



ICAO

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

NACC/WG/09 — IP/03
17/09/24

Ninth North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group Meeting (NACC/WG/09)
Mexico City, Mexico, 30 September to 04 October 2024

Agenda Item 4: Follow-up to the NACC/WG CARIBBEAN AERIAL NAVIGATION

CARIBBEAN AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES NETWORK (CANSNET)

(Presented by the COMM/TF Rapporteur)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
This information paper tracks the activities of the Caribbean Air Navigation Services Network (CANSNET) procurement process.	
<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency• Economic Development of Air Transport• Environmental Protection
<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thirty-Eighth MEVA Technical Management Group Meeting (MEVA/TMG/38), Mexico City, Mexico, 11 to 14 July 2023• Thirty-Ninth Meeting of the North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group Communications Task Force (NACC/WG/COMM/TF/39), Mexico City, Mexico 7 to 10 May 2024• Fortieth Meeting of the North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group Communications Task Force (NACC/WG/COMM/TF/40), Mexico City, Mexico, 23 to 26 July 2024

1. Introduction

1.1 In 2018, during the MEVA/TMG/33 meeting, the Central Caribbean Member States/Organizations of the MEVA III Network identified the need to review the MEVA architecture and services to ensure that the network supported emerging requirements in a cost-effective manner.

1.2 Accordingly, at the MEVA/TMG/33 meeting, members agreed to create a MEVA Ad-Hoc Group with the objective of developing the technical/operational requirements for a new IP communication platform to support the new services.

1.3 To cover the new possibilities and services that the future telecommunications network would provide, the MEVA/TMG members agreed to name the new network 'Caribbean Air Navigation Services Network' (CANSNET).

1.4 ICAO's Capacity Development and Implementation Bureau (CDI), formerly the Technical Cooperation Bureau (TCB), was invited to host the CANSNET bidding process. To this end, the project members and ICAO signed a collective MANAGEMENT SERVICES AGREEMENT (MSA) and its annex document, Project Document (PRODOC) RLA22801 'Caribbean Air Navigation Services Network (CANSNET)', which contains all the details related to ICAO assistance during the procurement. For the same purposes, the FAA signed the FAA/ICAO CDI MSA document.

1.5 Under the guidance of ICAO CDI, the CANSNET Terms of Reference were developed. Its architecture envisioned a terrestrial core network, MPLS, that would support voice and data telecommunications services, with different access technologies as best suited to each member's environment. Both voice and data information would be exchanged using Internet Protocol (IP) with redundant network access links to increase availability and provide greater bandwidth for future applications.

2. Discussion

2.1 The final version of the CANSNET Terms of Reference (RFP) document and the bid evaluation methodology for the project were approved during the MEVA/TMG/38 meeting. Both documents were formally approved by the CANSNET members in response to the official letter with Ref. E.OSG-NACC98458.

2.2 In mid-August, the ICAO NACC Regional Office sent to ICAO CDI the official approval of the following information regarding the RLA22801 Project:

- Approval of Technical Specification Statements (RFP)
- Technical evaluation criteria and tables
- Approval of the estimated budget for the Project
- Contractual Terms and Conditions that apply to the projects of the States that provided them.

2.3 In response to State Letter E.OSG-NACC99144, dated 21 September, project members were given the opportunity to select their representative on the Evaluation Task Force (ETF) for the CANSNET proposals. Those nominated in the role of 'Evaluators' formed the Technical Evaluation Task Force.

2.4 According to the evaluation plan defined by CDI, and considering the requests received from CANSNET members, the ETF was formed as follows:

- Evaluators: Bahamas, Cuba, Curaçao, Dominican Republic, COCESNA, FAA
- Observers: Aruba, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Sint Maarten

2.5 On 7 September 2023, with an initial deadline of 30 October 2023, ICAO CDI issued the Request for Proposals for the future CANSNET network (Ref. ICAO/00210). At the request of potential bidders, the deadline was extended to 30 November 2023. As a result of the bidding process, responses were received from three vendors.

2.6 The Technical Evaluation process of the proposals was carried out by the Technical Evaluation group, under the guidance of OACI CDI, according to the Evaluation Criteria approved by the project members. This stage took place from 6 December 2023 to 19 January 2024, when the Technical Evaluation Report was signed. One of the bidders did not meet the Technical Exclusion criteria and was eliminated from further evaluation.

2.7 The Corporate Financial Evaluation process was conducted by the ICAO Procurement Unit (ICAO/PRO), with the support of the Technical Evaluation group. It began with the opening of the commercial proposals on 29 January 2024, and closed on 12 April 2024, with the completion of the final report. The commercial evaluation was carried out under the Technical/Price weighting (60/40).

2.8 During the NACC/WG/COMM/TF/39 meeting, OACI CDI presented and argued the final report of the CANSNET bidding process, based on the reports formed at each stage of the bid evaluation, and proceeded to recommend **Frequentis** as the winning company in the bidding process for the RLA22801 project. This recommendation was accepted and resulted in decision NACC/WG/COMM/39/04 'APPROVAL OF THE CANSNET PROJECT TENDER RESULTS REPORT SUBMITTED BY ICAO'.

2.9 The NACC/WG/COMM/TF/39 Meeting analyzed in detail the reports of the technical and financial evaluation processes of the bids for the RLA22801 Project. As a result of these analyses and considering the need for the project Member States/Organizations to have full knowledge of the technical and financial scope of the winning bid, the NACC/WG/COMM/TF/39/03 decision was taken to hold the NACC/WG/COMM/TF/40 Meeting.

2.10 As a result of the NACC/WG/COMM/TF/40 meeting, based on the detailed explanation and discussion of the winning vendor's offer, CANSNET members made the confirmation/update of the requested services and contractual commercial terms that fit their States/Organizations for the new network implementation.

2.11 Considering the analyses and decisions of the NACC/WG/COMM/TF/40 Meeting, the supplier is currently in the process of preparing the contracts to be signed by each of the CANSNET members. It is expected that all can be signed before December 2024. Only once all members have signed their contracts can the CANSNET implementation process begin.