



International
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Международная
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Ref.: AN 13/2.1-09/25

3 April 2009

Subject: Amendment to the PANS-ATM

Action required: Review provision and provide response to reach Montréal by 17 July 2009

Sir/Madam,

1. I wish to refer to State letter AN 13/2.1-07/36, dated 22 June 2007, in which States were notified of the approval of an amendment to the Fifteenth Edition of the *Procedures for Air Navigation Services — Air Traffic Management*, (PANS-ATM, Doc 4444) which became applicable on 22 November 2007.

2. The Secretariat has since become aware that several States, air navigation service providers (ANSP) and aircraft operators have encountered difficulties with the implementation of the procedures shown in the attachment. These were intended to clarify the status of published altitude restrictions on standard instrument departure (SID) and standard terminal arrival (STAR) procedures when further altitude clearances are issued by air traffic control. Concern has been expressed that the new procedures have increased radio telephony verbiage in some instances and conflict with well-established procedures in other instances. In certain cases, the objectives of efficiency, harmonization and clarification may not have been achieved.

3. In an effort to determine the efficacy of the procedures specified, I would like to invite your Administration, ANSP or organization to review the procedures and associated phraseologies in the Attachment and advise me of the following:

- a) Has your State implemented the procedures and associated phraseologies as specified? If not, please explain why;
- b) Has your State encountered difficulties following the implementation of the procedures and associated phraseologies? If so, please explain; and

- c) Does your State have a different procedure which you have determined to be effective that might be considered for global applicability? If so, please include it with an explanation as to why your State chose the procedure.

4. I should be grateful if you would advise me, not later than 17 July 2009, of the information requested above. In the interest of ensuring the optimum procedures are put forth for global use, I ask for your full consideration in providing a detailed response.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Taïeb Chérif
Secretary General

Enclosure:
PANS-ATM Excerpts

Excerpts from *Procedures for Air Navigation Services — Air Traffic Management*, Fifteenth Edition
(PANS-ATM, Doc 4444)

CHAPTER 6. SEPARATION IN THE VICINITY OF AERODROMES

6.3.2 Standard clearances for departing aircraft

6.3.2.4 CLIMB CLEARANCE ABOVE LEVELS SPECIFIED IN A SID

Note. — See also 11.4.2.6.2.5.

When a departing aircraft on a SID is cleared to climb to a level higher than the initially cleared level or the level(s) specified in a SID, the aircraft shall follow the published vertical profile of a SID, unless such restrictions are explicitly cancelled by ATC.

6.5.2 Standard clearances for arriving aircraft

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6.5.2.4 DESCENT BELOW LEVELS SPECIFIED IN A STAR

NOTE.— SEE ALSO 11.4.2.6.2.5.

When an arriving aircraft on a STAR is cleared to descend to a level lower than the level or the level(s) specified in a STAR, the aircraft shall follow the published vertical profile of a STAR, unless such restrictions are explicitly cancelled by ATC. Published minimum levels based on terrain clearance shall always be applied.

CHAPTER 11. AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES MESSAGES

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11.4.2.6.2 CLEARANCE MESSAGES

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11.4.2.6.2.5 Level restrictions issued by ATC in air-ground communications shall be repeated in conjunction with subsequent level clearances in order to remain in effect.

CHAPTER 12. PHRASEOLOGIES

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12.3 ATC PHRASEOLOGIES

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12.3.1 General

Circumstances

12.3.1.2 LEVEL CHANGES, REPORTS AND RATES

... clearance to cancel level restriction(s)
of the vertical profile of a SID during climb

... clearance to cancel level restriction(s)
of the vertical profile of a STAR during
descent

Phraseologies

z) CLIMB TO *(level)* [LEVEL
RESTRICTION(S) *(SID designator)*
CANCELLED *(or)* LEVEL
RESTRICTION(S) *(SID designator)* AT
(point) CANCELLED]

aa) DESCEND TO *(level)* [LEVEL
RESTRICTION(S) *(STAR designator)*
CANCELLED *(or)* LEVEL
RESTRICTION(S) *(STAR designator)* AT
(point) CANCELLED]

— END —