

# ADVISORY CIRCULAR

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OBSTACLE ASSESSOR GUIDE	2016-05-01	183-02	1.0

**NOTE: THIS ADVISORY CIRCULAR IS PUBLISHED TO PROVIDE REGULATORY INFORMATION AND DESCRIBE ACCEPTABLE MEANS OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE GENERAL AUTHORITY OF CIVIL AVIATION REGULATIONS (GACAR).**

## CHAPTER 1 – INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Purpose.

The purpose of this advisory circular is to provide guidance and information on the process for obtaining designation as a Representative of the President under GACAR Part 183, in relation to the assessment of obstacles or obstructions and the protection of navigable airspace under GACAR Part 77.

### 1.2 Applicability.

This advisory circular is applicable to any person seeking designation as an obstacle assessor in order to conduct obstacle assessments under the provisions of GACAR § 183.41.

### 1.3 Cancellation.

This is the first official version of this advisory circular and it cancels no other advisory circulars.

### 1.4 Related Regulatory Provisions.

GACAR Parts 1, 13, 77 and 183.

### 1.5 Related Reading Material.

The following documents, inter alia, are relevant to the assessment of obstacles and the protection of navigable airspace:

- (a) ICAO Annex 14 – Aerodromes;
- (b) ICAO Annex 15 – Aeronautical Information Services;
- (c) ICAO Doc 8168 – PANS-OPS Volumes I and II;
- (d) ICAO Doc 9137 – Airport Services Manual (in particular Part 6 – Control of Obstacles);
- (e) ICAO Doc 9157 – Aerodrome Design Manual;

- (f) ICAO Doc 9184 – Airport Planning Manual (in particular Part 2 – Land Use and Environment Planning);
- (g) ICAO Doc 9261 – Heliport Manual;
- (h) ICAO Doc 9365 – Manual of All Weather Operations;
- (i) ICAO Doc 9368 – Instrument Flight Procedures Manual;
- (j) ICAO Doc 9674 – WGS-84 Manual;
- (k) ICAO Doc 9774 – Manual on Certification of Aerodromes;
- (l) ICAO Doc 9859 – Safety Management Manual;
- (m) ICAO Doc 9881 – Guidelines for Electronic Terrain, Obstacle and Aerodrome Mapping Information;
- (n) ICAO Doc 9426 - Air Traffic Services Planning Manual (Doc 9426);
- (o) ICAO Doc 9906 – Quality Assurance Manual - Flight Procedure Design;
- (p) ICAO Doc 9981 – PANS-Aerodromes;
- (q) ICAO EUR Doc 015 – European Guidance Material on Managing Building Restricted Areas;
- (r) KSA Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP) and associated documents.

#### **1.6 Definitions of Terms Used in this Advisory Circular.**

Affected parties should refer to Subpart A of GACAR Part 1 for a full listing of defined terms used in the new GACAR. This advisory circular does not introduce any new terms.

#### **1.7 Approval.**

This advisory circular has been approved for publication by the Assistant President, Safety, Security and Air Transport Sector of the General Authority of Civil Aviation.

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## CHAPTER 2 – APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR OBSTACLE ASSESSORS

### 2.1 General.

This chapter summarizes essential information for all applicants seeking designation as a Representative of the President in the capacity of an obstacle assessor. Applicants are reminded that should the President refuse to grant a certificate of designation that they may be eligible to appeal that decision in accordance with the appeal regulations prescribed in Subpart I of GACAR Part 13.

NOTE: Applicants are reminded that the designation as a Representative of the President under GACAR Part 183 is made to assist the President in fulfilling his regulatory obligations and is granted only at the discretion of the President. Not all qualified candidates may necessarily receive designation.

### 2.2 Background.

Under the provisions of GACAR § 183.41, a person may apply to the President for designation to conduct certain assessments relating to obstacles or obstructions and make determinations as specified in GACAR § 77.47. This advisory circular sets out the information that is required to enable the GACA to consider an application for designation as an obstacle assessor and the method GACA may use to assess an application.

### 2.3 Eligibility.

An application may be made by any suitably qualified person.

### 2.4 Application Procedures.

An application for designation as a Representative of the President in the capacity of obstacle assessor must be made in writing and must include:

- (a) The name of the person.
- (b) Details of the person's contact information, citizenship and for foreign nationals, details of the right to work in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
- (c) Details of the person's relevant qualifications and experience (see Section 2.5(a) and (b) below for the relevant requirements).
- (d) Details of how the person intends to meet the required competencies (see Section 2.5(c) below for the relevant requirements).
- (e) Details of the quality management system the applicant intends to use including details of

how the system will ensure that obstacle assessments are based on current information and are conducted in accordance with current standards.

(f) Details of the document management system the applicant intends to use including details of how the system will ensure that documentation relating to assessments and determinations are retained for a minimum of 5 years.

## **2.5 Required Knowledge, Experience and Competencies.**

Each applicant must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the President, the knowledge, experience and competencies listed in this section.

### *(a) Knowledge.*

- (1) Demonstrated understanding of relevant GACA Regulations and associated legislation having regard to the purpose of obstacle and obstruction assessment – in particular GACAR Part 77 and Part 139.
- (2) Detailed knowledge of the principles and practice of obstacle assessment in accordance with the rules contained in ICAO Annex 14 and associated documents is required.
- (3) Demonstrated knowledge of other pertinent ICAO documents relating to protection of navigable airspace in the vicinity of aerodromes is desirable.
- (4) An understanding of the requirements to communicate safety related matters to GACA SS&AT.

### *(b) Experience.*

- (1) Evidence of experience in obstacle and obstruction assessment at or around aerodromes, either in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or elsewhere.

*(c) Competencies.* The GACA will assess the applicant's fitness to perform duties related to regulatory compliance including:

- (1) Record of compliance with regulatory requirements (in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia or elsewhere) relating to aviation safety and other transportation safety;
- (2) Demonstrated attitude towards compliance with regulatory requirements (in Saudi Arabia or elsewhere) relating to aviation safety and other transportation safety;

(3) Demonstrated cooperative attitude with GACA officials;

(4) Any other matter relating to the fitness of the applicant to hold the authorization.

## **2.6 Designation.**

Upon completion of a formal assessment of the applicant's qualifications, experience and other relevant considerations, the President will make a determination of whether to designate the applicant as a Representative of the President under GACAR Part 183. In the case of designation the applicant will be issued a certificate of designation which will contain:

- (a) The name of the person authorized by the President;
- (b) The type of designation for which the person is certificated;
- (c) The privileges and limitations of the holder of the certificate, and
- (d) The certificate's period of validity.

The certificate of designation is not transferable. The certificate of designation will remain valid unless expired, surrendered, suspended or revoked or the holder ceases to be employed in the capacity as an obstacle assessor. An authorization under this regulation will normally be valid for a period not exceeding 3 years. An obstacle assessor wishing to extend the validity of his authorization must make a further application prior to expiry of the existing authorization.

## **2.7 Rejection.**

The GACA will notify the applicant in writing if an application is not acceptable to the President. The advice will state the knowledge, experience, or competency areas that have been assessed as unsatisfactory. An unsuccessful applicant may re-apply if additional evidence can be provided to rectify any deficiency in the original application.

## **2.8 Scope of Authority.**

Obstacle assessments conducted under the provisions of GACAR § 183.41 will initially be limited to determining whether or not a proposed obstacle or obstruction will infringe a published obstacle limitation surface. Published obstacle limitation surface areas include municipal zoning charts. Where it is determined that a proposed obstacle or obstruction will not infringe a published obstacle limitation surface, the designee may make a *Determination of No Hazard to Air Navigation*. A copy of that determination must be forwarded to the President. Where it is determined that a proposed obstacle or obstruction will infringe a published obstacle limitation surface, the designee must forward the proposal to the President for further assessment and determination.

## CHAPTER 3 – FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

### 3.1 Responsible Department(s).

The Airports and Airspace Department of the GACA Safety, Security and Air Transport Sector is the department responsible for obstacle assessment and the designation of obstacle assessors.

### 3.2 Contact Details.

The Airports and Airspace Department can be contacted at the following coordinates:

*In person:*

General Authority of Civil Aviation  
Airports and Airspace Department  
Safety, Security and Air Transport Sector Building  
KAIA, Jeddah

*By mail:*

General Authority of Civil Aviation  
Airports and Airspace Department  
Safety, Security and Air Transport Sector  
P.O. Box 887  
Jeddah, 21421