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

WORKING PAPER

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

Agenda Item 3:   **Actions for the development of the Air Navigation Plans of the States and the CAR/SAM Plan and progress in regional performance dashboards**

NACC ASBU TASK FORCE STATUS UPDATES

(Presented by the NACC/WG/ASBU TF Rapporteur)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This working paper presents the status of NACC ASBU TF and its accomplishments since NACC/WG/8. The ASBU/TF prepared the National Air Navigation Plan (NANP) template and NANP supporting materials that are aligned with the 7th edition of ASBU. Using these materials, ICAO NACC RO organized the NANP Workshop in August 2024 for Spanish-speaking states. During the NANP Workshop, ICAO NACC explained the plans for the 8th edition of GANP/ASBU and the importance of KPIs and CAR/SAM Regional Planning and Implementation Group (GREPECAS) electronic Air Navigation Plan (eANP) Volume III. Most importantly, all seven States participated in the NANP Workshop and successfully updated the draft NANP. A similar NANP Workshop is scheduled in January 2025 for the English-speaking States.

Action:	Suggested actions are presented in Section 4.
Strategic Objectives:	• Safety • Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency • Economic Development of Air Transport • Environmental Protection
References:	• Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP, Doc 9750) https://www4.icao.int/ganpportal/ • Aviation System Block Upgrade (ASBU) Framework https://www4.icao.int/ganpportal/ASBU • ICAO NACC RO's CAR Regional States' NANP https://www.icao.int/NACC/Pages/regional-group-ASBU.aspx

1.   Introduction

1.1.   The Aviation System Block Upgrades (ASBU) Task Force (TF) was established during the NACC/WG/5 Meeting held in Trinidad and Tobago in May 2017. The objective of the ASBU TF is to facilitate the region in the implementation of harmonized technologies that support the operation guided by the ICAO Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP) and the Aviation System Block Upgrades (ASBU).

1.2.　　　　　The ASBU TF work programme covers the basis for the preparation and maintenance of National Air Navigation Plans (NANPs) by ICAO Member States, organization, and territories in the region. To effectively prepare and maintain the NANPs, states need to understand GANP/ASBU in conjunction with their states' current and future needs in aviation technologies. The NANP should be used by the states to strategically plan what capability will be implemented and when to implement it.

1.3.　　　　　The ICAO publishes a new edition of GANP/ASBU every 3 years. The technological improvement requirements of states also changes while the complex circumstances surrounding them changes. Therefore, it is necessary to periodically update NANPs to align with the newer edition of GANP/ASBU while addressing new and old needs of states.

2.　　　　　Status of ASBU editions and NANP in CAR region

2.1.　　　　　To advance the ASBU editions, the ICAO Assembly agreed on the expansion of the GANP lifecycle through three-year minor and six-year major updates, as relevant, to provide for stability during its 39th Session. The ICAO issued the ASBU 5th edition in 2016, followed by the 6th edition (minor) in 2019 and the 7th edition (major) in 2022. The ASBU 8th edition will bring major changes by making Block 2 Elements available for implementation. The 8th edition was brought to the 14th Air Navigation Conference (AN-CONF/14) on 26 August to 6 September 2024 in Montreal, Canada. It is expected to be approved at the 42nd session of the ICAO Assembly scheduled for the fall of 2025.

2.2.　　　　　The ASBU Task Force worked with Saint Lucia and created the NANP template based on the 5th edition of ASBU. In 2018, the NACC RO identified 20 states, one territory, and one organization in the CAR region that should prepare their NANPs. The NACC RO organized three NANP Workshops (WS) in 2018; the 1st NANP WS in Mexico City, Mexico from March 12-15, 2018, hosted by ICAO NACC RO; the 2nd NANP WS in Tegucigalpa, Honduras from August 6-9, 2018, hosted by COCESNA; and the 3rd NANP WS in Bridgetown, Barbados from November 6-9, 2018, hosted by Barbados. As a result, 18 states/territory/organization successfully submitted their NANPs. These NANPs are based on the 5th edition of ASBU and focused on the needs and implementation status of ASBU Elements.

2.3.　　　　　In 2024, the NACC RO determined to organize two workshops to create or revise NANPs from the 5th edition base to the 7th edition base. One NANP WS is for Spanish-speaking states, and one is for English-speaking states. The 7th edition based NANP templates, Handbook, Air Navigation Reporting Forms (ANRFs) are prepared. The NACC RO hosted the 1st NACC/WG ASBU Task Force On-line Meeting (ASBU/TF/01) on 14 June 2024 and introduced the 7th edition of NANP template and supporting materials.

2.4.　　　　　As Multi-Regional Assistance Program for Civil Aviation (MCAAP), the ICAO NACC RO organized the Spanish-speaking NANP WS to update of NANP to align with the 7th edition of ASBU on August 12 to 16, 2024 at San Salvador, El Salvador hosted by Instituto Centroamericano de Capacitación Aeronáutica. Seven states participated and they are: Belize, Cuba, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and Dominican Republic. They all successfully updated their NANPs to the 7th edition of ASBU.

2.5.　　　　　The English-speaking NANP WS is proposed to be held in Jamaica, in February 2025.

2.6.　　　　　The NACC WG ASBU TF webpage will be updated as the 7th edition of NANPs will be submitted to the NACC RO.

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2.7.   As the 8ᵗʰ edition of ASBU becomes available in the fall of 2025, the NACC RO and the ASBU Task Force will coordinate the future NANP WS to support states to revise their NANPs.

3.   ASBU Task Force ToR and Work Program

3.1.   The ASBU Task Force Terms of Reference (ToR) was last updated on November 8, 2018 (refer to Attachment A). The ASBU TF Work Program was last updated on Aug 26, 2021 (refer to Attachment B). The ASBU TF Work Program has been a useful tool to focus on what tasks are needed to support the region in understanding ASBU and creating NANPs. Many of the tasks identified in the original Work Program were completed. The ASBU TF objectives and responsibilities need to be re-evaluated and both ToR and Work Program needs to be updated accordingly.

3.2.   The difficulty in adjusting is the transition from the Regional Performance-Based Air Navigation Implementation Plan (RPBANIP) to GREPACAS e-ANP Volume III. It is necessary to discuss with the NACC members regarding their expectations from the regional air navigation plan.

4.   Suggested actions

4.1.   The meeting is invited to:

a) Note the information contained in this paper.
b) Update the NANPs using the template aligned to support the 7ᵗʰ edition of ASBU;
c) Provide comments and recommendations on revising the NANP.
d) Consider and articulate the expectations from the regional air navigation plan.
e) Provide the information to the ICAO NACC RO to support GREPECAS e-ANP Volume III development when requested; and
f) Provide comments and recommendations on revising the ASBU Task Force Work Program.

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APPENDIX A
Terms of Reference
Aviation System Block Upgrade (ASBU) Task Force

Dated: 8 November 2018

1. Background

1.1. At the ANI/WG/2 Meeting in June 2015, an Ad Hoc group was formed to discuss metrics of the ASBU Block 0 implementation status, performance reporting and revisions to the Air Navigation Reporting Forms (ANRF) which will be used by States and Territories in the NAM/CAR regions. In the ANI/WG/2 report, this ad hoc group was named the ANRF Ad Hoc group. Their given tasks are:

a) For the NAM/CAR States/Territories to review and adopt the proposed new ANRFs for application by June 2016.
b) For the NAM/CAR States/Territories to assess their status of implementation and report to ICAO NACC Regional office by 30 July 2016; and
c) For ICAO to organize by the first semester of 2016. a hands-on ANS/ASBU ANRF workshop to improve the use and understanding of the new ANRFs with participation of CANSO, IATA, civil aviation training centers and air navigation planning experts.

1.2. At the ANI/WG/3 Meeting in April, 2016, the delegates agreed to more active participation from their States/ANSPs to reflect their national priorities and users' main needs, and therefore agreed to create an ad hoc group to support review, follow-up and reporting on the achievement of the air navigation (AN) targets established in the NAM/CAR Regional Performance-Based Air Navigation Implementation Plan (RPBANIP) and in the Port-of-Spain Declaration. During ANI/WG/3, this ad hoc Group was named the ASBU Ad Hoc Group.

1.3. At the NACC/WG/5 Meeting (May 2017), the delegates agreed that the ASBU Ad Hoc Group would become the ANI/WG ASBU Task Force (TF).

2. Objectives

To assist the region in the implementation of harmonized technologies that supports the operation.

1) Develop effective methods to determine the regional implementation status of the ASBU Block-0 elements and the performance monitoring of the Regional Air Navigation System, on a cyclical annual basis, as a regional input to the Annual Global Air Navigation Report and feedback for the Global Air Navigation Plan and the Regional Dashboard.

2) Assist NACC's States to formulate or update their National Air Navigation Plans by using a planning process to ensure alignment with the RPBANIP and the GANP.

3) Contribute with the continuous updating of the RPBANIP to maintain the validity, accuracy, and applicability of the Plan.

3. Responsibilities

The Task Force is responsible for:

a)   Work Programme Management.
b)   Coordination and support of the development and maintenance of State/Territory Air Navigation Plans; and
c)   Support the revision and enhancement of Regional Performance Based Air Navigation Implementation Plan (RPBANIP)

4. Working Methods

The Task Force will:

a)   Present its work programme containing activities in terms of objectives, responsibilities, deliverables, and timelines.
b)   Avoid duplicating work within the ANI/WG and maintain close coordination among the existing entities to optimize use of available resources and experience.
c)   Designate, as necessary, ad hoc groups to work on specific topics and activities and organize clearly defined tasks and activities.
d)   Coordinate tasks to maximize efficiency and reduce costs via electronic means including emails, telephone, and teleconference calls, and convene meetings as necessary; and
e)   Report on and coordinate the progress of assigned tasks to the ANI/WG.

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APPENDIX B
ASBU TF Work Programme

Updated on Aug 26, 2021

This ASBU Task Force (TF) work programme covers the basis for the preparation and maintenance of State ANPs by each member states in the region. To prepare and maintain the State ANPs, States need to understand GANP/ASBU in addition to their States' needs in current and future aviation technologies. The State ANP should be used by the State to strategically plan what capability will be implemented and when to implement it.

Note 1: This document establishes a guideline for attaining ASBU NAM/CAR goals and will be reviewed periodically throughout the year. A formal review each calendar year shall be conducted during the ANI/WG and NACC/WG meeting so as to update/revise/modify its content for currency and applicability.

Note 2: The GANP/ASBU will be updated every 3 years with ASBU Block definitions maturing every 6 years. Thus, minor updates are expected every 3 years and significant updates are expected every 6 years.

Objective 1: Develop effective methods to determine the regional implementation status of the ASBU blocks 0/1 elements and the performance monitoring of the Regional Air Navigation System, on a cyclical annual basis, as a regional input to the Annual Global Air Navigation Report and feedback for the Global Air Navigation Plan and the Regional Dashboard.

No	Activity	Purpose	Deliverable
1.1	**Establish and Update the ASBU TF PoC List – Completed and Maintenance Mode** • Draft the letter (by NACC RO and TF Rapporteur; Target Date: Dec 19, 2017) • Send a letter to request the PoC information States, Territories, and other stakeholders (by NACC RO; Target Date: Jan 12, 2018) • Receive the response (by NACC RO; Target Date: Feb 9, 2018) • Create the ASBU TF PoC List (by NACC RO; Target Date: Feb 9, 2018) • Distribute the ASBU TF PoC list via ASBU Website (by NACC RO; Target Date: Feb 16, 2018) • Update the ASBU TF PoC List (by NACC RO and TF Rapporteur; Target Date: as needed)	Each organization needs a PoC who is responsible for their ANP.	PoC List
	Status/Remarks: There are 21 States and one Territory in the Region who should have State ANP that is aligned with GANP and Regional ANP. In addition, COCESNA should have its ANP. Further coordination and investigation are needed by the NACC RO regarding the Territory handling. This coordination will take place once the Objective 1 is accomplished initially.		
1.2	**Generate ANRF – Completed and Maintenance Mode** • Fill in forms (by each State; Target Date: Apr 30, 2018) • Fill in State Summary Table (a.k.a. Pretty Table) (by each State; Target Date: Apr 30, 2018) • Examine and update the ANRF (by ASBU TF and each State; Target Date: May 31, 2018) • Keep track of ANRF status (by NACC RO and TF Rapporteur; Target Date: from Jan 2018 to Dec 2018) • Generate the Regional Summary Table (a.k.a. Pretty Table) (by NACC RO and TF Rapporteur; Target Date: May 31, 2019) • Generate ANRFs that are aligned with the 6th edition of GANP/ASBU	Support the ANRF generation at two levels: (1) the form itself and (2) contents of the form by State.	• ANRF Form Template • ANRFs by States and Territories • State and Regional Summary Table
	Status/Remarks: • As of August 15, 2018, following organizations have filled in ANRFs: Barbados, Belize, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Saint Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, Curacao, and COCESNA. • April 17, 2019: Generation of ANRF became part of the State ANP creation. Refer to Task2.2. • August 17, 2021: The 6th edition of ANRFs were submitted to the ICAO NACC RO.		
1.3	**Performance Monitoring** • Analyze States specific needs (by each State; Target Date: Apr 30, 2018) • Determine regional needs (by NACC RO; Target Date: Apr 30, 2018) • Propose the Regional Performance Objectives (by NACC RO; Target Date: May 31, 2018)	Promote the formulation of a measurement strategy and identify the regional performance metrics.	Regional performance metrics
	Status/Remarks: None		

	Objective 2: Assist NACC' States to formulate or update their National Air Navigation Plans by using a planning process to ensure alignment with the RPBANIP and the GANP.		
No	**Activity**	**Purpose**	**Deliverable**
2.1.	**Schedule assistance activities** • Assess training/discussion needs of ANSPs (by NACC RO; Target Date: Jan 31, 2018) **- Completed** • Establish a list of training/discussion subjects (by NACC RO and TF Rapporteur; Target Date: Jan 31, 2018) **- Completed** • Establish schedule (by NACC RO and TF Rapporteur; Target Date: Jan 31, 2018) **- Completed** • Publish/coordinate events (by NACC RO; Target Date: Jan 31, 2018) **- Completed** • Perform ASBU workshops/seminars/meeting (by NACC RO and TF Rapporteur; Target Date: Jan 31, 2018) **– Completed** • Host the 2nd State ANP Workshop (scheduled at COCESNA for central American states in August 2018) **– Completed** • Host the 3rd State ANP Workshop (scheduled in Barbados for ECAR states in November 2018) **– Completed** • Host the 4th State ANP Workshop (TBD, ~~2019~~ 2022)	Provide a foundational baseline of refresher & supplemental training for personnel involved in ANP and ASBU.	WS/Seminar/ Meeting Materials and Report
	Status/Remarks: NACC RO hosted the 1st State ANP Workshop in Mexico City, Mexico on March 12-15, 2018. The WS was very well received and two additional WSs are scheduled in August and November 2018. April 17, 2019: See Task 2.2 Remarks for the details of ANP WS results. August 26, 2021(NACC/WG/6 WP08): NANP workshops were postponed due to COVID-19 pandemic. Need to continue hosting NANP workshops to address the 6th edition of ASBU.		
2.2	**Support Creation of ~~State~~ National ANP** • Prepare the National ANP template (by ASBU TF; Target Date: Jan 15, 2018) **- Completed** • Create the initial National ANP • ANP (by each State; Target Date: May 31, 2019) **– Three WS were organized in 2018. 16 out of 21 targeted state/territory/organization created draft/initial ANP.** • Support States to finalize the initial National ANP (by each State; Target Date: TBD)	Ensure that all States in the region have their own State ANP which is aligned with the Regional ANP as well as GANP.	• State ANP template • Initial State AMP Status summary • State ANPs
	Status/Remarks: Use of State ANP template is optional. Saint Lucia worked with the TF Rapporteur prior to the WS and has draft State ANP. The 1st ANP Workshop: Barbados, Belize, Curacao, Mexico, and COCESNA created the draft State ANPs including the new/updated ASBU B0 ANRFs during March 12-15, 2018. The 2nd ANP Workshop: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Dominican Republic created the draft state ANPs during August 6-9, 2018. Belize and COCESNA refined their ANPs. The 3rd ANP Workshop: Antigua and Barbuda, Haiti, Saint Vincent and Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, and Barbados during November 6-9, 2018.		
2.3	**Support Updates of State ANP** • Update the State ANP (by each State; Target Date: annual) • Support States to update their State ANPs (by NACC RO and TF; Target Date: as needed) • Keep State ANP status known (by ASBU TF)	Ensure the State ANP information is current.	• Updated State ANP • State AMP Status summary
	Status/Remarks: None		

Objective 3: Contribute with the continuous updating of the RPBANIP to maintain the validity, accuracy, and applicability of the Plan.			
No	**Activity**	**Purpose**	**Deliverable**
3.1	**Support RPBANIP** • Identify the necessary updates that need to be applied to the existing RPBANIP (by NACC RO and TF; Target Date: Feb 28, 2018) **- Completed** • Identify the regional goals/objectives that should be reflected in the RPBANIP (by NACC RO; Target Date: Feb 28, 2018) **– Guideline for the next version of RPBANIP is determined.** • Identify the needs of States in the region (by NACC RO and TF; Target Date: Feb 28, 2018) **– Guideline for the next version of RPBANIP is determined.** • Update RPBANIP (by NACC RO and TF; Target Date: May 31, 2018) **- Underway**	Ensure the RPBANIP that is aligned with GANP/ASBU and reflect the needs of States in the region and the information is current.	Updated RPBANIP
	Status/Remarks: The State ANPs will reflect guidance from the RPBANIP while the RPBANIP will reflect the needs described in the State ANPs. Aug 26, 2021 (NACC/WG/6 WP16): RPBANIP will be integrated into the GREPECAS (CAR/SAM combined) eANP Volume III.		
3.2	**Update NACC ASBU Handbook and Other Support Materials** • Update the NACC ASBU Handbook (by ASBU TF; Target Date: After the 2019 version of GANP/ASBU is released.) • Identify other ASBU materials that will support the States to prepare State ANPs and provide such materials to the States. (by ASBU TF; Target Date: As needed.) • NACC ASBU Handbook and other support materials are updated to be aligned with the 6th edition of GANP/ASBU in early 2020 and submitted to ICAO NACC RO in Aug 2021.	Provide materials for States and stakeholders and the aviation community to understand the ASBU.	NACC ASBU Handbook and other support materials
	Status/Remarks: None		
3.3	**Provide ANI/WG ASBU Website - Completed and Maintenance Mode** • Design ANI/WG ASBU Website and implement (by NACC RO and ASBU TF; Target Date: March 31, 2018) **- Completed** • Update ANI/WG ASBU Website (by NACC RO; Target Date: As needed) • Add "Bible" link to the ANIWG ASBU webpage **- Completed**	Provide the capability to exchange ASBU related information as well as store information	ANI/WG ASBU Website
	Status/Remarks: ICAO NACC Regional Office is the webmaster.		
3.4	**Support ANI/WG Decisions** • Provide progress report/update for Chairperson for relevant meetings such as NACC/WG and ANI/WG (by ASBU TF; Target Date: Associated with NACC/WG and ANI/WG dates)	Liaison between Regional Coordination Groups and ASBU TF	Revised ToR to ICAO RO
	Status/Remarks: ANI/WG/5 meeting is scheduled for was held in May 27-31, 2019, in Mexico City, Mexico.		

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