
APPENDIX M**STATUS OF SADIS GATEWAY PROJECT PROCUREMENT****Letter received by the Secretary from the Rapporteur of the
SADISOPSG Gateway Working Group**

“Current status of SADIS Gateway provision by the United Kingdom

At the SADISOPSG/4 Meeting in Paris I promised to inform the meeting via ICAO of the status of the procurement of the SADIS Gateway. The SADIS Gateway is being procured by the United Kingdom as part of a replacement MET message switch for national use.

As you may be aware NATS procurement policy seeks, where possible, to achieve new systems through COTS, rather than specific to type specially developed equipment. The responses to the initial specification for the replacement MET message switch included a greater ‘development’ content than NATS was prepared to accept, as a consequence the project procurement has therefore been rescheduled. The United Kingdom is still committed to providing the appropriate system and will in the meantime maintain and where appropriate and possible improve the current system.

I hope to be able to issue a new timescale for the project within the next few weeks that could be included in the SADISOPSG/4 Report*. Provisionally though it is expected that the new invitation to tender would be out towards the end of 1999 with contract let expected during the 1st quarter of 2000. It should be noted that this revised approach will not affect the planned 2-way VSAT enhancement programme.”

*More detailed timescale not available in time for report.