



Safety Circular

**ANS Safety Standards Department,
Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal**

Subject: Preparation to Resume ATS Operations

Date: 26/07/2020

Cir. No: 02/2020

1. PURPOSE

This Circular proposes some recommendations with regard to above subject matter that are primarily aimed at bringing awareness about:

- the necessary preparations that are required for ATS Provider to run the ATS operations safely and smoothly during the recovery phase after COVID-19 pandemic, and
- the need of safety risk assessment before resuming the normal ATS operations.

2. APPLICATION

This Circular is applicable to ATS provider and its ATS personnel along with the ANS Safety Standards Department and its personnel.

3. REFERENCES

- Civil Aviation Requirements for Air Traffic Services (CAR-11)/ ICAO Annex 11.
- Civil Aviation Requirements for Safety Management (CAR-19)/Annex 19
- Manual of Standards ATS (MATS Nepal)/ PANS ATM, ICAO Doc 4444
- CAAN Guidance Manual for Conducting Safety Risk Management Activities in Air Traffic Management
- ICAO Handbook for CAAs on the Management of Aviation Safety Risks related to COVID-19 (Doc 10144)
- ICAO CART Recommendations.
- Safety Management Manual, ICAO Doc 9859

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SECTION 1. BACKGROUND.

Government of Nepal imposed lockdown from 24 March 2020 till 21 July 2020 in order to contain and control the world-wide spread of COVID-19 pandemic in the country. Within that period, the Government suspended all domestic and international flights except the rescue, repatriation and charter flights related to medical and other essential supplies. Social distancing requirement has also been imposed by the Government.

Due to these reasons, flight movement of TIA as well as other domestic airports subsequently dropped to around 5% or less. With this, Air Traffic Services provided by TIA and other domestic airports are greatly influenced, and it is realized that the competencies of ATCOs might have been significantly dropped down due to prolonged lockdown and flight suspension that necessitated special precautionary as well as proactive measures to be adopted by ATS provider before resuming normal ATS operations.

SECTION 2. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ATS PROVIDER.

On the above background, following recommendations are proposed for ATS provider:

- a. Maintain proper coordination and cooperation with concerned stakeholders including the Aerodrome Operator for the restart of normal operations.
- b. Monitor and analyze the growth pattern of air traffic. Arrange the manpower accordingly as per the approved procedure.
- c. Monitor and analyze the status and functioning of CNS facilities.
- d. While managing ATS operations including training and simulation activities, give proper care for implementation of:
 - Sanitization of the workplace environment, and
 - Personnel hygiene and social distancing guidelines as provided by Government of Nepal.
- e. Be prepared for the application of approved COVID-19 related ATM Contingency Procedure for any possible resurgence of COVID-19 in future.
- f. Conduct ATC simulation training with sufficient emergency exercises before the restart of scheduled commercial domestic and international flight operations in new normal situation.
- g. Conduct Safety Risk Management (SRM) in the presence of concerned stakeholders before the restart of full-fledged ATS operations. Implement effectively the mitigation measures identified during the SRM for the safe transitioning to normal ATS operations.
- h. Submit SRM report to ANSSSD CAAN for acceptance.

SECTION 3. COMPLIANCE OF THE SAFETY CIRCULAR.

Recommendations suggested in this Circular should be complied, to the extent possible, implementation of which will be evaluated during the scheduled audit and/or inspection as appropriate.

SECTION 4. INFORMATION DISSEMINATION.

The FOD/Chief ATS should be responsible for the dissemination and briefing about the information contained in this Circular and send the documented evidence to ANSSSD, CAAN in the format as prescribed in the Attachment 1 to this Circular.

SECTION 5. CONTINUOUS SURVEILLANCE.

The implementation of recommendations contained in this Circular will be evaluated during the scheduled audit and/or inspection as appropriate.

SECTION 6. CONTACT OFFICE

For more information, suggestion and feedback, please contact:

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