International Civil Aviation Organization

NINTH MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS/NAVIGATION/SURVEILLANCE AND
METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP OF APANPIRG
(CNS/MET SG/9)

Bangkok, Thailand, 11–15 July 2005

Agenda Item 3: Aeronautical Mobile Service

INFORMATION MTSAT LUNCH AND
SEPARATION MINIMUM IN THE NORTH
AND CENTRAL PACIFIC

(Presented by Japan)

SUMMARY

This paper presents information regarding JCAB’s implementation plan for the reduced longitudinal separation minimum in the North and Central Pacific airspace using ADS/CPDLC.

1. Introduction

1.1 MTSAT-1R was successfully launched on 26 February 2005, and it is expected to be operational for ATC communication as part of AMSS in late December this year.

1.2 JCAB indicated that the Multifunctional Transport Satellite (MTSAT) would need to be online for Tokyo FIR to apply 50NM longitudinal separation minimum between aircraft at cruise.

2. Present condition

2.1 Test of Meteorological functions such as satellite photo is underway, and this function was operational in June 2005.

3. Reduction of longitudinal separation

3.1 JCAB introduced 50NM longitudinal separation minimum during level changes (step climb/descent) in the oceanic airspace of Tokyo FIR on 11 April 2005 (Ref IP). The introduction of step climb/descent has resulted in increase of opportunities for several aircraft to climb to optimum levels.

3.2 JCAB plan to introduce the application of 50NM longitudinal separation minimum at cruise using ADS in December 2005 within Tokyo FIR. It is considered that following the introduction of 50NM longitudinal separation minimum at cruise, more aircraft will have opportunities to climb to optimum levels.
3.3 JCAB intends to introduce a seamless application of 50NM longitudinal separation minimum in the Pacific airspace. To this end, it is necessary to harmonize the implementation with Tokyo, Anchorage and Oakland FIRs.

4. Completion of ADS trial

4.1 It is our intention to complete the current ADS trial using Inmarsat in August 2005, and advance into the next step of our MTSAT project. We will start a test operation using MTSAT from October until December 2005.