



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

**3.2 Follow-up on the implementation of the NAM/CAR Regional
Performance Based Air Navigation Plan (RPBANIP) in Central
America and the Central Caribbean**

LACK OR DEFICIENT AMS SERVICE IN THE CAR REGION

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY	
This working paper identifies several deficiencies in the provision of Aeronautical Mobile Service (AMS) communications in the CAR Region, which affect the safety of the flights and requires a joint effort to solve them.	
References:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CAR/SAM ANP Doc 8733• RPBANIP ver 2.0 May 2011	
Strategic Objectives	<i>This working paper is related to Strategic Objectives A and C.</i>

1. Introduction

1.1 According to the CAR/SAM Air Navigation Plan, Doc 8733 Air-ground data link and voice communications facilities should be recommended to meet effectively and reliably the agreed requirements for ATS as well as, to the extent required, all other classes of traffic acceptable on the AMS. The facilities should employ voice and data communications links based on available transmission media (e.g. HF, VHF, satellite). This decision should be based on system performance and economical criteria to comply with operational needs.

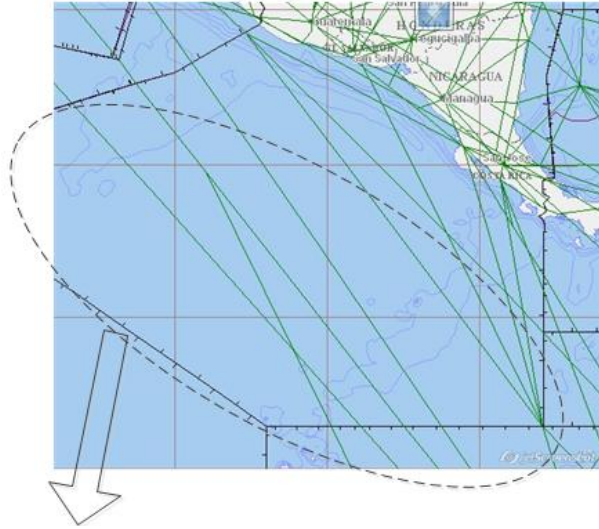
2. Detection of lack or deficient service of AMS communications

2.1 The Regional Performance Objective 9. *Optimization and Modernization of Communication Infrastructure* in the NAM/CAR Regional Performance-Based Air Navigation Implementation Plan (RPBANIP) includes within its activities, improvements to the AMS communications in the CAR region.

2.2 Several airspace users /airlines have informed of several areas with deficient quality and coverage of AMS communications in the upper and lower airspace as shown below:

a. Pacific Oceanic Airspace: FIR Central America

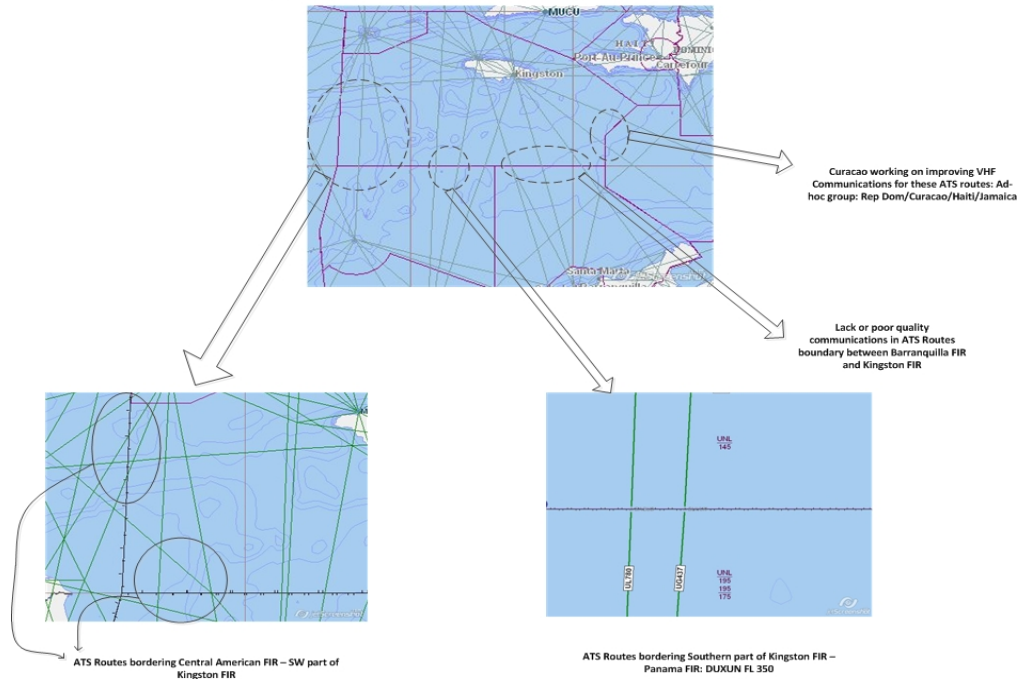
Lack of HF AMS Communications in ATS routes in the Pacific Ocean



Deficient HF communications or complete lack of HF Communications

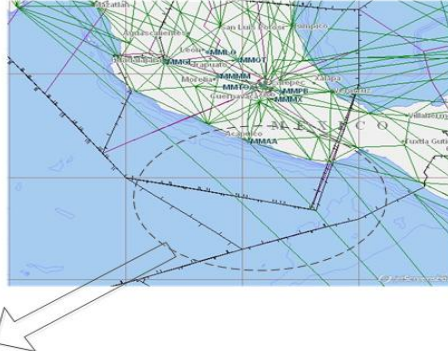
b. Lack/deficient VHF AMS coverage in Central Caribbean

LACK OF AMS VHF COMMUNICATIONS IN CENTRAL CARIBBEAN



- c. Lack of VHF coverage in the Mexico FIR Pacific coasts

Lack or deficiencies in VHF Communications in Pacific Ocean in Mexico



Lack - deficient AMS VHF Communications in routes close to the Pacific coasts – near Acapulco and boundary with Central America FIR

- d. There is a lack of VHF communications coverage in low airspace ATS routes eg. El Salvador, Guatemala and Costa Rica require the implementation of improvements to optimize the service and safety of flights.

2.3 The progress and effort carried out by the States to solve these deficiencies has been informed, such is the case of the work performed by COCESNA in the FIR- Oceanic Pacific area, the joint work of Curaçao-Dominican Republic,-Jamaica, etc., nevertheless the identified deficiencies had not been completely solved.

3. Suggested Actions

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) note the reported information for users/airlines on AMS communication services;
- b) inform the meeting on the work carried-out and the progress in solving these problems, and
- c) urge the definition of joint work plans and agreements to solve and test these deficiencies improvements, defining activities, dates, focal points and the involvement of users in the verification tests of these improvements