



**Taller sobre el Marco de Gestión de Contingencias ATM de la  
Región CAR/SAM**

**CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Management  
Framework (RACF) Workshop**

(Ciudad de Panamá, Panamá, 1 – 5 de junio de 2026)

- **Presentación de (Estado)**

# Guyana's Experience and Challenges in Implementing ATM Contingency Arrangements

**Working Paper** | CAR/SAM RACF Meeting/Workshop

Agenda Item 2.4 | Panama City, Panama | 1–5 June 2026

**Submitted by: Guyana**

# Introduction

## Purpose of this Paper

This Working Paper presents Guyana's experience in the implementation of ATM contingency arrangements, highlighting existing practices, challenges, lessons learned, and areas for improvement.

## Submission Context

Submitted under Agenda Item 2.4 to support the exchange of practical State experiences and contribute to the development of a harmonized CAR/SAM Regions ATM Contingency Management Framework (RACF).

# Current Situation in Guyana



## National Framework

ATM contingency arrangements aligned with ICAO provisions, integrated within aviation emergency & incident management processes.



## Scope of Planning

Covers ATS operations at aerodromes and enroute services: comms loss, CNS failures, staffing constraints, severe weather & disruptions.



## Coordination Mechanisms

Civil Aviation Authority, ATS units, airport operators, met services, and security agencies coordinate to ensure continuity during events.



## Cross-Border Interface

Procedures exist for adjacent FIR coordination; further standardization and routine joint testing at regional level is needed.

# Challenges Identified

## Multi-agency Alignment

Consistent understanding of trigger criteria, roles, and decision-making responsibilities among all stakeholders.

## Communications Resilience

Maintaining reliable primary and backup systems and ensuring interoperability during outages.

## Operational Staffing

Sustaining qualified staffing levels during extended disruptions while managing fatigue and workload.

## Procedure Usability

Keeping contingency procedures concise, practical, and easily usable by operational personnel.

## Training & Exercises

Conducting regular, realistic exercises that include cross-border coordination elements.

## Data & Tools

Ensuring timely access to aeronautical information, NOTAM services, and situational awareness tools.

# Lessons Learned

01

## Early Notification is Critical

Reduces uncertainty for neighbouring ATS units and airspace users, enabling faster response and coordination.

02

## Pre-defined Activation Triggers

Enable faster and more consistent decision-making when a contingency event occurs.

03

## Single Source of Situational Updates

Improves message consistency during contingency events and reduces conflicting information.

04

## Exercises Should Test Interfaces

Including coordination with adjacent FIRs, NOTAM issuance, and communications with operators.

# Actions Taken & Planned

1 Review and update the national ATM contingency plan and LOAs to align with emerging ICAO RACF guidance.

2 Strengthen backup communication arrangements and contact directories.

3 Conduct regular multi-agency tabletop and operational exercises with documented lessons learned.

4 Enhance cross-border coordination procedures with adjacent FIRs.

5 Formalize post-event reporting and continuous improvement processes.

# Recommendations to CAR/SAM Regions

## Common Templates

Develop common templates for contingency activation messages, situation reports, and post-event summaries.

## Cross-Border Requirements

Establish minimum cross-border coordination requirements between adjacent FIRs.

## Regional Exercise Programme

Implement a recurring regional contingency exercise programme to test procedures jointly.

## Regional Directory

Maintain a secure, up-to-date regional directory of 24/7 contingency focal points.

## Targeted Training

Provide targeted training for ATS supervisors and flow managers on contingency decision-making and crisis coordination.

# Action by the Meeting

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*The Meeting is invited to:*

1

Note the information provided by Guyana on its experience and challenges in implementing ATM contingency arrangements.

2

Encourage States and ANSPs to share tools, procedures, and lessons learned to support RACF harmonization.

3

Consider the recommendations presented in this paper for the further development of the CAR/SAM ATM Contingency Management Framework.

4

Invite ICAO NACC and SAM Offices to support regional coordination initiatives and capacity-building activities.