Operational Notice Number: 001/2021

Operations in Republic of South Sudan Airspace

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicable to:</th>
<th>Operations in AFI Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Effective Date:</td>
<td>08 February 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revision Date:</td>
<td>11 October 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expiry Date:</td>
<td>28 February 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Authorized by:</td>
<td>Senior Vice President, Operations, Safety and Security (OSS) IATA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact e-mail:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:safety@iata.org">safety@iata.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Operations in South Sudan Airspace

In coordination with ICAO, IATA member airlines and stakeholders have for a number of years, been encouraging the South Sudan Civil Aviation Authorities to implement a safety and efficiency level of service over the lower airspace of South Sudan. Unfortunately, these interventions have not resulted in a clear improvement in safety performance. As the current situation remains deficient, ICAO issued an updated State Letter.

The attention of Operators is drawn to the ICAO State Letter AN 13/35-21/5 issued to all states by the ICAO Secretary General on 20 Jan 2021; regarding “the possible existence of serious risks to the safety of international civil flights operating within the Khartoum Flight Information Region (FIR) over the territory of South Sudan, below flight level (FL) 245, and arriving at or departing from Juba International Airport (HSSJ).”

IATA specifically wishes to bring this item to the attention of airlines with operations in/over South Sudan, and to raise awareness of continued operational challenges.

Operational Challenges

Juba remains a challenging operational environment due to the following reported deficiencies:

Air Traffic Services

- Industrial action by civilian air traffic service personnel
- Deployment of military air traffic controllers to replace civilian personnel
- RNAV/GNSS approach procedures are deficient. Previous procedures were cancelled and are no longer valid
• Frequency congestion as a result of combined Ground, Tower and Approach control services on a single frequency
• Deficient en-route ATC services below FL245. Airspace is Class G, with limited CNS capabilities.
• Challenging ATS ground/ground coordination between adjacent ATS units
• Lack of access to reliable published aeronautical and meteorological information

Communication
• Limited range of VHF services for approach into Juba

Navigation
• Suspension of ILS and VOR/DME approach procedures due to unserviceability of navigation infrastructure

Aerodrome
• Approach/Landing aids are unserviceable / uncalibrated
• Unserviceable runway centreline and edge lighting
• Lack of bird and wildlife control on the runway
• Concern over airport security protocols (both airside and landside)

Recommendations:
At a minimum, it is recommended that airlines operating within the South Sudan Airspace:
1. Treat the operation as specialized, and continue to exercise robust risk management practices pertaining to the operation
2. Ensure crews are well briefed of the above challenges
3. Continue reporting issues/concerns in the above airspace using safety reporting mechanisms and, where applicable, the IATA GADM IDX program.

Conclusion
The purpose of this safety notice is to draw your attention to the latest development in South Sudan, and to call on operators to utilize their Safety Management System when determining whether to continue operations into Juba. Further, for Operators with operations into and out of Juba airport, to exercise extreme caution and to ensure robust safety risk and management principals are applied to their operations, within the said airspace.

This Notice should be used for information only and is based on data available at the time of issuance. It is not intended to replace an operator’s own assessment and evaluation, nor replace the opinions and expert advice that the operator may receive from third parties. Operators shall remain responsible at all times for their operations and any decisions related to this notice.