

Twenty Second Meeting of the Informal South Pacific ATS Co-ordinating Group (ISPACG/22)

Papeete, Tahiti, 12-14 March 2008

Agenda Item: Review Open Action Items AI 17-1b

Implementation of RNP Separation Standards in Moresby FIR

Presented by Airservices Australia

SUMMARY

This working paper provides an update on the introduction of RNP separation standards in the Moresby FIR.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 WP/21 presented at ISPACG/21 outlined a method by which 50NM longitudinal separation could be transferred between Oakland, Brisbane and Moresby Centres.
- 1.2 Because RNP separation standards are not yet available in the Moresby FIR, no further work has been progressed on the concepts described in WP/21.

2. Discussion

- 2.1 Moresby is designated as "RNP airspace". However there are currently no RNP-related separation standards associated for use within this airspace.
- 2.2 Prior to the implementation of reduced separation standards in Moresby FIR, a safety analysis was conducted. One of the hazards identified was the unreliable nature of voice communications between Moresby and surrounding units. It was determined that this hazard needed to be resolved before reduced separation standards could be introduced.
- 2.3 A project is underway to improve the reliability of communications between Brisbane and Moresby. Fiber optic undersea cabling is now available however network connections need to be upgraded in both Brisbane and Port Moresby. This is not expected to be completed until Q3 2008.
- 2.4 On completion of this project, appropriate RNP training will be delivered to the Moresby controllers and procedures involving the transfer of a 50NM separation standard across the FIR boundary can be finalised.

3. Action by the Meeting

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the delay in the implementation of RNP separation standards in Moresby airspace and the work being progressed to improve the communications link.