



## INFORMATION BULLETIN

**NO. 20/2010**

(August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010)

<b>SUBJECT</b>	:	<b>GCAA PUBLICATIONS COMPLIANCE/CONFORMITY LEGALITY STATUS</b>
<b>ORIGINATOR</b>	:	<b>DG OFFICE</b>
<b>STATUS</b>	:	<b>MANDATORY</b>
<b>ADDRESSED TO</b>	:	<b>ALL USERS</b>
<b>DATE</b>	:	<b>17<sup>th</sup> August, 2010</b>

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### 1. PURPOSE

This Information Bulletin (IB) represents the legality status of compliance/conformity with all the GCAA's flight safety publications and introduces for the new structure of the GCAA's Publications.

### 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This IB applies with immediate effect.

### 3. APPLICABILITY

For the purpose of this IB, "Publications" term does not include the Civil Aviation Regulations "CARs" promulgated by the GCAA and shall be understood as "mandatory" by their nature.

This IB is applicable to all users of GCAA's Publications as listed herein:

- (a) Operational Directives (DIRs).
- (b) Civil Aviation Advisory Publications (CAAPs).
- (c) Information Bulletins (IBs).
- (d) Airworthiness Notices (AWNs).
- (e) Acceptable Means of Compliance (AMCs) contained in all Regulations.

- (f) Advisory Circulars (ACs) contained in Section 2 of CAR OPS 1 and CAR OPS 3.
- (g) Interpretative Explanatory Material (IEM) contained in Section 2 of CAR OPS 1 and CAR OPS 3.
- (h) Guidance Material (GM) contained in all regulations.

#### 4. BACKGROUND

As a further step towards advanced quality of GCAA's publications, more understandable and concise language to the public, and more consistent guidance material with a single-interpretation criteria; the GCAA is revising all its Publications. The project to revise the Publications is planned to be completed by the end of 2011. During this period, workshops, seminars and meetings are to be held, and working groups, that may encompass representatives from Industry, are going to be formed. The purpose of all the future activities are to involve the Industry in the achieving the objectives of launching the new publications' structure.

In this project, the GCAA's working groups will review each publication, re-evaluate it and then determine whether to be kept, amended, cancelled or converted into another kind of publication. The determination criteria will be the weight of the publication and its impact on aviation safety, accordingly compliance/conformity level will be identified. The new project will depend on the following hierarchy for categorizing the compliance/conformity with the various GCAA's Publications:

- Level 1: Mandatory.
- Level 2: Mandatory unless alternative means of compliance are requested by the applicant/user supported by thorough study that demonstrates equivalent level of safety acceptable to the GCAA.
- Level 3: Optional with informative/guidance to better standards.

The methodology of restructuring the Publications would be transferring the existing publications amongst the above three levels. For that purpose, the GCAA has determined the following actions on the existing publications:

- (a) A new Publication "Operational Directives (DIRs)" has been introduced to the Publication system in June 2010. DIRs are designed to be a tool for quasi-regulations or direct rulemaking in certain instances where a safety case requires immediate action by the GCAA that cannot wait for normal rulemaking process. The DIRs may later be transferred to Regulations or may be cancelled if the safety case is no more existent. Compliance/conformity with DIRs is categorized in Level 1 in the hierarchy, hence compliance with DIRs is mandatory.
- (b) CAAPs, AMCs, ACs, IEMs and GMs will be reviewed and re-evaluated to determine the level of compliance/conformity with the guidance/advisory materials contained in them. In principle, compliance/conformity with those types of Publications is categorized at Level 2 hence compliance with them is mandatory unless alternative means of compliance are requested by the applicant/user supported by thorough study that demonstrates equivalent level of safety acceptable to the GCAA.

In general, the new structure does not mandate compliance with such kind of materials hence the use of the terms “*shall*” and “*must*” used in therein will apply only to an applicant who elects to comply with them for the sake of approval/certification.

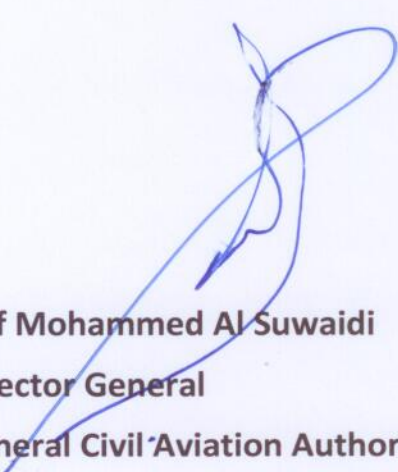
The re-evaluation process of these Publications may reveal in a need to re-categories the compliance/conformity level with them. Some of these publications might need to be either upgraded or downgraded to higher or lower level, respectively.

- (c) AWNs will be cancelled and their contents will be converted to either Level 2 or Level 3 Publications as the case desires.
- (d) Conformity with IBs is also categorized in Level 3 of the compliance/conformity hierarchy, therefore conformity with IBs will be optional but the Industry should endeavor to adhere to the recommended “good practices” laid down in them.
- (e) In the meantime, any new Publication will be made according to the new Publications making structure.

## 5. REQUIREMENTS

Effective this date, and until the end of project of revising the GCAA’s Publications, applicants of new GCAA approval/certificate or holders of GCAA certificate/approval, are required to comply with applicable Publication as listed in paragraph 3 of this IB. Alternative means of compliance will need prior acceptance of the GCAA and must meet safety objectives of relevant regulation.

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