International Civil Aviation Organization
NORTH AMERICAN, CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN OFFICE
Eighteenth Meeting of Directors of Civil Aviation of the Eastern Caribbean (18th E/CAR DCA)
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 9 to 12 December 2003

Agenda Item 5: **CNS/ATM and other Air Navigation Developments**

PROPOSAL FOR SPECIAL E/CAR CNS MEETING

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY
This working paper presents to the Meeting a proposal to include in the programme of meetings for 2004 a Special E/CAR CNS Meeting, in order to assist the upgrade of the E/CAR Digital Network and the implementation of other CNS systems.

References:
• Report of the 17th Meeting of Directors of Civil Aviation of the Eastern Caribbean (Port of Spain, 04 to 07 December 2001) • Report of the Eastern Caribbean Digital Network Meeting (Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands on 7 October 2002) • Report of the 27th E/CAR Informal Working Group Meeting (St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda, 21 to 24 July 2003).

1. Introduction

1.1   During the 17th Meeting of Directors of Civil Aviation of the Eastern Caribbean (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 04-07 December 2001) discussions were held and an agreement reached for a bidding process to be carried out for the management of the E/CAR digital network. Due to unreliability of the system and failure to meet a quick response to the requirements, there was general unsatisfaction with the management of the network by TSTT. The decision to contract Cable and Wireless (C&W) was taken during a meeting held in Antigua (25 June 2002).

1.2   The Eastern Caribbean Digital Network Meeting held in Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands on 7 October 2002 reviewed the status of the implementation of the digital communications network.

1.3   The 27th E/CAR Informal Working Group meeting held in St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda, 21 to 24 July 2003, reviewed the general status of E/CAR CNS/ATM Transition Plan as well as the E/CAR Digital Network and other CNS systems. This meeting was informed that (C&W) will takeover the process towards the end of August 2003.

1.4   ICAO Regional Officer, Communications, Navigation and Surveillance visited Barbados, Martinique and Trinidad & Tobago in November 2003. During this visit the RO/CNS could appreciate, among other aspects that the E/CAR Network is improving but some deficiencies remain and Cable & Wireless has still not assumed the complete management of the network. In addition, RO/CNS has received information on some proposals that are being formulated by some States/Territories, as well as by Cable & Wireless and IACL. This proposals are aimed at improving the aeronautical communications in Eastern Caribbean, but the adoption of some of them could amend the FASID ANP CAR/SAM, Doc. 8733 of the OACI, especially with regard to the services of communications AFS.

2. Discussion

2.1   Taking into consideration the background expressed in the previous paragraphs, the Secretariat proposes to carry out a Special E/CAR CNS Meeting in the last trimester of 2004, in which details of the proposals could be analyzed and an agreement for a coordinated plan to restructure the E/CAR Digital Network, with the purpose to upgrade and to interconnect this network with other neighboring networks in order to improve the service of communications AFS and facilitate the implementation of the ATN, and, if are required, the meeting could elaborate proposals of amendments to the FASID ANP CAR/SAM. In addition, the special meeting could review and assist the implementation of other CNS systems.

3. Suggested Action

3.1   The Directors of Civil Aviation of the E/CAR are invited to:

a)   discuss and take note of this working paper; and

b)   approve the inclusion of the proposed Special E/CAR CNS Meeting into the programme of meetings for 2004, as mentioned in the paragraph 2.1.

- END -