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04/08
(Yellow 10)
17 JAN

The following circular is promulgated for information, guidance and necessary action

Margaret T. Munyagi
Director General

Establishment of Area Radar Control Service (En route Surveillance Radar Service) at Dar es Salaam Area Control Centre.

Introduction:

With effect from 15 February 2008 Area Radar Control Service will be introduced. The services will be provided to en- route controlled flights within part of the Upper airspace under the Dar es Salaam Area Control Centre – East Unit

The Dar es Salaam en-route surveillance radar unit is an integral part of the air traffic control system and will provide radar services to aircraft to meet operational requirement to the maximum extent practicable.

The radar unit is equipped with primary and monopulse surveillance radar (MSSR) equipment providing a plan position picture of aircraft within the service area. The radar coverage range from DV VOR/DME is 180 nautical miles when flying at FL 250 to FL 330 and increases to 250 nautical miles when flying at above FL 330.

The Circular is intended to provide guidance to pilots on operating procedures as follows:

1. Area of Operation

Area Radar Control service will be provided to flights above FL 245 within service range of the radar.

2. Radar Separation Standards

The minimum horizontal radar separation shall be 10 nautical miles between identified aircraft based on secondary surveillance radar information; hence the mandatory need for carriage of suitable airborne transponders.

3. SSR transponders

SSR transponders shall be operated within the Dar es Salaam FIR in accordance with Tanzania Civil Aviation Regulations 2006. SSR Code Assignment will be as per Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP) ENR 1.6-7.

4. Flight along established routes

While pilots will still be required to plan their flights along established route structure, area radar control service may clear them to fly the most direct route between any two points whenever this is possible.

It is anticipated that the overlap in coverage provided by adjacent radar station (i.e. with Nairobi FIR) will ensure continuity of radar service between Dar es Salaam ACC and Nairobi ACC.

5. Hours of service and radio frequency

Initially, hours of operation will be from 0530UTC to 1500UTC – MON - FRI.

Outside these hours, aircraft will be under the Dar Control (Procedural).

Air – ground radio frequency to be used is 123.3 MHz. The initial contact call-sign of the Area Radar Control Unit is “DAR AREA RADAR”. In subsequent communications, the call sign may be shortened to “RADAR”.

6. Training of controllers

Intensive training for additional Area Radar Controllers will be carried out during the initial phase leading to establishment of a 24-hour area radar service in the near future. Pilots are therefore requested to be patient and to cooperate with the air traffic controllers.

7. Feedback

We will appreciate to receive any comments and/or suggestions from pilots, operators and procedural controllers on how best to improve the service.

Any feedback regarding this matter should be addressed to the Director General, TCAA, by post, fax or e-mail, as indicated in the letter header.

END