



INFORMATION PAPER

FIFTH MEETING OF THE ALLPIRG/ADVISORY GROUP

(Montreal, 23 – 24 March 2006)

Agenda Item 5.3: Coordination between the regions and between the Regional Offices and Headquarters

WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICAN (WACAF) OFFICE AND INTERREGIONAL COORDINATION

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents key achievements reached by the Informal Meeting on the improvement of air traffic services over the South Atlantic (SAT), which mainly addresses issues related to the management of oceanic routes at the interface between AFI, EUR, NAT and SAM Regions.

Action by ALLPIRG/5 is in paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Informal Meeting on the improvement of air traffic services over the South Atlantic, known as the SAT interregional mechanism has been instrumental in implementing CNS/ATM applications in their respective FIRs. It has now become a dynamic gathering of representatives from AFI, EUR, CAR, NAM and SAM Regions of ICAO. It is anticipated that the SAT Group would play an important role in the development of interregional interface applications with a view to facilitating the harmonized implementation of air navigation systems giving rise to a global ATM system in an evolutionary fashion.

1.2 The AFI Planning and implementation regional group (APIRG) has established the SAT Group as the Informal Coordination Group (ICG) for Areas of routing *AR1 - Europe - South Atlantic (EUR/SAT) oceanic routes* and *AR2 - Atlantic Ocean interface between AFI, NAT and SAM*.

1.3 This paper provides ALLPIRG/15 with some key achievements in the South Atlantic through the SAT mechanism.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The latest developments in the South Atlantic in the fields of air traffic management (ATM) and communications, navigation and surveillance (CNS) include the following:

- harmonization of RVSM programmes between AFI and SAM regions (creation of transition areas in SAM FIRs) (2005);
- two-phased implementation of random RNAV routing initially in the southern part of the SAT area (in 2006);
- study on restructuring the EUR/SAM Corridor airspace, including the feasibility of a unidirectional ATS route structure and RNP4 operations airspace;
- implementation of strategic lateral offsets procedures , aimed at increasing the safety of operations;
- development of coordinated ATS contingency plans in South Atlantic FIRs (2005/2006), in order to comply with relevant provisions contained in ICAO Annex 11 — *Air Traffic Services* and Doc 9426 — *Air Traffic Services Planning Manual*.
- communications system (AFTN) performance assessment (2005);
- implementation of a CAFSAT node in Ezeiza (Argentina) connected to Johannesburg (South Africa) (2005);
- studies on ways of achieving interoperability between, VSAT networks; and
- harmonization of ADS/CPDLC applications, including development of a common FANS 1/A Operational Manual in harmony with those of other regions (ASIA/PAC, NAT, Indian Ocean) (2005).

3. ACTION BY ALLPIRG

3.1 The ALLPIRG/5 Meeting is invited to:

- a) note the significant achievements so far reached in improving air navigation services in the SAT area; and
- b) request States concerned and ICAO to continue to provide their support to the established SAT mechanism and its implementation activities.

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