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WORKING PAPER

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Eighth North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group Meeting (NACC/WG/8)
Mexico City, 29 August - 1 September 2023

- Agenda Item 3: Follow-up of the NACC/WG Action Plan 2022-2023**
3.5 NACC/WG Advances in Technology: Data Communications between Air Traffic Services Facilities (AIDC), SURV, Communication Management (COMM) and Aeronautical Frequencies (FRE)

ACTIVITIES OF THE COMM TASK FORCE, FORMERLY TMG/MEVA, IN 2022-2023

(Presented by the TF/COMM Rapporteur)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
This paper follows up on the activities carried out by the COMM Task Force for August 2022 to August 2023.	
Action:	Suggested actions are presented in Section 3.
<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety• Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency• Economic Development of Air Transport• Environmental Protection
<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Second Meeting of Rapporteurs of the North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group (NACC/WG/RAP/02), Mexico City, Mexico, March 28 - 31, 2023• Eleventh North American, Central American, and Caribbean Directors of Civil Aviation Meeting (NACC/DCA/11), Varadero, Cuba, June 28-30, 2023.• Thirty-Eighth MEVA Technical Management Group Meeting (MEVA/TMG/38) Mexico City, Mexico, July 11 - 14, 2023

1. Introduction

1.1. In response to the requirements to improve air navigation services and the need to promote their harmonized development, with the objective of empowering the North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group (NACC/WG) as its sole implementation arm, the Second Meeting of Rapporteurs (NACC/WG/RAP/02) proposed a change in the structure of the Task Forces leading air navigation activities in the region. The new NACC/WG structure was approved at the Eleventh Directors Meeting NACC/DCA/11 held in Varadero, Cuba, June 28-30, 2023.

1.2. During the NACC/WG/RAP/02 Meeting, the need for the region to analyze the implementation status of each ASBU element was recognized, taking into account the operability of each of its enablers. The importance of establishing measurement mechanisms for each of the Air Navigation Services (ANS) indicators was also emphasized.

1.3. In follow-up to the activities of the RLA22801 Project, Thirty-Eighth MEVA Technical Management Group Meeting (MEVA/TMG/38) focused on the culmination of the actions prior to the beginning of the bidding process for the Caribbean Air Navigation Services Network (CANSNET).

2. Discussion

2.1. During the NACC/DCA/11 Meeting, in accordance with Conclusion NACC/DCA/11/5 "APPROVAL OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NORTH AMERICAN, CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN WORKING GROUP (NACC/WG)", the new structure of the NACC/WG was approved, in which the MEVA/TMG group was converted into the Communications Task Force (COMM).

2.2. The Communications Task Force (COMM) Terms of Reference (ToR) have already been defined and are in the process of review/approval by its members. This group extends its activities to other areas of communications, in addition to the network for the support of regional Air Navigation Services, either MEVA or CANSNET.

2.3. The NACC/WG/RAP/02 Meeting requested support from the COMM Task Force, at that time MEVA/TMG, for DECISION NACC/WG/RAP/02/03 CREATING AN AD-HOC GROUP TO CONDUCT AN ANALYSIS OF THE NAVIGATION ASBU ELEMENTS (NAVS).

2.4. As a follow-up to DECISION NACC/WG/RAP/02/03 and taking into account the experience of the then MEVA/TMG/38 members, during the MEVA/TMG/38 Meeting, the Ad hoc NAV group was formed, being its main objective the analysis of the Navigation Systems (NAVS) element in the region, belonging to the Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP) Technology thread. The Ad hoc NAV group was formed during the MEVA/TMG/38 Meeting, with the main objective of analyzing the Navigation Systems (NAVS) element in the region, which is part of the Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP) Technology thread. This group was made up of:

Ad hoc NAV group members			
State	Name	email	
COCESNA	Manuel Flores	manuel.flores@cocesna.org	Ad hoc Group Rapporteur
Bahamas	Elton Joseph	Elton.Joseph@bansabahamas.com	
Panama	Daniel De Ávila Hernández	daniel.deavila@aeronautica.gob.pa	
Dominican Republic	Jonathan Franklin Méndez	jonathan.mendez@idac.gov.do	

2.5. Considering DECISION NACC/WG/RAP/02/07 UPDATING INFORMATION ON INDICATORS THAT MEASURE THE LEVEL OF IMPLEMENTATION OF AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES, Task Force COMM managed the current status of the indicators established for:

- Implementation of ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange Model (IWXXM)
- Implementation of Aeronautical Message Handling System (AMHS)

2.6. No changes were identified in the indicators of Exchange Implementation according to the IWXXM model, in relation to the information provided in Appendix F of the NACC/WG/RAP/02 Final Report.

2.7. In order to provide additional guidance and direction to advance the implementation of the IWXXM, the MET Task Force provided information to States/Organizations on the possibility of conducting the recommended tests for this process, based on the experiences presented in the NE/17 of that meeting. It should be noted that no communications were received expressing interest in the proposal.

2.8. In the case of the indicators for AMHS Implementation, no changes were identified in relation to the information provided in Appendix F of the NACC/WG/RAP/02 Final Report.

2.9. During the MEVA/TMG/38 Meeting, important decisions were made by the MEVA Technical Management Group that, as part of the procurement process, allow the CANSNET project execution schedule to continue.

2.10. Regarding the MEVA III network, its service provider, Frequentis, presented information regarding its operation and performance in 06/2022 - 07/2023 to the MEVA/TMG/38 meeting, as well as its operation until March 2025. In this context, the possibility for MEVA III to continue to operate was offered, if the CANSNET schedule could not be completed before the planned date, subject to contractual arrangements. In this regard, the Meeting adopted DECISION MEVA/TMG/38/01 ANALYSIS OF THE NEED TO EXTEND THE MEVA III COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK SERVICE AGREEMENT.

3. Suggested actions

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a. review the information presented in this working paper; and
- b. take any other actions deemed appropriate.