



**AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP (APIRG)
SIXTEENTH MEETING (APIRG/16)
(Kigali, Rwanda 19-23 November 2007)**

Agenda Item 5.0: Air Navigation safety and Deficiencies

5.2: National and Regional efforts to remove identified deficiencies

ATS-DS BETWEEN CANARIES ACC AND NOUAKCHOTT AND NOUADHIBOU

(Presented by Spain)

1. I Introduction .

The historical missing of links for ATS voice communications between Canaries ACC and Nouakchott and Nouadhibou have been appearing as a deficiency in the APIRG.

2. Actions taken

Aena (Spanish Air Navigation Service Provider) and ASECNA (Air Navigation Service Provider in Mauritania) started contacts to adopt a solution to this deficiency.

Due to the geographical difficulties a satellite link was adopted as the best solution, according the point **2.2.5.3 The use of satellite links** of the ICAO Doc 9804 AN/762 *“Manual on air Traffic services (ATS) Ground-Ground Voice Switching and Signalling”*

After the meeting celebrated in Las Palmas the 23 and 24 of January 2007 the technical solution was agreed between both Providers. ASECNA had installed a CAFSAT node in Nouakchott that will cover Canaries ACC / Nouakchott AFTN/ATS-DS links directly and Canaries ACC / Nouadhibou ATS-DS link via a two hops connection. AENA is installing a mixed CAFSAT Technology/AFISNET satellite station that will provide an ATS-DS direct connection between Las Palmas and Nouadhibou

Today the technical means are already installed and the communications available for operational trials. It is foresee that by the end of this year the ATS/DS between Canaries ACC and Nouakchott and Nouadhibou will be fully operational.

3. Conclusion

The spirit of cooperation between AENA and ASECNA has been the main factor to arrive to a satisfactory solution of the problem. We think that this spirit will continue to be and important asset to solve any problem or difficulty to improve safety.

END