



**Agenda Item 4: Work plan for the year 2026 and implementation of REDDIG III – Phase 1 and Phase 2**

**ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE PERIOD 2026**

*(Management of the REDDIG II → REDDIG III transition and regional operational continuity)*

**(Working paper presented by the Secretariat)**

<b>SUMMARY</b>	
<p>The purpose of this working paper is to present to the Coordination Committee the 2026 work plan of Project RLA/03/901, which is developed in a scenario of operational transition derived from the postponement of the entry into operation of REDDIG III. The plan includes actions aimed at ensuring the operational continuity of REDDIG II, advancing in the implementation of REDDIG III and managing the risks associated with the transition period.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>References</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RCC/32-NE/04 – Work plan for the year 2025;</li><li>• Final Report of RCC/32 – Agenda Item 4;</li><li>• Conclusion RCC/32-01 – Arrangements for the start of the REDDIG III tender – Phase 1;</li><li>• RCC/33-NE/01 – Extension of the satellite service; and</li><li>• ICAO Contract No. 22501528 (MEVA III) and associated amendments.</li></ul>	
<p><b>ICAO's strategic objectives:</b></p>	<p><i>A – Operational Safety</i> <i>B – Air navigation capability and efficiency</i></p>

**1. Introduction**

1.1 This working paper presents the work plan of Project RLA/03/901 for 2026, structured as a technical-operational transition plan, considering that the entry into operation of REDDIG III, originally scheduled for 2025, has been postponed and is currently projected for the second half of 2026.

1.2 This postponement is mainly due to delays in the deposit of extraordinary quotas by States, an essential requirement to initiate the bidding process; and the administrative deadlines inherent to ICAO's procurement processes, which condition the minimum times for evaluation, awarding and implementation.

1.3 In continuity with the actions developed during 2025 within the framework of the Regional Project RLA/03/901, and considering the need to guarantee the operational continuity of REDDIG during the transition period towards REDDIG III, various activities are expected to be carried out during 2026. Refer to **Appendix A**.

1.4 Consequently, 2026 is configured as a critical period of coexistence, during which the continuity of regional CNS/ATM services on REDDIG II must be guaranteed, while the progressive implementation of REDDIG III is completed, whose entry into operation is projected, in an optimistic scenario, for the second half of 2026.

1.5 The 2026 work plan is structured around several technical axes aimed at simultaneously ensuring the operational continuity of REDDIG II and the progressive preparation of REDDIG III.

1.6 The plan explicitly addresses:

- a) the operational continuity of REDDIG II;
- b) the management of preventive maintenance on legacy infrastructure;
- c) the technical preparation of REDDIG III (WAN and LAN);
- d) the structural migration of services to IP (VoIP, AMHS, AIDC);
- e) pending and strategic regional and interregional interconnections;
- f) the management of the MEVA III scenario – Venezuela and agencies;
- g) extension of the satellite transponder and MPLS network contracts with current providers.

## 2. TECHNICAL AXES OF THE 2026 WORK PLAN

2.1 The original planning of Project RLA/03/901 envisaged that REDDIG III – Phase 1 (WAN/MPLS) would come into operation during 2025. However, this milestone could not be achieved.

### 2.2 Operational continuity of REDDIG II

2.2.1 During 2026, REDDIG's permanent technical-operational monitoring will continue, including monitoring the performance of the MPLS network and the satellite segment through the periodic analysis of availability indicators by node, as well as the control of compliance with the contractually established service level agreements (SLAs).

2.2.2 Priority will be given to focused corrective maintenance actions and risk management associated with legacy equipment, as well as the progressive reduction of dependence on the satellite segment when there are viable terrestrial alternatives.

2.2.3 During 2026, a focused preventive maintenance plan will be implemented, aimed at extending the operational life of the REDDIG II nodes until the commissioning of the REDDIG III.

2.2.4 The plan includes:

- a) periodic inspection of IBUCs, LNBS and VSAT power supplies;
- b) thermal and electrical verification of racks and shelters;
- c) backup and validation of router and switch configurations;
- d) prioritization of critical nodes for ATS, AMHS, and voice services.

2.2.5 This maintenance will be carried out under the criterion of minimum investment and maximum operating return, avoiding structural investments in equipment classified as EoL.

2.2.6 Likewise, technical support activities on the REDDIG nodes will be continued, including the monitoring of failures in existing satellite equipment and the logistical management for repair, replacement or adaptation of components while maintaining the operation of the satellite segment as operational support.

2.2.7 These activities will include the periodic backup of network equipment configurations, centralized in the Network Control Centres (NCCs), with the aim of strengthening the capacity to recover from incidents.

2.2.8 Finally, the operational transition between the current REDDIG II infrastructure and the future REDDIG III architecture will continue to be managed, ensuring that the continuity of regional CNS/ATM services is maintained throughout the implementation period of the new network.

### **2.3 Implementation of REDDIG III – Phase 1 (WAN/MPLS)**

2.3.1 The 2026 Plan prioritizes the effective execution of the REDDIG III – Phase 1 contract, including: provision of MPLS access with last-mile diversity; redundant NNI; REDDIG II / REDDIG III controlled coexistence during the transition.

2.3.2 The entry into operation is expected gradually, with partial milestones per node.

2.3.3 During 2026, work will continue with Member States on the evaluation and implementation of improvements in network access, particularly with regard to the diversification of last-mile accesses, the incorporation of redundancy schemes and the optimization of interconnections through Network-to-Network Interfaces (NNI).

2.3.4 Likewise, the reconfigurations or relocations of nodes that contribute to improving the resilience of the regional infrastructure will be monitored.

2.3.5 During 2026, progress will continue in the technical and administrative activities necessary for the implementation of REDDIG III, including the preparation of technical specifications for the acquisition and renewal of networking equipment, coordination with ICAO's administrative areas for the bidding process, and the definition of the architecture of nodes and network accesses.

### **2.4 Satellite Segment (IS-14/MEVA) – Transition Management**

2.4.1 The satellite segment is mainly considered as an operational contingency mechanism.

2.4.2 REDDIG will continue to use Intelsat-14 until June 2026, with possible limited extension (3+3), while MEVA plans to migrate to another satellite during the first half of 2026, generating a relevant technical asymmetry.

2.4.3 This asymmetry implies that the Maiquetía antenna cannot be repointed simultaneously to two satellites, constituting an objective technical restriction. In addition to the fact that Frequentis has informed that the contract will not be renewed for different reasons. However, although the contract ends on March 31, 2026, the service will continue to be provided until the end of April at no cost to the Project.

2.4.4 In addition, the VSAT infrastructure of Maiquetía (REDDIG) presents obsolescence of critical components (LNB, RF amplifiers), without guarantees of support or spare parts, so the Project is not in a position to guarantee its long-term operational continuity.

## 2.5 **MEVA III Scenario – Venezuela (technical plan 2026) - REDDIG ↔ COCESNA ↔ MEVA terrestrial interconnection test**

2.5.1 As previously reported, in order to provide continuity of services between the SAM and CAR States, a series of activities are being developed.

2.5.2 In this sense, COCESNA is recognized for the predisposition and availability of its resources to be able to collaborate in the situation. In this sense, the nodes of Ilopango and Tegucigalpa are essential to implement temporary solutions until REDDIG III and CANSNET are available.

2.5.3 As one of the technical actions foreseen in the 2026 Work Plan, the execution of a terrestrial connection test has been defined, with the following characteristics:

- a) **Window:** December 2025 to March 2026;
- b) **Career:** Venezuela → REDDIG → Ilopango → MEVA node in Tegucigalpa; and
- c) **Objective:** to allow ATS voice coordination with Aruba, Curaçao and Puerto Rico without using the Maiquetía VSAT as an interconnection point.

### 2.5.4 **Technical scope of the test**

- a) end-to-end ATS voice validation in accordance with **ED-137**;
- b) measurement of latency, jitter and packet loss;
- c) evaluation of service continuity and failure behaviour; and
- d) QoS and security verification (including IPsec where applicable).

### 2.5.5 **Success Criteria**

- a) performance within operational parameters; and
- b) no degradations affecting the ATS service during the test window.

### 2.5.6 **Responsibilities**

- a) REDDIG NOC (Manaus) and INAC Maiquetía;
- b) COCESNA (Ilopango / Tegucigalpa); and
- c) Frequentis NOC and MEVA operations.

### 2.5.7 **Deliverables**

- a) joint evidentiary procedure;
- b) technical records; and
- c) Brief note of results with technical recommendation.

2.5.8 It should be noted that this type of solution is currently being used for Colombia's oral communications with Jamaica and Curaçao.

### 3. **RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

3.1 The 2026 Work Plan is based on the following assumptions:

- a) minimum continuity of the satellite segment;
- b) effective execution of the REDDIG III contract; and
- c) technical cooperation between States and suppliers.

3.2 Possible additional delays could impact the continuity of regional CNS/ATM services.

#### 3.3 **Preparation of Technical Specifications for Networking Equipment (LAN)**

3.3.1 During 2026, work will be done on the development of a regional Technical Specification for the acquisition of networking equipment, aimed at REDDIG III – Phase 2 (LAN).

3.3.2 The ET will include, at a minimum: routers and switches with advanced QoS capabilities; full support for already deployed Fortinet firewalls; native support for VoIP, AMHS, AIDC, ADS-B, and critical IP services; monitoring, automation and remote management mechanisms; Regional standardization criteria.

3.3.3 The goal is to prevent REDDIG III from operating with a modern WAN supported by a heterogeneous or technologically obsolete LAN.

#### 3.4 **Structural migration of analogue voice services to VoIP**

3.4.1 The 2026 Plan establishes as a strategic line the progressive migration of all analogue ATS voice circuits towards VoIP solutions, using REDDIG as an IP transport network.

3.4.2 Actions include: identification of active analogue links by State; prioritisation of critical links; adoption of solutions compatible with EUROCAE ED-137; progressive elimination of satellite dependencies for voice.

3.4.3 The objective is to promote the progressive evolution of IP voice towards the regional operating standard.

#### 3.5 **Surveillance Services, AMHS and AIDC – Pending Interconnections**

3.5.1 During 2026, technical support will continue to be provided to States for the operation and optimization of CNS/ATM services provided through REDDIG, including ATS circuits, AMHS services, AIDC exchanges, surveillance data exchange and ATS voice services, including solutions based on VoIP ATM. Priority will be given to the completion of pending AMHS and AIDC interconnections, including: Panama – Brasilia (AMHS); Ecuador – COCESNA; Asunción – Curitiba; Santiago Oceanic – Lima; other bilateral interconnections identified.

3.5.2 These interconnections will be conditional on: effective availability of REDDIG III; compliance with security and QoS requirements; technical coordination between States.

3.5.3 These activities will aim to ensure the continuity and quality of communication and coordination services between the ATS centres in the region.

### 3.6 **New strategic regional and interregional interconnections**

3.6.1 The 2026 Plan contemplates the technical analysis of strategic interconnections outside the AM Region, including:

- a) Dakar (Senegal) as a focal point with Africa (WACAF);
- b) New Zealand as an access node to the APAC Region;
- c) Puerto Rico as a point of interconnection with NAM/CAR; and
- d) Other.

3.6.2 These initiatives will be approached from a network architecture perspective, without premature contractual commitments, but with the following definitions: possible topologies; security requirements; operational impact.

3.6.3 Technical coordination will continue with Member States, service providers and ICAO Regional Offices, aimed at analysing possible interconnections between regional aeronautical networks, evaluating geographical redundancy schemes and defining technical criteria related to safety, quality of service (QoS) and interoperability.

### 3.7 **REDDIG cybersecurity**

3.7.1 During 2026, progress will continue to be made in strengthening REDDIG's cybersecurity, including the consolidation of the operation of the security equipment installed in the nodes, the renewal and management of firewall system licenses, and the progressive replacement of switching equipment with devices compatible with the security architecture envisaged for REDDIG III.

3.7.2 Likewise, the reactivation of the Ad-hoc Cybersecurity Group will be promoted in order to move towards more advanced security configurations aligned with the future architecture of the network.

### 3.8 **Technical support to States**

3.8.1 During 2026, technical support will continue to be provided to member states in the event of incidents, contingencies, or specific requirements related to the operation of the REDDIG, as well as collaboration on issues that are of interest to the States and within the scope that the Project can provide.

3.8.2 Likewise, the updating of contingency plans, operational directories and technical coordination mechanisms will be promoted, in order to strengthen the regional resilience of CNS/ATM services.

### 3.9 **Technical training**

3.9.1 Technical training activities aimed at staff from Member States are planned, including technical visits to REDDIG nodes to assess the state of the equipment, strengthen the technical capacities of local staff and review operational and safety configurations.

3.9.2 Likewise, a Technical Operational Meeting (RTO) is expected to be held during 2026, instead of being determined, in order to review technical aspects of the operation of the REDDIG and strengthen technical coordination among the participating States.

4. **SUGGESTED ACTION**

4.1 The Coordination Committee, within the framework of RCC/34, is invited to:

- a) Take note of the 2026 work plan;
- b) Recognize the technical and administrative causes of the postponement of REDDIG III;
- c) Take note of the specific technical plan for the MEVA III – Venezuela scenario;
- d) Support proposed transition actions to ensure regional operational continuity; and
- e) invite States to continue coordinating with the Secretariat on the actions necessary to facilitate the transition to REDDIG III.

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## APPENDIX A

**2026 Work Plan – Executive Table of Technical Actions**  
**Project RLA/03/901 – REDDIG**  
*(Planned status for the year 2026 – RCC/34)*

N°	Technical axis	Planned Action 2026	Technical Scope / Nodes	Key dependencies	Associated risk	Expected mitigation
1	Operational continuity	REDDIG II Focused Preventive Maintenance	Critical nodes with VSAT (Maiquetía, Paramaribo, Montevideo, Santiago, others)	Minimal availability of legacy equipment	EoL Hardware Failure Catastrophic	Selective maintenance, satellite load reduction
2	Operational continuity	Backups and configuration validation	Routers and switches on all REDDIG nodes	Remote Access/Maintenance Windows	Loss of configuration in the event of failures	Centralized repositories and restore testing
3	REDDIG III – WAN	Progressive implementation MPLS REDDIG III	Country nodes, with double last mile	MPLS contract execution	Additional delay in commissioning	REDDIG II / III Controlled Coexistence
4	REDDIG III – WAN	Migration by nodes and services	AMHS, AIDC, ATS Voice	MPLS Stability	Operational impact during migration	Tiered migration and controlled windows
5	Satellite segment	IS-14 Controlled Temporal Extension	Nodes with no terrestrial alternative	IS-14 End of Life	Abrupt service outage	Phase-out scenarios
6	Satellite segment	VSAT Progressive Shutdown	Nodes migrated to MPLS	MPLS Availability	Long-term dependence on VSAT	Prioritization of critical nodes
7	Networking – LAN	Crafting ET networking equipment	Routers, switches, QoS, monitoring	Definition of REDDIG III architecture	Obsolete LAN accompanying modern WAN	Standardized regional ET
8	Networking – LAN	Fortinet Firewall Support	All nodes	Security Architecture	Technical incompatibilities	Pre-validation in ET
9	ATS Voice	Analog Circuit Inventory	All REDDIG States	State Information	Legacy Technology Persistence	Prioritization by criticality
10	ATS Voice	Progressive Migration to VoIP (ED-137)	Critical ATS Links	Stable IP availability	Excessive latency/jitter	QoS and Pilots

N°	Technical axis	Planned Action 2026	Technical Scope / Nodes	Key dependencies	Associated risk	Expected mitigation
11	ATS Voice	Satellite double-hop elimination	Regional links	Operational MPLS	Speech Quality Degradation	Terrestrial routing via REDDIG
12	AMHS	Panama – Brasilia Connection	Bilateral AMHS	REDDIG III operational	Delay in integration	Prior technical coordination
13	AMHS	Pending connections (Ecuador–COCESNA)	AMHS/AIDC	Security and QoS	Delay in ATS services	Prioritization by impact
14	Interregional	Technical study of the Dakar interconnection	Africa Strategic Node	Interregional agreements	Network exposure	DMZ Architecture
15	Interregional	New Zealand Interconnection Technical Study	APAC Link	APAC Coordination	Latency complexity	Prior evaluation without obligation
16	Interregional	Puerto Rico Interconnection Technical Study	NAM/CAR Link	NACC Coordination	Security risk	Segmentation and control
17	MEVA Venezuela /	MEVA III continuity assessment	Caracas Node and adjacencies	Venezuela Decision	ATS Coordination Court	Land alternatives
18	MEVA Venezuela /	REDDIG–COCESNA–MEVA ground connection test	Ilopango – Tegucigalpa	Multi-NOC Coordination	Failure of tests	Controlled windows
19	MEVA Venezuela /	Alternative routing via Ilopango	Aruba, Curacao, PR	Test Results	VSAT Maiquetía Unit	Decoupling of the Caracas node
20	Governance	RCC/CDI Technical Follow-Up	The whole project	Coordination of States	Lack of timely decisions	Periodic technical reports

#### Explanatory note for RCC/34

- This table does not imply additional contractual commitments,
- identifies technical actions necessary to ensure continuity and transition, and
- constitutes an executive monitoring tool for the Coordination Committee during 2026.