ESTABLISHMENT OF ALERT AREAS WITHIN MAURITIUS FIR

1. Introduction

1.1 This AIC should be read in conjunction with AIC 04/05 of 2005 issued by the Department of Civil Aviation concerning regulation of Local VFR flights.

1.2 AIC 04/05 stipulates that VFR flights operating below 2000 Ft AMSL outside controlled airspace are not required to maintain two-way communication with ATC and consequently will not be provided with traffic information.

1.3 However in view of the forecasted general increase in VFR traffic, the Department considers it important that pilots be made aware of any specific area where a particular type of flying activity will take place on a regular basis. This will henceforth be done by the establishment of ALERT AREAS to be promulgated by AIP Supplement/NOTAM.

2. Purpose

2.1 Alert Areas are established to inform pilots of specific areas wherein a relatively high volume of an unusual type of aeronautical activity is conducted.

3. Type of Activity

3.1 The activity within an Alert Area shall be conducted in accordance with all applicable Visual Flight Rules and pilots of participating aircraft as well as pilots transiting the area shall be equally responsible for collision avoidance.

3.2 The establishment of Alert Areas will not impose any flight restrictions or communication requirements. However:

   a all aircraft operating within the area shall transmit its position and intention on auto information when taking off and thereafter at least once every five minutes.

   b all aircraft transiting the area shall transmit its position and intention on auto information when entering the area and thereafter at least once every five minutes until leaving the area.

3.3 Operations which may be hazardous to other aircraft shall not be conducted within an Alert Area. Alert Areas should not be confused with Restricted Areas.
4. Contents of an Alert Area Notification

4.1 Notification of the establishment of an Alert Area shall be made by way of an AIP supplement/NOTAM and shall include:

- Location and description of the Alert Area, preferably depicted on an appropriate chart.
- Pertinent data on the activities to be conducted namely:

  (a) Description of the activity,
  (b) Time, expressed in local time, of the daily activity,
  (c) Altitudes to be used in aircraft operations.

(This AIC replaces AIC 05/95 dated 18 October 1995)

(This AIC is issued for information, guidance and necessary action)

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For Director of Civil Aviation