

**Twenty Third Meeting of the
Informal South Pacific ATS Co-ordinating Group (ISPACG/23)**

Santiago, Chile, 26-27 March 2009

Agenda Item 3: Review Relevant Work Conducted Since ISPACG/23

OUTCOMES OF ATFM SEMINAR/WORKSHOP

(Submitted by ICAO Asia and Pacific Regional Office)

SUMMARY

This paper summarizes the report of the ATFM Seminar/Workshop held in Fukuoka, Japan during October 2008. The paper introduces the outcomes and recommendations from the Seminar/Workshop for the information of the meeting.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The ICAO Asia/Pacific Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM) Seminar/Workshop, graciously hosted by the Japan Civil Aviation Bureau (JCAB), Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism was held in Fukuoka, Japan from 7 to 9 October 2008.
- 1.2 The ATFM Seminar/Workshop was attended by 48 participants from 14 States – Australia, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Hong Kong China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United States, Viet Nam - and 3 international organizations – IATA, IFALPA and IFATCA. Late apologies were received from seminar presenter Mr. Ricardo Torres, Servicios a la Navegación en el Espacio Aéreo Mexicano (SENEAM), Mexico and the delegations from China and Mongolia.

2. DISCUSSION

- 2.1 The Seminar/Workshop was informed that, in response to the increasing ATFM activities regionally and the provisions of GPI- 6 *Air Traffic Flow Management*, the Asia/Pacific Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APANPIRG/18, September 2007) had adopted Conclusion 18/7 for the conduct of a regional ATFM Seminar during 2008.

- 2.2 Recognizing that the ATFM Seminar called for by APANPIRG/18 provided a good opportunity to influence regional ATFM planning, the ICAO Regional Office elected to include a ‘Workshop’ component to allow opportunity for recommendations to come forward. APANPIRG/19 (September 2008) noted that such a Workshop would be tasked with identifying and recommending appropriate regional objectives, for example:
- a) Development of a high level ATFM Concept of Operations for the Region;
 - b) Enhancement of the draft ATFM Communications Manual;
 - c) Develop mechanisms for data gathering, collation and sharing;
 - d) Review activities of the Bay of Bengal ATFM Task Force.
- 2.3 Hence, the focus was now on an ATFM Seminar/Workshop that would address the following objectives:
- a) To raise awareness of ICAO provisions regarding ATFM;
 - b) To enhance coordination and cooperation between ATFM providers and users in the Asia and Pacific Regions; and
 - c) To identify regional initiatives to optimize ATFM activities in order to gain the maximum benefits for all users.
- 2.4 The Seminar programme incorporated information style seminar presentations during the first half of the event, under the broad headings:
- ATFM in the Asia/Pacific today, and
 - ATFM in other Regions
- 2.5 The Workshop component was accommodated in the second half of the 3-day event, under the broad headings:
- Workshop Session 1 – Planning for ATFM, and
 - Workshop Session 2 – Where do we go from here?
- 2.6 The Workshop examined the methodologies utilized and lessons learned from the implementation of long range ATFM procedures in the Bay of Bengal, as well as pre-tactical experiences with the Centralised Traffic Management System (CTMS) in Australia.
- 2.7 The Workshop was also informed about Japan’s proposals for further development of ATFM in their areas of responsibility and an initial proposal for establishment of a regional ATFM initiative in East-Asia, possibly encompassing the Fukuoka, Beijing, Shanghai, Incheon, Taipei, Hong Kong and Manila FIRs. The Workshop received detailed information from the United States on methodologies useful for planning near term ATFM implementation.

- 2.8 The ATFM Seminar/Workshop, in its review of the information provided to the Seminar and arising from the discussions held during the Workshop, reached outcomes and made recommendations as outlined below.

Outcomes

ATFM Seminar/Workshop Outcome 1:

That the preparation of an Asia/Pacific Regional ATFM Concept of Operations was a significant body of work that would need to be undertaken collaboratively between States over a period of time.

ATFM Seminar/Workshop Outcome 2:

The ATFM Seminar/Workshop recognized that there would be significant benefit in having a regional oversight capability of some kind, in the form of a high level ATFM Steering/Focus Group, to begin to analyze regional data and traffic flows and make recommendations with the objective of ensuring the harmonization/coordination of regional ATFM implementation plans.

ATFM Seminar/Workshop Outcome 3:

That accurate and timely static and dynamic data be continuously available to support ATFM implementation planning and ongoing ATFM operations.

ATFM Seminar/Workshop Outcome 4:

That the concept of a web based 'virtual ATFMU' along the lines of the US ATSCC example at <www.fly.faa.gov> showed merit for providing a 'one-stop-shop' of regional ATFM matters.

ATFM Seminar/Workshop Outcome 5:

That IATA clearly expressed their preference for accelerated implementation of recognized structural airspace capacity increasing measures (RVSM, PBN, flexible use of airspace, use of more effective ATC procedures) in preference to use of ATFM. However, IATA recognizes that structural improvements will take time and accepts that use of traffic management and ATFM procedures in some circumstances is warranted.

ATFM Seminar/Workshop Outcome 6:

That significant regional ATFM knowledge and experience lies with Australia, Japan, Thailand and United States and that access to and use of this expertise will be beneficial to other States of the Asia/Pacific region.

Recommendations

ATFM Seminar/Workshop Recommendation 1:

That the present arrangements for annual month of December traffic sampling by all States for airspace safety analysis enabled by APANPIRG Conclusion 16/4 be expanded to enable this data to also be used, under authority of the ICAO Asia/Pacific Regional Office, for airspace planning and implementation purposes.

ATFM Seminar/Workshop Recommendation 2:



Recognizing that the sharing of dynamic data between adjacent ANSPs on a continuous and real time basis was a key requirement in realizing ATFM benefits, regional strategies be developed with the objective of implementing formalized data sharing arrangements with relevant parties within, and between, States.

ATFM Seminar/Workshop Recommendation 3:

That guidance material in the ICAO ATS Planning Manual (Doc 9426) be reviewed and utilized as the basis for development of Sector capacity assessments.

ATFM Seminar/Workshop Recommendation 4:

That the draft ATFM Communications Handbook for the Asia/Pacific Region (Note: available from the Regional Office) be advanced through the normal ICAO processes with the objective of gaining APANPIRG approval as a regional guidance material.

ATFM Seminar/Workshop Recommendation 5:

That the ICAO regional Secretariat provides all material associated with the ATFM Seminar/Workshop to the ICAO Headquarters Secretariat for consideration in the ICAO HQ ATFM work programme scheduled during 2009/2010.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information in this paper.

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