



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION



WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICAN OFFICE

SNMC-16 –WP 9.5

(Dakar, 17-19 December 2007)

(Presented by ASECNA)

SUMMARY

The present Working Paper gives an overview of the actions undertaken by ASECNA to support ICAO position for the **WRC, 2007**.

A workshop on “**WRC, 2007 and the stakes for the aeronautical spectrum**” was organized by ASECNA (Dakar 6th-8th February 2007), followed by actions towards national telecommunication regulatory agencies. With the regional composition of the attendees, the conclusion reached by the workshop should be shared, and collaborative actions could be proposed to reinforce aeronautical frequency spectrum place in AFI region.

(See called actions to be taken by SNMC in paragraph 3)

Agenda Item 6: Guidelines on performance for VSAT networks

Overview of the conclusion of the Workshop on the WRC-07 and the stakes of Aeronautical Frequencies Spectrum

1. Introduction

The World Radio Communications Conference 2007, hosted in Geneva from 22nd October to 16th November 2007 was a very important issue for the Air Navigation Service Provider, regarding the aeronautical spectrum, more and more coveted but necessary to provide Air Navigation Service.

In the framework to prepare this important meeting, ASECNA has organized in coordination with French Direction General for Civil Aviation (DGAC), EUROCONTROL, French National Agency for Frequencies Management (ANFR), a seminar on “WRC, 2007 and the stakes for the aeronautical spectrum” which was hosted from 06th to 08th February, 2007 in Dakar (NGOR DIARAMA Hotel).

ASECNA neighbour ANSP were invited at this meeting.

This workshop was attended by ICAO WACAF Office in Dakar, ITU Regional Office in Dakar, Nigeria Airspace Management Agency, (NAMA),Gambia Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), Morocco Office National des Aeroports (ONDA), Senegal National Agency for Telecommunications Regulation (ARTP), one representative from each ASECNA membership countries and ASECNA Headquarters experts.

More than one hundred (100) people attended the workshop.

2. Discussion

The meeting focussed on the stakes for the aeronautical spectrum in the technical and institutional levels.

The attention of the attendees was specially addressed on:

- the importance of the collection and the registration of the aeronautical frequencies;
- the fight against interferences;
- the national, regional and international coordination actions to be taken to protect the aeronautical spectrum;
- the preparation of the WRC-2007 particularly to support ICAO position which was presented, explained by WACAF and discussed..

The meeting drew Five (05) conclusions consisting on the participants own engagement to process some actions and sixteen (16) recommendations.

Some of the conclusions/recommendations of this workshop may be shared in a regional framework under ICAO leadership:

- **Conclusions and recommendations proposed to enhance internal frequencies spectrum management and to prepare the WRC-2007**

Theses conclusions/recommendations are related to practical actions to be taken by ANSP Centres and head quarter regarding for example:

- Frequencies assignment methodology;
- Frequencies registration;
- Supporting Civil Aviation Authority in their actions towards National Agencies for Telecommunications Regulation;
- Analysis and registration of local occurred interferences.

The necessity to modernize the frequency spectrum management tools was raised up: registration forms, frequencies spectrum handling Data Bases, training....

- **Conclusions and recommendations proposed to enhance regional frequencies spectrum management and to prepare the WRC-2007**

These conclusions/recommendations are related to regional actions to be taken in a cooperative context for example:

- Regional coordination to prevent or detect and suppress interferences;
- Experience sharing in frequency spectrum management;
- Enhancement of the cooperation with the telecommunications organisation ITU, ATU by participating to Radio COM meetings;
- Enhancement of the cooperation between ICAO, IUT, ATU and Civil Aviation Authorities;
- Protection of the aeronautical satellite communications frequencies;
- Regional preparation of the WRC-2007 by supporting ICAO position.

3. CONCLUSION

Because of the importance of the Aeronautical frequencies spectrum-*the main row resource for CNS/ATM therefore for air navigation safety*- it was advisable to organize such a workshop and take actions in order to:

- Put ASECNA technical and operational teams at a same level of investigation and action by hearing various experiences from regulators (Senegal ARTP), Europe (EUROCONTROL, France National Frequencies Management Agency) International UN Organization IUT & ICAO ;
- Share with the others ANSP teams the experience in the Aeronautical frequencies management;
- Address the national telecommunication regulation offices to support ICAO position during WRC-07;
- Open the doors to set up a regional cooperation regarding the stakes for the aeronautical frequencies spectrum.

During WRC-07 the ICAO position regarding the aeronautical spectrum was defended by ASECNA member state telecommunication regulators.

The jointed actions undertaken by air navigation service providers ASECNA, GCAA (Ghana) , Civil Aviation Authority (Cameroon, Mauritania, Nigeria), satellite Operators (Eutelsat, Intelsat..) allowed WRC -07 to reach useful conclusions for aeronautical frequency spectrum particularly those regarding satellite communication C-band protection:

- **The 3.2-4.6 MHZ C-Band was protected for satellite communication**
- **A strong recommendation has been made towards ITU member states regarding the importance of satellite communication for aeronautical CNS/ATM components particularly in AFI region.**

APIRG 16 was addressed with these conclusions and a project of conclusion was drawn regarding the need to set up a regional specialized body to deal with the aeronautical frequencies spectrum protection and the fight against interferences.

The meeting is invited to:

- note and share the information given above;
- **discuss, amend and endorse ASECNA proposals regarding the necessity to take the appropriate actions and to *set up the appropriate regional specialized body to deal with the aeronautical frequencies spectrum protection and the fight against interferences under ICAO leadership; (only AFI Region does not have such a sub group).***
- propose the suitable technical framework to prepare WRC 011 regarding satellite communication C-Band protection
- take a conclusion /Decision to address the region .