AERONAUTICAL TELECOMMUNICATION NETWORK PANEL

Working Group Meetings
17-28 May 1999
Naples, Italy

An Update from the Panel Secretary

1.   Introduction

1.1   This paper provides an update of recent developments in ICAO (since the last round of working group meetings in Honolulu, USA) that are relevant to the work of the ATNP.

2.   Changes in Membership

2.1   The Air Navigation Commission (ANC) approved the nomination (by the United States) of Mr James Lenz to replace Mr Lockett Yee as a member of the Panel on 23 February 1999. Mr Lenz's address is:

> Integrated Product Team Lead for Data Link, AND-720
> Research and Acquisitions Service
> Federal Aviation Administration
> 800 Independence Avenue, SW
> Washington DC, 20592
> U.S.A.

2.2   Messrs K Platz and A Burgemeister, members nominated by Germany and ICCAIA respectively, both retired from service at the end of April 1999. New nominations are expected to be received in the near future.

3.   Next Panel Meeting (ATNP/3)

3.1   As advised earlier, the slot of 7 to 18 February 2000 has been reserved for the third meeting of the Panel. According to normal procedure, in order to finalize the arrangements for the meeting in February 2000, the Secretariat should present a working paper to the 152'nd session of the Air Navigation Commission (ANC) (12 October to 10 December 1999) proposing need, agenda and dates for the meeting.

3.2   It should be borne in mind that according to *Directives for Panels of the Air Navigation Commission* (Doc 7984/4), a panel meeting should be held only when the results (of the work) have to be finalized or no further progress can be made through correspondence. As such, if the meeting is to be held as indicated above, mature and validated new SARPs and guidance material should be submitted (by rapporteurs of working groups) to the Panel Secretary by the conclusion of the next Working Group of the Whole meeting (29 November to 3 December 1999).

3.3   If for any reason, the Panel won't be ready for its third meeting in February 2000, the next

available slot would be 3-13 October 2000. In that case, the material finalized at the meeting can be expected to be approved/adopted/published for applicability in November 2002.

3.4   As such, it would be highly desirable if working groups submit (through Working Group 1) to the Panel Secretary, their position on the dates of ATNP/3 and an indication of the type, subject and the amount (No of Pages) of the material they will be delivering to that meeting.

3.5   A tentative agenda for ATNP/3 is presented (as the Appendix to this paper) to working group meetings for their consideration. Pending general agreement by working groups (again to be consolidated by Working Group 1) and subsequent concurrence by the majority of panel members, the agenda will be presented to the ANC for approval in due course.

4.   New Task

4.1   The need to revise and update Annex 10, Volume II (Communication Procedures) has been evident for some time. This has been due to the fact that existing provisions had been developed for AFTN and radio-telephony systems and as such, they don't adequately cover new data links and applications (for both air-ground and ground-ground). One example of such inadequacy is Recommendation 2.2 which states that there should not be any "per-message" charges for the handling of aeronautical messages, while in reality such charging regime is in existence for aeronautical mobile satellite service (AMSS).

4.2   Noting the above, the Secretariat recently proposed that a new task, entitled "aeronautical fixed service (AFS) procedures", be created as part of the technical work programme of the Air Navigation Bureau (ANB). This task is to be progressed by ATNP (for data communications) and ATS Voice Switching & Signalling System Study Group (AVSSSG) (for voice communications). The proposal was approved by the ANC (through the Working Group on Procedural Matters).

4.3   The Panel is therefore expected to thoroughly review Annex 10, Volume II (mainly Chapter 4 which is on AFS) and propose amendments deemed necessary for smooth operation of AIDC, AMHS (including gateway operations) and other ground-ground applications. Noting that Working Group 1 has already started examining that document, the first set of more urgent procedural amendments are expected to be finalized at ATNP/3.

4.4   It should be noted that a similar task, entitled "aeronautical mobile service (AMS) procedures", is also approved for progressing by the AMCP. Furthermore, according to information provided by the ADSP Secretary, that panel is currently developing procedures for CPDLC.

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5.   Action by the Meetings

5.1   The working group meetings are invited to note the information provided in this paper and consider them, as appropriate, in their deliberations and continuing work. Specifically, working groups are requested to provide a clear description of their deliverables to ATNP/3 as stated in paragraph 3.4.

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Appendix

Tentative Agenda for ATNP/3

1.   Review of recent AFTN, CIDIN and ATN upgrades, developments, planning and implementation activities.

2.   Consideration of issues resulting from initial ATN implementation activities based on the first set of SARPs.

3.   Development of SARPs and guidance material relating to the enhancement of ATN Internet Communication Service (ICS).

4.   Development of SARPs and guidance material relating to the enhancement of ATN applications and Upper Layers Communication Service (ULCS).

5.   Development of SARPs and guidance material for ATN systems management, security and directory service.

6.   Consideration of institutional and procedural issues affecting the implementation and/or operation of the ATN.

7.   Future work.