



# ICAO

## INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

### WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA OFFICE

#### Twenty-fourth Meeting on the improvement of Air Traffic Services over the South Atlantic (SAT/24)

Luanda, Angola, 3-7 June 2019

#### Agenda Item 2: *ATM and CNS Agenda Items*

##### Report on the Atlantic Ocean Coordination Meetings (ACM) and follow up Activities

(Presented by the Secretariat)

#### SUMMARY

This paper presents the Report on the Atlantic Ocean Coordination Meetings (ACM) and its related follow up Activities.

**Reference:** SAT/23 meeting report  
Report on the ACM meeting

**Action required:** *See paragraph 3*

## 1. Introduction

1.1 The SAT/23 Meeting held in Durban, South Africa, from 06 to 08 June 2018 formulated **Decision 23/18: *Coordination between SAT Group and the PIRGs concerned*** tasking the ICAO Secretariat to communicate all activities of the SAT Group through regular reports to all involved PIRG meetings, **Decision 23/19: *Improvement of coordination and cooperation with adjacent PIRGs*** inviting the SAT to support the improvement of coordination and cooperation with the adjacent PIRGs, especially with the NATSPG and **Decision 23/20: *Preparation for the convening of the Atlantic Coordination meeting*** that read as follow:

#### **Decision 23/20: *Preparation for the convening of the Atlantic Coordination meeting***

*That:*

*The SAT invites the ICAO Secretariat (WACAF Office with support from the other involved ROs) to prepare the convening and to develop the necessary working arrangements for an Atlantic Coordination meeting before the end of 2018.*

## 2 Discussion

*Report on the preliminary discussions related to the improvement of communication and coordination in the Atlantic Area between the SAT Group, NATSPG, APIRG and GREPECAS*

2.1 In the Framework of the implementation of these SAT 23 Decisions specially Decision SAT23/20, preliminary discussions related to the improvement of communication and coordination in the Atlantic Area between the SAT Group, NATSPG, APIRG and GREPECAS were conducted on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2018 in Montreal by a side meeting of the 13<sup>th</sup> Air Navigation Conference.

2.2 This meeting discussed the preparation of the Atlantic Coordination Meeting (ACM) to be convened on 31<sup>st</sup> January in Paris back to back with the NAT Vision 2030 to address subjects related to the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation between various ICAO Regional Offices and working arrangements involved in the planning and implementation activities in the high-sea airspace over the Atlantic Ocean.

2.3 It was agreed that the final goal of these activities is to improve and enhance the current working scheme of the parties involved in the Atlantic coordination and does not look to disband any of the current established coordination groups dealing with air traffic management over the Atlantic Ocean or establish a new group with additional bureaucratic layers.

2.4 The Meeting also agreed that the NAT Vision 2030 Workshop as already planned with the addition of a side-bar meeting on Atlantic coordination issues will lead to improved communication and coordination in the area and give opportunities to identify common issues amongst the role players and find ways to eliminate shortcomings related to coordination and communication. It was stressed that this side-bar meeting will not discuss any structural changes to any group.

The detailed minutes with the list of participants to this meeting is attached at **Appendix A** to this Working Paper.

***Report on the first Atlantic Coordination Meeting, Paris France 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019***

2.5 Further to the preliminary discussions summarized above, the Atlantic Coordination Meeting (ACM) was held in Paris on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019 in the premises of the ICAO EUR/NAT Regional Office.

2.6 The meeting discussed his agenda items attached in **Appendix B** to this working paper and after deliberation framed the following main conclusions:

- Acknowledgement of the good work and achievements of the SAT and NAT working groups in ensuring safety and efficiency of operations;
- Recognition that the Atlantic airspace is a homogeneous area with similar issues and solutions due to the inherent nature of oceanic airspace;
- Support to the need for further improvement of coordination and cooperation between NAT and SAT;
- Identification the following priority topics for potential joint projects aiming at further harmonization to achieve seamless operations:

***First priority***

1. Contingency plans harmonization;
2. Performance based (PBCS//PBN) separation minima implementation;
3. Space Based ADS-B implementation and operation.

***Second priority***

4. AIDC/AMHS implementation;
5. Harmonization of NAT and SAT CONOPS elements to the extent possible;
6. Assignment of flight levels;
7. HF communication issues (urgent safety issue);
8. Agreement that the project leads (ICAO ROs to further coordinate with NAT/SAT representatives to co-lead, UK contributor for contingencies) will draft a list of coordination actions and coordinate by e-mail;
9. Agreement to recommend to the NAT SPG and SAT that ACMs will be conducted annually to review the progress of implementation with the next meeting in Feb 2020 in a location to be determined.

2.7 The detailed Summary of discussion (SoD) of the ACM first meeting can be downloaded from the ICAO EUR/NAT Webpage @: <https://www.icao.int/EURNAT/Pages/Other-Meetings.aspx> (Select **Modified** and then choose **2019-01-04**).

### 3. Action Required

The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the information given above on the preliminary discussions related to the improvement of communication and coordination in the Atlantic Area between the SAT Group, NATSPG, APIRG and GREPECAS;
- b) Endorse the priority topics for potential joint projects identified by the first Atlantic Coordination Meeting (ACM), aiming at further harmonization to achieve seamless operations in the SAT and the NAT;
- c) Identify as required, any additional priority topics for potential joint projects to be conducted within NAT & SAT;
- d) Agree on any other follow-up actions thereon.

## **Appendix B**

**Agenda Item 1: Introduction**

**Agenda Item 2: North Atlantic (NAT) current and future Concept of Operations (CONOPS)**

**Agenda Item 3: South Atlantic (SAT) CONOPS**

**Agenda Item 4: Opportunities for NAT/SAT harmonization and joint planning and implementation**

**Agenda Item 5: Conclusions and future work**