

APAC	-	27,535 Codes,
EUR/NAT	-	38,598 Codes,
MID	-	12,934 Codes
SAM	-	18,629 Codes
NACC	-	19,131 Codes
WACAF	-	18,131 Codes
ESAF	-	5,406 Codes

2.2 The codes were allocated manually which created double codes and codes sounding the same in the same air route. EUROCONTROL developed a web based program to manage and issue the codes for EUR/NAT office. **Appendix A** to this paper is the outline of the system. The system is pass word controlled. The user must be route planner appointed by state and certified by the regional office. The program allows the user to select codes available, it will then check for compatibility. It will also select possible codes to be used and will generate on-line report and update the data bank.

2.3 In July 1999 FAA joined the ICARD.

2.4 ICAO ANB decided that all ICAO regions should join ICARD. All ICAO official codes world –wide were uploaded in to the data base in September 2005.

2.5 The Mid Office became fully operational in June 2005.

2.6 AFI have started trials for three States; Kenya, Tanzania and South Africa. The trials have been very slow. However AFI is scheduled to become fully operational by the end of 2010.

3 ACTION TO BE TAKEN

- a) To note the information above.
- b) To make sure that all the Five letter codes are in WGS-84 coordinated.

A web based system- 1998

