

Proposed Terms of Reference (ToR) – SAT IMG CNS Working Group

1 Purpose

- 1.1 The SAT CNS Working Group (SAT CNS WG) is established under the South Atlantic Implementation Management Group (SAT IMG) to support the planning, implementation, monitoring, and coordination of Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) initiatives within the South Atlantic (SAT) region.
- 1.2 The Working Group shall serve as a technical coordination platform to identify, analyse and support the resolution of CNS operational, technical and interoperability issues affecting air navigation services in the SAT region.

2 Objective of the Working Group

2.1 General objective

To strengthen interregional CNS coordination within the South Atlantic (SAT) area and propose technical solutions to enhance interoperability, resilience, and performance of CNS systems supporting safe and efficient air traffic services.

2.2 Specific objectives

The SAT CNS WG shall:

- a. Support the implementation of CNS initiatives and projects within the SAT region.
- b. Enhance interoperability between neighbouring FIRs and regions through coordination of CNS systems and services.
- c. Monitor and address CNS deficiencies affecting safety, efficiency, capacity and continuity of operations.
- d. Develop recommendations to improve resilience and redundancy of regional CNS infrastructure.
- e. Support the implementation of ICAO regional and global CNS and ATM operational improvements.
- f. Provide technical advice and recommendations to SAT IMG and, when appropriate, SAT SOG.

3 Scope of Work

The Working Group will:

- Monitor and report on the operational status and performance of interregional CNS links (REDDIG, CAFSAT, AFISNET).
- Assess and recommend backup solutions for CAFSAT and other critical communication networks.
- Coordinate interoperability of CNS/ATM systems, including AIDC, AMHS, VoIP, ADS-C, CPDLC, and surveillance integration (ADS-B terrestrial and space-based).
- Support harmonization of HF/VHF frequency planning and spectrum management across SAT FIRs.
- Prepare an Interregional CNS Coordination Report summarizing link status, challenges, and recommendations for SAT IMG.

4 Deliverables

The Working Group shall produce:

- CNS implementation progress reports;
- Reports on CNS deficiencies and corrective actions;
- Recommendations and inputs to SAT IMG on interoperability, resilience, and contingency measures; and
- Action plans and follow-up reports on CNS initiatives.

5 Membership

The Working Group shall comprise:

- CNS experts nominated by SAT States;
- Representatives of participating ANSPs;
- ICAO Regional Offices (WACAF, SAM, ESAF, EUR/NAT and NACC);
- Subject Matter Experts invited as required.

6 Working methods

The Working Group shall:

- Conduct meetings virtually or physically as required;
- Coordinate activities through electronic correspondence and collaborative platforms;
- Establish ad hoc task teams to address specific technical issues where appropriate.

7 Reporting

The SAT CNS WG shall report to SAT IMG and provide progress updates and recommendations to SAT coordination meetings and SAT SOG, as appropriate.

8 Leadership

The Working Group shall elect a Chairperson and, where appropriate, a Vice-Chairperson from among its members.

The Chairperson shall:

- Lead and coordinate the activities of the Working Group;
- Convene and chair meetings;
- Monitor progress of actions and deliverables;
- Present recommendations and reports to SAT IMG.

The Vice-Chairperson shall support the Chairperson and act on their behalf when required.

9 Secretariat

The ICAO Regional Offices participating in the SAT mechanism shall support the Working Group. The ICAO WACAF Regional Office shall serve as Secretariat and coordinate its activities.

10 Review of the Terms of Reference

These Terms of Reference shall be reviewed periodically by SAT IMG to ensure continued relevance and effectiveness.