



International Civil Aviation Organization
North American, Central American and Caribbean Office (NACC)
**Seventh Central American Air Navigation Experts Working Group Meeting
(CA/ANE/WG/7)**
Ninth Central Caribbean Working Group Meeting (C/CAR/WG/9)
ICAO NACC Regional Office, Mexico City, Mexico, 5 to 9 March 2012

Agenda Item 3: Air Navigation Matters
3.1 Global/Regional Air Navigation Developments

**ICAO REGIONAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT FOR THE CARIBBEAN REGION
– “IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PERFORMANCE BASED AIR NAVIGATION SYSTEMS”
(RLA/09/801)**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This working paper presents to the Meeting the progress in preparing for the ICAO Regional Technical Cooperation Project for the Caribbean Region – Implementation of the Performance based air navigation systems (RLA/09/801).

References:

- NACC/DCA/3 Meeting Report, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, 8-12 September 2008;
- Preparatory Meeting and Presentation of the RLA/09/801 Project, Mexico City, Mexico, July 19, 2010;
- C/CAR/DCA/11 Meeting Report, Mexico City, 21-23 July 2010;
- E/CAR/DCA/23 Meeting Report, Christ Church, Barbados, 9-12 November 2010;
- DGCA/CAP/95 Meeting Report, Antigua, Guatemala, 8 -10 February 2011;
- NAM/CAR Regional Performance Based Air Navigation Implementation Plan NAM/CAR RPBANIP (<http://www.mexico.icao.int/ATM.html>);
- State Letters attaching the RLA/09/801 Project Document (PRODOC): Ref.: EMX816 and EMX911, dated 8 September and 1 October 2010, respectively, EMX230 to EMX238, dated 2 March 2011 and EMX251 dated 3 March 2011; and
- NACC/WG/3 Meeting Report, Guatemala City, Guatemala, from 9-13 May 2011
- Fourth Meeting of North American, Central American and Caribbean Directors of Civil Aviation (NACC/DCA/4) report, San Pedro Sula, Honduras, 20 to 24 June 2011.

Strategic Objectives

This working paper is related to Strategic Objectives A and C.

1. Introduction

1.1 This working paper presents the progress in preparing for the implementation of the ICAO Regional Technical Cooperation Project for the Caribbean Region – Implementation of the Performance based air navigation systems (RLA/09/801), and encourages CAR States and Territories to prepare for their participation in the regional project. ICAO finalized the document for the Project RLA/09/801 and distributed to CAR States and Territories for their review and to invite them to participate.

3. Discussion

3.1 The four working groups of the NAM / CAR regions (C/CAR/WG, CA/ANE/WG, E/CAR/WG and NACC/WG) support the harmonization of air navigation activities in the Region and propose recommendations to the Directors of Civil Aviation to implement the NAM/CAR RPBANIP.

3.2 In support of the request to ICAO to develop a regional project under its technical cooperation programme, and considering a Performance based approach to its implementation as in support of the NAM/CAR RPBANIP, ICAO formulated the ICAO Technical Cooperation Project RLA/09/801. The Directors of Civil Aviation of the CAR Region approved and support the Project RLA/09/801 reflecting this support through several conclusions, among the most recent ones:

- a) the Central Caribbean Directors (C/CAR DCAs) endorsed the initiative and adopted the following conclusion at their eleventh meeting: *Conclusion C/CAR/DCA/11/5 Performance Based ICAO Technical Co-Operation Project (RLA/09/801) for the CAR region;*
- b) the Directors of Civil Aviation of the Eastern Caribbean endorsed the initiative and adopted the following conclusion at their 23rd meeting: *Conclusion 23/12 ICAO Regional Technical Cooperation Project for the Caribbean Region on the Implementation of Performance Based Air Navigation System; and.*
- c) the Directors of Civil Aviation of the Central American States and Panama endorsed the initiative and adopted the following conclusion at their 95th meeting: *Conclusion DGAC/CAP/95/3 Performance Based ICAO Technical Co-Operation Regional Project (RLA/09/801) for the CAR Region.*

3.3 The States that have already expressed their willingness to participate in the project are: Barbados, Curacao, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, the States of the OECS (Organization of Eastern Caribbean States: Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) and COCESNA (Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua), Cuba and Dominican Republic also supported the project and its intention to consider possible integration into it. The United States is willing to support through their active participation in seminars and workshops.

4. Relevant project events

Project Preparatory Meeting

4.1 The States participating in the Project Preparatory Meeting held in July 19, 2010, agreed that a regional technical cooperation mechanism is the most cost-effective and efficient approach for the timely implementation by States and Territories of the air navigation systems required to implement the regional performance based air navigation plan, for the following reasons:

- Cooperation, coordination and collaboration between States
- Mechanism for pooling and sharing expertise and resources
- Efficient use of resources available in the region
- Centralised coordination of assistance to States
- Implementation of national plans harmonised with the regional plan
- Cost-effective in comparison to independent national implementation
- Expedited implementation

4.2 The same parties also agreed that the ICAO Technical Cooperation programme is the best suited to provide the desired regional technical cooperation mechanism for the following reasons:

- Established mechanism for assistance and project management
- Successful implementation of a similar project in the SAM Region (RLA/06/901)
- Ensure compliance with ICAO SARPs, guidance and plans
- Non-profit and transparent finance mechanism
- Access to ICAO Secretariat professional resources, roster of qualified technical cooperation experts and equipment suppliers

Project composition and events

4.3 The Project Steering Committee is composed of the ICAO NACC Regional Director (RD) as Project Director; ICAO Technical Cooperation Bureau (TCB) as Project Administrator; ICAO NACC Regional Officer Technical Cooperation and the CAR States/Territories/International Organizations participating in the project.

4.4 The RLA/09/801 Project has proposed several educational events and meetings to promote the implementation activities in the NAM/CAR RPBANIP, based on the priorities of the air navigation topics in the CAR Region.

4.5 The first meeting of the Project Steering Committee was held during the NACC/DCA/4 Meeting, during which the objectives, scope, organization, membership, activities, benefits, deliverables, programme, resources, financing, metrics, risks and project next steps were presented.

4.6 The meeting recognized the benefits of the regional project and Bahamas, Dominican Republic and México confirmed their participation in the project. Cuba expressed its interest in participating but required consultation with its respective authorities. Central American States reconfirmed their intention of participating in the project represented by COCESNA, which will be considered during the forthcoming COCESNA's Executive Board meeting.

5. Suggested actions

5.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) encourage CAR States that have confirmed their participation in the project, in case they have not yet done so, to deposit the initial contribution of 25,000 USD in ICAO's account *as soon as possible*;
- b) urge CAR States to take into consideration the activities and scope of the RLA/09/801 project in the implementation of the air navigation systems in the Region; and
- c) urge ICAO to convene and the Project participants to attend the Second Meeting of the Steering Committee once the contributions of the Project have been received.