# Minutes of the ACP meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2009, at Boeing, 10<sup>th</sup> floor Eros Corporate Tower, Nehru Place New Delhi - 110019

#### 1. Agenda

- Debriefing of delegation visit to US
- Project and Proposal Summary
- Situation and Go-forward plan
- Project status
- ACP Membership Update •
- Other

#### 2. Attendees

**A.** The following members attended the meeting in person:

- Mr. Larry Coughlin Boeing
- Mr. Aaron E. Wilkins FAA
- Dr. Arjun Singh ACP
- Mr. Ajay Kumar FAA
- Mr. K. Balakrishnan USTDA
- Ms. Tejal Shah **US** Embassy
- Mr. Nakul Gupta Boeing
- Mr. Chuck Kohli PAS •
- **B.** The following members attended the meeting via Teleconferencing: Advisor
  - Mr. Howard Nesbitt Hi Tec
  - Ms. Linda Schuessler WCG
  - Dr. Kalpna Jain Vaughn College
  - Ms. Deepa Das Fedex
  - Mr. Vijyant Singh GE
  - Mr. Frank Binnekade • IBM
  - Ms. Linda Sollars Vaughn College
  - Mr. Dan J. Magoon Lockheed Martin
  - Mr. Subramanya Bhatt Moog
  - Ms. Mimi L. Dobbs MITRE
  - Mr. Shawn Kinder RICONDO

## **3.** Meeting Details

Meeting commenced on June 26, 2009 at Boeing, 10<sup>th</sup> floor, Eros Corporate Tower, Nehru Place, New Delhi. Mr. Coughlin kicked-off the ACP meeting and discussed the agenda briefly and invited Mr. Aaron E. Wilkins to debrief of high level Indian delegation from MCA, DGCA and AAI visit to Washington DC.

## 4. Debrief of Delegation visit to US

High level Indian delegation team of civil aviation visited Washington DC June 10-12, 2009 to discuss various issues related to the sector. The Indian delegation officials are

- Mr. M.N. Nambiar, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Govt. of India
- Dr. Nasim Zaidi, Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) •
- Mr. R. P Shahi, Joint DGCA
- Mr. V.P. Agrawal, Chairman, Airports Authority of India (AAI)

Time: 1700 – 1800 hrs.

- Co-Chair Industry ACP
- Co-Chair USG, Senior FAA Representative
  - **Program Director**
  - Civil Aviation Specialist for South Asia
- **Country Representative**

US-India ACP Program Manager

Sr. International Legal Advisor

**Regional Director Marketing** 

Supply Chain Manager - Asia

Vice President (Student & Academic Affairs)

GM Travel & Transport Industry Solutions

- Economic Officer
  - Director, Strategy & Business Development
- Advisor

Adjunct Professor

**Program Director** 

Vice President

**Business Development** 

- Mr. V. Somasundram, Executive Director (Air Space Management), AAI
- Mr. S.K. Kakar, Executive Director (CNS-P), AAI
- Mr. A. K. Sangal, General Manager (GNSS), AAI

Trip highlights:

- Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup> for point of ACP
  - USTDA Grant Agreement for the third ACP project, "**Technical Training for Aerospace Industry**", was signed by the USTDA Acting Director and the Director General Dr. Zaidi. This agreement is historic for the US-India ACP.
  - ACP hosted a luncheon for the delegation at the Boeing Washington DC facility. Event was well attended by USG officials and US Industry.

## 5. Project and Proposal Summary

The standard ACP Project and Proposal Summary was reviewed, led my L Coughlin. Key points:

- Good news—the third ACP project (Technical Training for Aerospace Industry) is now formally launched and the fourth (Helicopter Aviation Safety Technical Assistance) is close.
- Bad news—Three 2008 projects are having difficulty clearing through the USTDA approval process
  regardless of being recommended by the ACP. Comment was made that the ACP project selection
  process has always been designed as the preliminary step to get a proposal to the USTDA, proposals
  still must be compliant and approved through the USTDA process to receive USTDA funding.
- USTDA is still very much committed to the US-India ACP, though projects will receive higher scrutiny due to increasing budget constraints and requirements to for project proposals to demonstrate direct linkage to US exports.
- Proposal was made by L Coughlin, to narrow the broad waterfront of ACP projects to a few that would lend themselves to unequivocal endorsement by the ACP member companies and provide a solid foundation for the ACP going forward.

## 6. Situation & Go-on Plan

Further detail was provided to the aforementioned proposal, effectively condensing the on-going ACP project proposal list to the following projects:

- ATMTP Processes and Procedures Implementation
- DGCA Human Resource Development Oversight
- Helicopter Aviation Safety Technical Assistance
- GBAS Assessment at Major Airport(s) aside from Delhi & Mumbai
- Study on Next-Gen/CESAR Technology Requirement for Indian aviation Sector\*

\*Note: This project needs to be assessed for conflict with an existing USTDA funded project in India that pre-dates the ACP

The board consented on this reduction and refinement in projects.

# 7. Project Status

Project team lead is invited to brief about their project status. Please refer to project "Four Square" summaries (PowerPoint file). Attached as Annexure-I

## 8. Membership

- Companies that have not yet paid 2009 dues are urged to do so as soon as possible.
- New Members: Continental and UPS have committed to joining the ACP.
- The ACP has the goal to get to 25-30 members in 2009, but our members must help us recruit companies. Please do so.

# 9. Other

A. Proposal to form an ACP working group on Indian Aviation Policy. Proposal was made by Ms Shah, US Embassy Economic Section, in order to provide a forum to discuss key aviation related policy issues in India as applicable to US industry. Frequently the Embassy Economic Section reaches out to US industry for opinions on policy; the formation of a working group within the ACP would provide a more streamlined means to gather input from US industry.

Proposal was accepted by the ACP board. A formal Indian Aviation Policy working group will be established and will have its first meeting in the next month. Details TBA from Ms Shah or her successor will be circulated shortly.

- **B.** Upcoming events:
  - (1) Second US-India Aviation Summit: Date Dec 7-8, 2009, Washington, DC. Dates are confirmed; more information to follow, but the ACP will have a marquee presence.
  - (2) Air Transport Symposium: "India-Asia: Civil Aviation Cooperation" Sept. 16-18, 2009, at Ashok Hotel, New Delhi. Information:
    - Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), Airports Authority of India (AAI), Air India and Foundation for Aviation & Sustainable Tourism (FAST) are jointly hosting/organizing this 3-day symposium
    - Hon'ble Minister of Civil Aviation, Government of India is the chief guest and delivers the inaugural address; Mr. Roberto Kobeh Gonzalez, President, International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has agreed to deliver the key note address. Mr. Madhavan Nambiar, Secretary Civil Aviation, Government of India will also address the conference.
    - Conference will deliberate on three important issues (i) open skies agreements (ii) working to achieve better understanding and common approach in managing upper airspace (Single Sky), (iii) Indian experience of setting up of Airport Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA) and ICAO Economics Analysis Data bases (EAD) program.
    - DGCA, AAI, Indian private International airports like DIAL, MIAL, BIAL, CIAL and major domestic airlines, including Air India will be supporting the conference. A number of speakers and delegates from the International Airports /Airport Authorities /Civil Aviation Departments /airlines from the Asian countries and representatives of International Air Transport Association (IATA), Airports Council International (ACI), International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Civil Air Navigation Services Organization (CANSO), European commission & FAA are being invited to participate in the seminar and make detailed presentations on the topics related to the above theme. This symposium is to bring together all Asian airports, airlines and regulatory bodies. Also invited is ASEAN, Gulf Coordination Council (GCC) and SAARC for their views on "Challenges in liberalizing air transport".
  - (3) Second International "India Aviation-2010" will be held on March 3-7, 2009 at Hyderabad. It is a premier exhibition & conference on civil aviation in India. The event will be organized by Ministry of Civil Aviation, Govt. of India in conjunction with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI). The 2nd International Exhibition & Conference on Civil Aviation will provide an outstanding platform for aviation companies to do business in India. The event,

with more than 200 exhibitors and key speakers from Asian & European countries, will be a must-attend event for all those concerned with aviation industry.

**C.** Farewell bid to Ms Tejal N. Shah, Economic Officer, US embassy as she moves to her new assignment in Washington, DC to work on energy and climate change issues. From her ACP letter of appreciation:

"Almost since the inception of the US-India Aviation Cooperation Program (ACP), you have been a tireless supporter of our mission and contributor to our success. Because of your effort, the program is truly 'airborne' and meeting it's objectives of furthering US-India relations, providing opportunities for US industry, and enhancing the safety and efficiency of the Indian air transportation system.



In particular, your help to promote the ACP during the "India Aviation 2008" air show in Hyderabad has solidified ACP as a premier partnership between US and India, government and industry.

On behalf of the government and industry members of the ACP, we extend our heartfelt thanks for all you have done for the ACP and wish you all the best for your future.

**D.** ACP Meeting ended at 1800Hrs. Next ACP meeting will be conducted on July 31, 2009. Time and venue will be informed separately.

Meeting ended with thanks.

(Dr. Arjun Singh) Program Director-ACP (Larry Coughlin) Co-Chair Industry (Aaron E. Wilkins III) Co-Chair US Govt.