



Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority

# OPERATIONAL DIRECTIVE



**Number: OD- 2019/06**

**Issue: 1**

**27 May 2019**

## Clarification and acceptance of ATC clearances

**This Operational Directive contains information that is intended for mandatory compliance.**

Recipients are asked to ensure that this Operational Directive is copied to all members of their staff who may have an interest in the information (including any 'in-house' or contracted maintenance organisations and relevant outside contractors).

### 1. Reason and Explanation

- 1.1 ICAO Annex 6 Part 1 (CAT-Aeroplanes), Chapter 4, 4.2.3.1, Appendix 2 and ICAO Annex 6 Part 3 (CAT-Helicopters) Section II, Chapter 2, 2.2.3.1, requires that an ICAO Contracting State ensures that an operator has established in its operations manual, instructions on the clarification and acceptance of air traffic control (ATC) clearances, particularly where terrain clearance is involved.
- 1.2 EASA Air OPS does not specifically address the issue of clarification and acceptance of ATC clearances in this particular context as intended by ICAO Annex 6.
- 1.3 The purpose of this Operational Directive is to set a requirement for the established in its operations manual, instructions on the clarification and acceptance of air traffic control (ATC) clearances, particularly where terrain clearance is involved by operators conducting operations under Part CAT to ensure compliance to ICAO Annex 6 Part 1 (CAT-Aeroplanes), Chapter 4, 4.2.3.1, Appendix 2 and ICAO Annex 6 Part 3 (CAT-Helicopters) Section II, Chapter 2, 2.2.3.1.
- 1.4 The contents and requirement of this Operational Directive was previously issued by Safety Directive SD 2018-08 issued 18<sup>th</sup> April 2018.

### 2. Operational Directive and Applicability

- 2.1 The Authority, in exercise of its powers under regulation 85 of the Civil Aviation (Safety) Regulations 2017, directs the operator ('a specified operator') of any aircraft which is:

(a) registered in the Seychelles; and

(b) conducting Commercial Air Transport operations:

to comply with the requirements set out in paragraphs 3 of this directive.

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**3. Requirement: Clarification and interpretation of ATC clearances**

- 3.1 The operator shall establish policies and procedures that requires the crew to clarify air traffic control (ATC) clearances prior to acceptance, particularly where terrain clearance is involved.
- 3.2 The policies and procedures shall be established in the Operations Manual Part A or Part B.
- 3.3 Operators shall give consideration to any other factors deemed necessary such as uncertainty in clearances or other sources of conflicts such as traffic that may also warrant clarification.

**4. Queries**

- 4.1 Any queries as a result of this Operational Directive should be addressed to Head of Flight Operations and Flight Crew Licensing Inspectorate at the following e-mail address: [hfo@scaa.sc](mailto:hfo@scaa.sc)

**5. Revocation and Commencement**

- 5.1 This Operational Directive comes into force **27<sup>th</sup> May 2019** and will remain in force until revoked by the Authority.

Head Flight Operations and Flight Crew Licensing Inspectorate