

INFORMATION BULLETIN 19/2007

SUBJECT	: ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY
ORIGINATOR	: LICENSING AND AEROMEDICAL SECTION
STATUS	: MANDATORY – EFFECTIVE FROM 01st SEPTEMBER 2007
ADDRESSED TO	: ALL OPERATORS/AEROMEDICAL EXAMINERS
DATE	: SUNDAY, 27th MAY 2007

The GCAA has adopted new ICAO English Language Proficiency Standards, as per ICAO Amendment 164 to Annex 1, and it specifies the minimum level of English Language Proficiency (Level 4 – Operational) required by pilots and air traffic controllers.

- Please note:
- (a) those who demonstrate language proficiency at the Operational Level (Level 4) should be evaluated at least once every three years; and
 - (b) those who demonstrate language proficiency at the Extended Level (Level 5) should be evaluated at least once every six years.
 - (c) Formal Evaluation is not required for applicants who demonstrate expert language proficiency, e.g. native and very proficient non-native speakers with a dialect or accent intelligible to the international aeronautical community.

We have approved Training Organizations to conduct this program. They will have to conduct an assessment for all the candidates as follows;

- **An Assessment Service** – To determine the initial English Proficiency Level according to all six (6) proficiency criteria.
- **A customized Language Training Programme** – To bring pilots and air traffic controllers up to ICAO Level 4 standard (operational)
- **A proficiency Testing** – To validate the English Proficiency Level according to all six (6) ICAO Proficiency criteria.

Please note, this will come into effect from 05th March 2008, hence all valid licence holders and new issuance are requested to comply with this requirement when they apply for issuance/renewal of their crew licence. This will be reflected as an additional type rating on their licence.

Best regards,



MOHAMED ABUBAKER FAREA
DIRECTOR AVIATION SAFETY & SECURITY