

**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
NORTH AMERICAN, CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN OFFICE**

**TWENTY-SIXTH EASTERN CARIBBEAN INFORMAL WORKING GROUP MEETING
(26TH E/CAR IWG)**

(Barbados, 3 to 7 June 2002)

Agenda Item 4: **CNS Developments**

4.2 Other CNS items

4.2.1 Transition from AFTN to AMHS

TRANSITION FROM AFTN TO AMHS

(Working Paper presented by InterCaribbean Aeronautical Communications Limited (IACL))

SUMMARY	
This Working Paper presents the initial plans for the transition from AFTN to AMHS in the Eastern Caribbean sub-region.	
REFERENCES	
• Conclusion 25/14 of 25th E/CAR IWG Meeting	

1 Background

1.1 Considering the topography of the Eastern Caribbean Sub-region, it has been established that the basic design of the E/CAR Digital AFS Network is a sound one. The problems that plague the network stem from administrative issues that impact on proper management, which in turn affects reliability. Solutions to this situation are presently being vigorously pursued and once they are put into effect, the network would be capable of supporting a reliable AMHS.

2. Present Status

2.1 Presently, the Eastern Caribbean is connected to NADIN II through the AFTN Message Switch and an AMHS PAD in Port-of-Spain. The AMHS PAD is software upgradable to Gateway functionality that can provide AFTN to ATN connectivity in the short term while the AFTN is maintained in the E/CAR Region.

3. Suggested Action

3.1 Discussions concerning the transition process shall continue among the member states of the Region and related action take place in parallel with other aspects of ATM/CNS. In the meantime, the ATS units of the E/CAR will continue to use the AFTN and familiarize themselves with the operational aspects of AMHS, assess and review their requirements in order to determine the timing for transition.
