

**Twenty Sixth Meeting of the
Informal South Pacific ATS Co-ordinating Group (ISPACG/26)**

Nadi, Fiji, 1-2 March 2012

Agenda Item 4: AI 17-11 AIDC

**STATUS OF THE HARMONIZATION PROCESS OF THE
INTERFACE CONTROL DOCUMENT FOR THE NORTH
ATLANTIC AND ASIA/PACIFIC REGIONS (PAN ICD)**

Presented by the Federal Aviation Administration

SUMMARY

This paper provides the status on the process to consolidate the Interface Control Document (ICD) for the North Atlantic and Asia/Pacific Regions, to provide for harmonized Air Traffic Service Inter-facility Data Communications (AIDC).

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 At the Forty-Sixth meeting of the NAT Systems Planning Group (NAT SPG/46), the group was presented with the follow up actions undertaken by the NAT Implementation Management Group (IMG) in response to NAT SPG Conclusion 45/25 c), whereby the NAT IMG was tasked to direct its contributory groups to assist in the development of a harmonised multi-regional Air Traffic Services (ATS) Inter-facility Data Communications (AIDC) Interface Control Document (ICD).
- 1.2 In this regard, the NAT SPG agreed that the task of harmonising the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) NAT and Asia Pacific (APAC) AIDC ICDs should be advanced in accordance with the following principles:
 - a) The United States should continue the effort by drafting a consolidated ICD with thorough bi-directional tracking of content;
 - b) Since the ICD would apply to oceanic regions only, a title of the future document should be "Pan Regional ICD for Oceanic AIDC";
 - c) The content of the initial consolidated ICD should be confined to the existing substance of the NAT and APAC ICDs; otherwise, review would be unnecessarily complicated;
 - d) The above should be accomplished as quickly as practicable, and the NAT and APAC ICDs should be frozen in the interim; and

- e) Once the NAT and APAC Planning and Implementation Regional Groups (PIRGs) have endorsed the resulting ICD, a new round of drafting and review could begin to incorporate any desired new substance, as part of the on-going inter-regional maintenance of the document.
- 1.3 The NAT SPG also agreed that this work would be progressed in the framework of the NAT IMG and that a group of experts would be identified to review the draft consolidated NAT/APAC AIDC ICD. The Rapporteur of the NAT CNSG would coordinate this activity with the APAC Region. The work would be conducted via electronic means of communication as far as possible. A progress report would be provided to the next meeting of the NAT IMG where a decision would be taken regarding further steps.
- 1.4 Utilizing the existing draft *Global Interface Control Document (ICD) for ATS Interfacility Data Communications (AIDC)*, the United States reformatted the document to reflect the NAT SPG suggestions. A copy of the coordination draft *Pan Regional Interface Control Document for ATS Interfacility Data Communications (PAN ICD)*, v 0.4, is at Attachment A. A copy of the comment form is at Attachment B.

2. DISCUSSION

- 2.1 At the Fifth Meeting of the NAT Communication, Navigation and Surveillance Group (NAT CNSG/5), 26-30 September 2011, the Group was presented with the status of work on harmonisation of the NAT and APAC AIDC ICDs into a Pan-regional ICD for Oceanic AIDC. The Group noted that in line with the NAT SPG task, the United States had produced a consolidated draft ICD version 0.4 with thorough bi-directional tracking of content.
- 2.2 The Group noted the AIDC ad hoc group was established composed of experts from Canada, Iceland, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom and the United States to advance this work. The Group noted the ad hoc group was until now occupied with the development of the NAT Common Coordination (CC) ICD versions 1.2.9 and 1.3.0. Therefore, the Group was not in a position to prepare any input for this meeting. The Group agreed the ad hoc group would continue reviewing the draft document to prepare inputs for the next meeting. The Group agreed the draft document would need to be updated to bring it in line with the latest edition of the NAT CC ICD, 1.3.0. The member for the United States agreed to coordinate this request.
- 2.3 It should be noted that all information in the current draft coordination copy of the PAN ICD includes changes inserted from NAT CC ICD v1.2.9 to reflect editorial changes/corrections and changes inserted from NAT CC ICD v1.3.0 to reflect changes specified in Amendment 1, effective 15 Nov 2012, to the ICAO Doc 4444 *Procedures for Air Navigation Services-Air Traffic Management, Fifteenth Edition*.

- 2.4 In furtherance of this effort, a group has been created on the new ICAO Secure Portal website entitled, “**AIDC**”, where all material concerning this effort has been moved permanently and is available to all who have become regular users of the portal website. The latest draft v 0.4 has been uploaded for comments.
- 2.5 The CNSG Rapporteur and Secretary will coordinate with nominated members of the AIDC ad hoc group to provide comments on the PAN ICD for AIDC and provide a report. The NAT CNSG/6 will be conducted 26 to 30 March in Paris, France.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information in this paper and at the attachments.