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**Second Meeting of the Steering Group of the Improvement of Air traffic Services over the South Atlantic (SAT/SG2)**

**Dakar, Senegal, 9-12 December 2024**

**Agenda Item 4: Development in regions with interest to the SAT Group**

**Outcomes of APIRG/27&RASG-AFI/10 meetings related to the SAT area**

*(Presented by the Secretariat)*

<b>SUMMARY</b>	
This working paper presents the outcomes of the APIRG/27 and RASG-AFI/10 meeting pertaining to the SAT area.	
Action by the Meeting at paragraph 3.	
<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	A-Safety B-Capacity and Efficiency

**1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Seventh Africa - Indian Ocean Regional Air Navigation (RAN) Meeting (AFI RAN/7, held in Abuja, Nigeria, from 12 to 23 Mai 1997, through its Recommendation 5/11-Improvement of Air Traffic Services over the South Atlantic recommended that the Africa –Indian Ocean Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG) and all user States should be kept informed of new developments.
- 1.2 The Twenty Seventh Meeting of the Africa-Indian Ocean Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/27) and the Tenth Meeting of the Regional Aviation Safety Group for the AFI Region (RASG-AFI/10) were held in East London, South Africa, from 4 to 8 November 2024.
- 1.3 In accordance with APIRG and RASG-AFI Procedural handbooks, The APIRG/27 and RASG-AFI/10 joint session discussed issues of common interest in safety as well as planning and implementation.

**2. DISCUSSION**

- 2.1 The joint session discussed matters related to airspace monitoring including continental and oceanic sectors of the flight information regions (FIRs) of the AFI region. The secretariat presented a working paper on development in the SAT which provided the meeting with information on achievements as well as initiatives and projects ongoing in

- the SAT area.
- 2.2 The meeting was informed of the publication of the first edition of SAT Doc 002 on the ATM contingency arrangements in the SAT area and highlighted the coordination that was conducted with interface regions prior to the finalization of the document.
  - 2.3 The meeting was also updated on the ongoing SAT area delineation project which aimed at defining the scope of applicability of safety monitoring as well as planning and implementation actions. It was emphasized that the delineation has no impact on airspace organization nor the current provision of ATS. The meeting recommended that the secretariat provides update on the project at each of its meetings as well as an assessment of the impact of the delineation on the improvement of ATS in the SAT.
  - 2.4 The issue of safety data collection was discussed. It was noted that States, particularly in the AFI region, were providing few, incomplete or inconsistent data to ARMA and SATMA for the completion of vertical collision risk assessment in the SAT. The meeting urged the concerned States to improve the data quality and that a collaborative framework be set to enable mutual support and sharing of experience in data collection.
  - 2.5 The meeting also discussed issues related to RVSM monitoring over the high seas. It was raised that the mandate of ARMA does not expand over the high seas thus, no monitoring of RVSM activities is performed in that portion of the airspace. A proposal for amendment of ARMA's Terms of Reference (TORs), to include the oceanic portion of AFI FIRs in the scope of its mandate, was subsequently submitted and endorsed by the meeting. This change gives full authority to ARMA for the conduct of monitoring activities in RVSM airspace in the SAT area.
  - 2.6 The meeting was updated with the progress status of the establishment of a SAT scrutiny entity. It was noted that SAT SOG 4 tasked a small working group to develop the TORs and draft handbook for the scrutiny team. In anticipation of the upcoming establishment of the scrutiny team, the joint meeting recommended *the inclusion of RSOOs as members of the SAT to support the scrutiny of ATS events once started.*
  - 2.7 SAT SG/01 Decision 06 tasked the SAT SG chair team to coordinate with relevant PIRGs to agree on the suitable options to receive adequate traffic forecasts in the SAT area. In response to the request, the joint APIRG/27 & RASG-AFI/10 meeting recommended **that SAT States provide annual traffic statistics for the oceanic portion of their FIR to their accredited ICAO Regional Office and that The traffic forecast in the SAT area be provided for short-term (1 year basis), medium-term (3 Years) and long-term (5 years) for EUR/SAM corridor and AORRA airspace between FL290 and FL410 inclusive.**
  - 2.8 Regarding the High-Altitude Operations (HAO) and the re-entry of space objects related issues, it was noted that some events concerning the re-entry of space objects were recorded in the South Atlantic with less effective coordination between the

space launchers and the ANSPs. To ensure an effective management of these new entrants over the high seas, *the meeting recommended the establishment of a project team on Space Transport Operations and High Airspace Operations (STO-HAO PT) in the SAT.*

- 2.9 A recap of all actions recommended by the joint APIRG/27 & RASG-AFI/10 is at Appendix 1 to this working paper.

### **3 ACTION BY THE MEETING**

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to

- a) Take note of the information provided; and
- b) Consider actions recommended by the joint APIRG/27 & RASG-AFI/10 meeting.



APPENDIX 1

ACTIONS RECOMMENDED BY THE JOINT MEETING OF APIRG/27 & RASG-AFI/10

1. Conclusions/Decisions

<b>APIRG/27 &amp; RASG-AFI/10 Conclusion 6/06: <i>Traffic forecast in the SAT</i></b>					
Why:	<i>To support implementation in AFI FIRs with portion of airspace in the SAT area,</i>				
What:	<i>a) SAT States provide annual traffic statistics for the oceanic portion of their FIR to the accredited ICAO Regional office by July 2025; and</i>  <i>b) The Secretariat coordinate with the SAT group to provide the traffic forecast in the SAT for short-term (1 year basis), medium-term (3 Years) and long-term (5 years) for EUR/SAM corridor and AORRA airspace between FL290 and FL410 inclusive by 31 October 2025.</i>				
Who:	<i>a) SAT AFI States (Angola, Cabo Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Namibia, Senegal, South Africa)</i> <i>b) Secretariat, ARMA</i>				
When:	<i>a) 31 December 2025</i> <i>b) Next APIRG 28</i>				
Implementation following-up					
Follow-up required	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Metrics	Metric 1: SAT AFI State's Traffic Statistics provided Metric 2: Traffic forecast provided	Means to collect data	Mean 1: APIRG reports

<b>APIRG/27 &amp; RASG-AFI/10 Conclusion 6/07: <i>Improvement of AFI States involvement in the SAT area</i></b>	
Why:	<i>That, to ensure collaborative and effective involvement of concerned AFI States in the SAT activities</i>

What:	<p>a) The Directors of Civil Aviation Authorities of AFI SAT States are encouraged to effectively participate in the SAT Steering Group meetings;</p> <p>b) ARMA in coordination with the secretariat, conduct workshop to address the issue of low data collection responses for safety performance monitoring in the SAT area;</p>				
Who:	<p>a) DG CAA</p> <p>b) ARMA, Secretariat</p>				
When:	<p>a) December 2024</p> <p>b) 31 July 2025</p>				
<b>Implementation following-up</b>					
Follow-up required	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Metrics	Metric 1: DG CAA participation in SAT SG meetings Metric 2: RVSM workshops conducted	Means to collect data	Mean 1: SAT SG reports Mean 2: ARMA report

<b>APIRG/27 &amp; RASG-AFI/10 Decision 6/08: Scope of ARMA activities</b>					
Why:	<p>That, to incorporate the monitoring and reporting of RVSM and PBCS operations in the airspace over the high seas including the Indian ocean and SAT areas</p>				
What:	<p>The amended terms of reference of ARMA is endorsed</p>				
Who:	<p>APIRG</p>				
When:	<p>8 November 2024</p>				
<b>Implementation following-up</b>					

Follow-up required	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Metrics	Metric 1: ARMA TORs endorsed	Means to collect data	Mean 1: APIRG 27 report
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**APIRG/27 & RASG-AFI/10 Conclusion 6/09: Monitoring of activities in the SAT area**

Why:	<i>That to ensure the timely follow up of the potential impact on AFI projects activities</i>				
What:	<i>The Secretariat to monitor and report on the ongoing SAT area delineation project to ensure that applicable oversight and implementation projects in the SAT are consistently coordinated with similar initiatives in the AFI region by 31 October 2025.</i>				
Who:	<i>Secretariat</i>				
When:	<i>31 October 2025</i>				
Implementation following-up					
Follow-up required	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Metrics	Metric 1: SAT activities	Means to collect data	Mean 1: SAT contributory bodies reports Mean 2: Secretariat report

**APIRG/27 & RASG-AFI/10 Conclusion 6/10: ATS event scrutiny in the SAT**

Why:	<i>That, to support the scrutiny of ATS events in the SAT area.</i>				
What:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>a) The inclusion of RSOOs (AAMAC, BAGASOO and SASO) as members of SAT, for scrutiny of ATS events, is endorsed; and</i></li> <li><i>b) ARMA to amend the Collision Risk Assessment output to include separate Collision Risk Estimate results against the Target Level of Safety (TLS) for ATS event scrutiny involving six of the SAT States in the AFI Region by 31 October 2025.</i></li> </ul>				

Who:	a) <i>APIRG</i> b) <i>ARMA</i>				
When:	a) <i>8 November 2024</i> b) <i>30 October 2025</i>				
Implementation following-up					
Follow-up required	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Metrics	Metric 1: SAT Handbook amended Metric 2: AFI RSOOs involved in SAT ATS events Scrutiny Metric 3: AFI CRA area of applicability amended	Means to collect data	Mean 1: SAT SOG report Mean 2: APIRG report on SAT Mean 3: ARMA report ....

<b>APIRG/27 &amp; RASG-AFI/10 Conclusion 6/11: <i>Establishment of the Space transport operations and Higher Airspace Operations Project Team</i></b>	
Why:	<i>That, considering the impact of Higher Airspace Operations (HAO) on ATM within the AFI Region, and to coordinate a harmonized approach to the management of Space Object Re-Entry for AFI Region</i>
What:	<p>a) <i>The Secretariat to coordinate the establishment of an APIRG Space transport operations and Higher Airspace Operations Project Team (STO-HAO PT) by 30 May 2025, and submit its team terms of reference and project document for endorsement at next AASPG meeting;</i></p> <p>b) <i>The Secretariat to conduct a workshop to provide awareness on Space transport operations and Higher Airspace Operations developments in the AFI Region by 31 October 2025; and</i></p> <p>c) <i>The SAT Steering Group to consider establishing an STO-HAO Project Team for the SAT area.</i></p>
Who:	<p>a) &amp; b) <i>Secretariat</i></p> <p>c) <i>SAT Secretariats</i></p>



	<i>d) SAT States of the AFI region</i>				
When:	08 November 2024				
Implementation following-up					
Follow-up required	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Metrics	Metric 1: Data provided by AFI States Metric 2: State’s focal points nominated Metric 3: Workshop conducted for identified SAT AFI States	Means to collect data	Mean 1: Data collection report  Mean 2: State appointment letter  Mean 3: Workshop results