



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization
North American, Central American and Caribbean Office

WORKING PAPER

MEVA/TMG/36 — WP/08
31/05/21

**Thirty Sixth MEVA Technical Management Group Meeting
(MEVA/TMG/36)**
On-line, from 1 to 3 June 2021

Agenda Item 4: MEVA Phase IV
4.4 Strategies about next step of CANSNET development

NEXT STEPS FOR THE CARIBBEAN AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES NETWORK (CANSNET) DEVELOPMENT

(Presented by the Secretariat)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
This working paper comments the recommendations of the Secretariat with respect of the development of the new CANSNET network, being affected in its initial development schedule proposed for operation in March 2022.	
Action:	Suggested actions are presented in Section 3.
<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety• Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency
<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thirty Fourth MEVA Technical Management Group Meeting (MEVA/TMG/34), June 2019• Ninth North American, Central American and Caribbean Directors of Civil Aviation Meeting (NACC/DCA/9)

1. Introduction

1.1 During the thirty-fourth MEVA meeting, held in June 2019, the MEVA/TMG members approved the implementation of the new MEVA phase with the aim that this new MEVA phase, which would be called CANSNET, it would cover for the next ten years the communication needs of the MEVA Member States and their connections with the other adjacent Aeronautical FIRs.

1.2 This new network would cover current and future communication needs, incorporating the requirements for a flexible increase in bandwidth, cybersecurity requirements, and support the implementation of new operational functionalities to support safety of the Region.

1.3 During the Ninth North American, Central American and Caribbean Directors of Civil Aviation Meeting (NACC/DCA/9), June 2019, the Directors approved the execution of the CANSNET project proposed by the MEVA/TMG and also requested to speed up the development of the project so that its operation would be ready by March 2022.

1.4 The COVID-19 pandemics delayed the Project execution schedule, even so, the Ad-hoc Group that manages the Project, made up of Cuba, Dominican Republic, United States and COCESNA, managed to carry out the first project activity, executing satisfactorily the process of the Request for information (RFI) during 2020 and first quarter of 2021.

1.5 Although the States have begun the recovery of their operations due to the vaccination of their population and the opening of airports, the economic impact on the States affects the execution of the project as planned and the goal of having the new CANSNET network operating by March 2022 is impossible.

1.6 The MEVA contract extension was signed by all the States from March 2020 to March 2022, so it will be necessary to extend the contract extension with our supplier FREQUENTIS.

2 Discussion

2.1 One of the concerns in the operation of the current MEVA network is its obsolescence and that its infrastructure is reaching the end of its useful life, both at a technological and administrative level.

2.2 With the development and implementation of new technology by the States, they have new challenges to face, cybersecurity is one of them. Impacts to services and data have already been reported in terms of air traffic control operations and it is therefore extremely important that the communications network that serves as a platform for all our operations has the appropriate protection requirements.

2.3 The States are still working during the COVID-19 pandemic in the implementation of new services, such as AFTM, AIDC, expanding the sharing of radar data, requiring the sharing of ADS-B data, SWIM tests and aeronautical messaging exchange, In addition, most of our region has AMHS systems operating that support the implementation and exchange of data for decision-making in real time.

2.4 The communications network must have the information security and quality requirements that ensure its integrity.

2.5 Even with the effects of the pandemic on the economy of the States, the development of the CANSNET network and its implementation should be an objective of the region, because it is and will be the platform on which the region provides and will provide the future services.

3 Suggested actions

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) take into account the information presented in this working paper;
- b) share information with the States and their authorities; and
- c) support the development of the new CANSNET network.