



ICAO

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North American, Central American and Caribbean Office

WORKING PAPER

MEVA/TMG/32 — WP/07
17/04/17

Thirty second MEVA Technical Management Group Meeting (MEVA/TMG/32)
Havana, Cuba, 10 to 12 May 2017

Agenda Item 4: Network Interconnection Activities and New Circuits
4.3 New MEVA node installation proposal

NEW MEVA NODE REQUEST FROM BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS (BVI)

(Presented by MEVA TMG Coordinator)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
This Working Paper presents information related to request from British Virgin Island (BVI) to join the MEVA III Satellite Network.	
Action:	Suggested under Section 3.
<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety• Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency
<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MEVA III Document of Agreement• Formal request from BVI address to ICAO NACC Office

1. Introduction

1.1 The Document of Agreement (DoA) on the joint participation, administration, improvement and implementation of services of the Third Generation of the Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) Satellite Aeronautical Telecommunications Services Network (MEVA III) was signed by all its Members in 2015.

1.2 DoA **Article II - Rights and Conditions for Participating in the Network**, Section 3 - *Addition of new Parties to the Network* specifies that the Parties agree that from time to time new parties having a requirement for Network services recommended by the International Civil Aviation Organization, and that are within the satellite coverage area, shall be allowed to participate in the established MEVA III network without discrimination, providing the following conditions are met:

- a) The new Party shall make application in writing to the MEVA III Coordinator. The MEVA III Coordinator shall advise the new Party of the minimum technical requirements of the network, as is set forth in the network design criteria in Annex 1 of the DoA; and
- b) Upon written agreement from the MEVA III Coordinator, the new Party shall sign this MEVA III Agreement and abide by the conditions set forth herein.

1.3 On 4 August 2016, ICAO NACC Regional Office received a letter from British Virgin Islands (BVI) Airports Authority, (Air Traffic Services Unit) interest in becoming a member of the MEVA III network for services required for air traffic control operations at the Terrance B Lettsome International Airport.

2. Discussion

2.1 On August 4 2016, Mr. Michael A France, British Virgin Islands (BVI) Airports Authority, express their interest in a letter sent to the ICAO NACC Regional Office, in becoming a member of the MEVA III network (service required for air traffic control operations at the Terrance B Lettsome International Airport) as soon as practicable. The services requested are as follows:

- 3 switched voice lines (communications with San Juan, Puerto Rico)
- 1 AFTN data line (9.6 kbps) (communications with San Juan, Puerto Rico)
- 1 radar data line (16 kbps) (communications with San Juan, Puerto Rico)

2.2 Based upon such request, ICAO NACC Regional Office contacted Frequentis, the MEVA III Service Provider and requested they provide BVI with a Commercial Offer for the new site in Tortola, BVI. The Commercial offer specified two options, one for leasing and one for purchasing the equipment.

2.3 A teleconference for further discussion on this request was scheduled with BVI, Frequentis and the TMG Coordinator but so far has not transpired. The TMG Coordinator, in lieu of such request, contacted the States who are associated with BVI requirements and received the following comments from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) (United States):

- FAA cannot support BVI's request for 9.6Kbps Aeronautical Fixed Telecommunication Network (AFTN) line because of their transition to Aeronautical Message Handling System (AMHS). FAA also indicated that BVI is supported by an AISR account.

2.4 Based on the above-mentioned information, FAA is respectfully recommending the following:

- a) The request from BVI be changed to 64kbps or 128k line in order to support AMHS/AISR; and
- b) BVI gets an AMHS terminal/switch

2.5 FAA Technical Representative is available for further discussion with BVI Representative on the recommendation presented under paragraphs 2.3 and 2.4.

3. Suggested Action

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) review the information presented in this working paper;
- b) approve the request from BVI to join the MEVA III Network;
- c) BVI take note of information presented under paragraphs 2.3 and 2.4;
- d) BVI to indicate their readiness to join the MEVA III Network and coordinate as appropriate with the MEVA III Service Provider for implementation of site; and
- e) Member States to take appropriate action as needed.