

**Twenty-Sixth Meeting of the Cross Polar Trans East Air Traffic Management Providers' Work Group  
(CPWG/26)**

(Vancouver, Canada October 30-November 1, 2018)

**Agenda Item 6: Status on CPWG/25 Actions**

**DEP Messages to China from North America**

**(Action Item #CP17-10)**

(United Airlines)

SUMMARY

This working paper presents information for the Group's consideration. We have discussed the issue of China, and Russia, not receiving DEP messages from ATC facilities in North America for departures to Asia. The subject was recently discussed at the IATA Asia Pacific/North Asia RCG in September, and also at the IPACG meeting in August. A resolution to this problem has yet to be reached.

**1. Introduction**

1.1 After a departure of an International Flight from North America, the ATC facility at the airport of departure is required to send a DEP (departure) message to the AFTN addresses listed on the FPL.

1.2 China receives these messages at their Flight Plan Processing Center (FPPC) in Shanghai and coordinates with the military on the flight's entry into Chinese airspace.

1.3 DEP messages, on occasion, have not been received at the FPPC and this has caused concern in China as well as with the operator of the flight.

1.4 This subject has been discussed at previous CPWGs and other forums for several years.

**2. Discussion**

2.1 While it is not the obligation of the operator to send DEP messages, United Airlines has been sending DEP messages to the Chinese FPPC from the Hong Kong Operations office.

2.2 Our Hong Kong Operations office is not open 24 hours and therefore several flights, especially those out of Newark, New Jersey to Asia depart after office hours requiring a DEP message to be sent after the office re-opens in the morning. The FFPC receives these messages approximately six hours after departure.

2.3 If the local tower has sent a timely DEP message, then the six-hour message from United is discarded.

2.4 If they have not received a DEP message in a timely manner, they have stated their displeasure with receiving it six hours after departure.

2.5 We would request that the FAA review their procedures to ensure that DEP messages are consistently sent in a timely manner for all international departures.

2.6 IATA should contact the Chinese FPPC to request a list of missing DEP messages and origins of flights associated with them.

### **3. Action by the Meeting**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a. review the information contained in this Working Paper; and
- b. endorse the information provided in this Working paper.