

Dear Readers

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Thailand remains a top destination to celebrate the long holiday period, especially the Chinese New Year. Phuket is also popular among the tourists. This month AEROTHAI run the new system under the Thailand Modernization CNS/ATM System (TMCS) Project at Phuket Air Traffic Control Centre, in parallel with the existing one. The TMCS is ongoing project to enhance the capacity of air navigation services and encourage national and regional aviation development.

During mid-January, CANSO Executives, Mr. Simon Hocquard, CANSO's Deputy Director General, and Mr. Hai Eng Chiang, Director Asia-Pacific Affairs visited us at AEROTHAI Headquarter, Bangkok, Thailand. CANSO expected the members to share information and develop new policies, with the ultimate aim of improving air navigation services. Both sides agreed to strengthen strategic partnership in all possible areas and discussed various issues particularly on air traffic management and human capacity building potentials as well as opportunity to support and boost further cooperation.

Hope that you enjoy our February Issue.



Somnuk Rongthong
AEROTHAI's President



News Update



AEROTHAI started the shadow operations at Phuket Air Traffic Control Centre to enhance the capacity to cope with growth

Phuket is one of the most well-known tourist destination in Thailand and Phuket international airport is ranked as the third busiest airport in term of traffic volume, with a total of 120,000 flights a year or 323 flights a day, especially 360 flights a day during the Chinese New Year. Additionally, AEROTHAI estimates at 400 flights a day in the next 5 years.



“ We expand the shadow operations to Phuket Air Traffic Control Centre. The new system is going to fully operated at the end of this year. Moreover, we appreciated all kind supports from public and private sector including airlines for involving in the significant step of AEROTHAI.”



The President concluded: “The new system is going to be fully operated at the end of this year. AEROTHAI provides the services with the commitment to level up the quality even now we meet the challenges caused by the high demand of air traffic. The TMCS functions as the tool to enhance the capacity and efficiency of our services, fulfill the airspace users and stakeholders’ requirements and contribute greater benefits to national and regional aviation.”



Mr. Somnuk Rongthong, AEROTHAI’s President, said; “According to the surge in air traffic, the Thailand Modernization CNS/ATM System or TMCS aims to maximize the quality of air navigation services and now we step to the transition process known as the ‘Shadow Operations.’ In this phase, the new system is preliminary operated in parallel with the existing system to ensure its capacity, efficiency and stability. The air traffic controllers and engineers were well prepared to work with the new technology and new procedure.”



Recent Activity



CANSO's Visit to AEROTHAI

CANSO's Deputy Director General, Mr. Simon Hocquard, and Mr. Hai Eng Chiang, Director Asia-Pacific Affairs met Mr. Somnuk Rongthong, the President of AEROTHAI on 17 January 2019 at the Headquarter, on the occasion of their visit to member organizations in the Asia-Pacific Region, including Thailand.

At the brief courtesy call, both sides exchanged views, discuss and update, in broad terms, on several aspects of bilateral relations, particularly on their collaborations, on the development of Thailand Modernization CNS/ATM System (TMCS), and highlighted the importance of harmonisation and innovation in improving Air Traffic Management. AEROTHAI's President responded that the officials of both sides should discuss further. Mr. Simon Hocquard also commended and expressed appreciation of Thailand's continued supports and efforts including the commitment in working closely with CANSO on global aviation issues. Both parties noted that CANSO itself can provide not only the platforms for regional and global collaboration but also the sharing of best practices and related innovation. In the course of the discussion, CANSO expressed its interest in forging closer cooperation with AEROTHAI.

Both CANSO's Executives had the opportunity to observe the ongoing development of AEROTHAI's TMCS at the Approach Control Centre and the ATM Network Management Centre. Both sides discussed issues on regional initiatives and the progress of best practice implementation. They explored AEROTHAI's tools and technology that were building capacity and enabling effective and efficient service delivery in the region. Mr. Somnuk Rongthong said; "AEROTHAI have successfully raised awareness with regards to the TMCS through series of the resolution proclaiming and count the number of delegates from states and ANSP to observe our development agenda." The CANSO's Executives also expressed their willingness to render support for AEROTHAI and Thailand in this endeavor.



Both sides expressed satisfaction with the momentum and long-standing friendly relations, particularly the frequent exchanges of high-level visits. They reaffirmed that CANSO and AEROTHAI, mutually agreed to work closely to deepen the comprehensive and cooperative partnership at bilateral, regional and international levels.

