STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF FLEXIBLE USE OF AIRSPACE (FUA) CONCEPT IN INDIA

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Summary

• This paper provides information about India’s:
  – progress in implementing the FUA concept;
  – improvement in mutual trust, understanding and cooperation between military and civil aviation organizations through better coordination at strategic ASM levels and through effective communication and training;
  – plans for establishment of Airspace Management Cells (AMC) in a phased manner; and
  – action plan for sharing of surveillance data between military and civil ATC units to improve tactical airspace management.
Progress in Strategic ASM

- 5 NHLAPB meetings and 10 NAMAC meetings conducted since 2013.
- 27 TSA/TRA and 10 CDRs established till date.
- Review of existing permanent Danger (D) and Restricted (R) Areas is in progress.
- Joint civil-military airspace design workshops are being conducted at regular intervals to expedite the process of airspace changes.
• Good communication and mutual understanding enable building collaboration upon a solid foundation.
• Mutual trust and cooperation between civil and military agencies can be significantly improved through training, with the intent of bringing about a cultural change on both sides.
Civil-Military Cooperation….

- Many training programmes on FUA for military and civil ATC personnel and other airspace users were conducted since 2013:
  - 3 day workshop for senior military officers in Delhi.
  - 2 day workshops for senior civil ATC personnel were conducted at 4 metro ATC centres.
  - 300 military ATC personnel from IAF and IN have been trained.
  - 300 civil ATC personnel from major stations will be trained by Dec 2016.
  - Familiarization visits of CIV/MIL controllers to MIL/CIV ATC units planned.
Establishment of AMCs

- India will establish 4 Regional AMCs (R-AMC) and 1 National AMC (N-AMC) in near-term.
- AMCs will be vested with the responsibility of pre-tactical allocation of TSAs, TRAs, AMC-Manageable D & R Areas and CDRs.
India has planned establishment of R-AMCs in a phased manner.

- Owing to the limited number of FUA structures created (27 TSAs/TRAs and 10 CDRs), in the first phase, R-AMC will be established only at Delhi, which will also act as the N-AMC.
- With the operationalization of ATFM system, R-AMC/N-AMC at Delhi will be collocated with the Command and Control Centre (CCC) of the ATFM System.
- More R-AMCs will be established in a time bound manner based on the requirement.

A full-fledged trial operation of the R-AMC/N-AMC at Delhi will be conducted before the end of 2016.
Sharing of resources such as surveillance data helps in improved coordination between civil and military units.

AAI has shared surveillance data from many of its radars with IAF ATC and Air Defence units for improved situational awareness of military controllers.

IAF and Indian Navy have accepted in principle to share the data from military ATC radars with civil ATC centres.

A time-bound action plan to integrate all civil and military surveillance systems is being prepared with the objective of achieving total integration in near-term.
Promulgation of FUA Concept

- Working Papers / Information Papers on FUA were presented by India in SAIOCG/4, SAIOCG/5, BOBASIO/3, BOBASIO/4, ATFM/SG/5 and ATM/SG/3 meetings.
- India was invited to the Cross Border ATFM workshops held at Jakarta and Bangkok for delivering lectures on FUA.
- India also actively participated in the APAC Civil Military Cooperation Seminar held in Beijing in November 2014.
- India hosted the ICAO APAC Civil Military Cooperation Conference at New Delhi in May 2016.
- ICAO APAC has benchmarked India by sharing the template of the Indian Manual on FUA for the benefit of other member States.
Action by the Meeting

• The meeting is requested to:
  – note the information contained in this paper regarding India’s efforts to encourage civil-military cooperation and to proliferate the concept of Flexible Use of Airspace; and
  – discuss any matters, as appropriate.