



**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
TWELFTH MEETING ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES IN THE
SOUTH ATLANTIC**

(Sal, Cape Verde, 15 – 17 December 2004)

Agenda Item 4: Communications

Consolidation of Aeronautical VSAT Networks

(Presented by the Secretariat)

Summary

This paper refers to SAT Conclusion 11/12 and SAT11/TF Conclusion 11/17 on the consolidation of aeronautical VSAT networks, and invites SAT/12 Meeting to consider the steps towards CAFSAT migration to IS 10.02@359°E.

References:

- APIRG/14 Report
- SAT/11 Report
- SAT/11 TF Report.

1. Introduction

1.1 The meeting will recall that SAT/11 and SAT/11 Task Force meetings discussed at length the issue of consolidating the VSAT Networks developed by States to meet ANP requirements for communications (AFTN, ATS/DS) with a view to ensuring full connectivity and optimizing VSAT infrastructure.

2. Discussion

2.1 In pursuance to SAT Conclusion 11/12 and APIRG Conclusion 14/12, the Task Force established by SAT/11 discussed technical aspects and advantages of the consolidation of aeronautical VSAT networks (AFISNET, CAFSAT, SADC, etc.) by using a common new generation satellite, that is IS 10-02 @ 359° East. In this connection, emphasis was put on the work carried out in AFI Region, including the outcome of the Regional Planning Meeting held in Johannesburg (31 March - 1 April 2004), to which a number of SAT members attended. The Task Force felt that SAT members needed more time to further analyze all aspects related to CAFSAT migration to IS 10-02, and subsequently agreed that AFISNET should migrate in the first phase (2004) and that CAFSAT migration should be addressed as soon as practicable at a later stage.

2.2 The meeting may wish to note that the AFISNET network migration was successfully completed on 12 October 2004 (Indian Ocean) and 23 November 2004 (Western and Central AFI) by AFI States/Organizations, of which 3 SAT Members: Ghana, South Africa and ASECNA¹.

2.3 Furthermore, the Task Force discussed a proposal aimed at interconnecting REDDIG and CAFSAT networks, and was of the view that such an interconnection was not opportune.

3. Action by the Meeting

3.1 The meeting is invited to exchange views on the implementation of CAFSAT network migration and outline the corresponding timescales. In so doing, interoperability requirements for VSAT networks should be anticipated.

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¹ ASECNA and ATNS, South Africa also operate CAFSAT earth stations.