Workshop for the Updating and Harmonization of Air Traffic Management (ATM) Contingency Plans of the States and Territories of the CAR Region
(San Salvador, El Salvador, from 2 to 6 November 2026)

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

Date	From 2 to 6 November 2026
Location	San Salvador, El Salvador
Attendance	The workshop was attended by 18 States/Territories from the CAR Region and 1 International Organization, totalling ** delegates as indicated in the list of participants contained in the **Appendix**.

1. References

1.1 Convention on International Civil Aviation, Doc 7300
1.2 Annex 11 – Air Traffic Services
1.3 Procedures for Air Navigation Services (PANS) – Air Traffic Management (Doc 4444)
1.4 CAR/SAM Regional Air Navigation Plan
1.5 CAR Region Air Traffic Management Contingency Plan
1.6 Final Report of the Twenty-Third Meeting of the CAR/SAM Regional Planning and Implementation Group (GREPECAS/23), Mexico City, Mexico, 4 to 6 March 2026
1.7 Summary of Discussions of the CAR/SAM Regions, Regional Air Traffic Management Contingency Management Framework (RACF) Meeting/Workshop, Panama City, Panama, from 1 to 5 June 2026
1.8 Draft Summary of Discussions of the Eleventh Meeting of the North American, Central American and the Caribbean Working Group (NACC/WG/11), Guatemala City, Guatemala, 21 to 25 September 2026.
1.9 Draft Caribbean and South America Regions Air Traffic Management Contingency Framework (CAR/SAM RACF) Version 1.0, June 2026

2. Purpose

2.1 Jointly update and harmonize the National ATM Contingency Plans of the States of the CAR Region with the ICAO Global Framework for Contingency Management, strengthening the resilience, continuity, and safety of the regional air navigation system.

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3. Objectives

3.1 To examine and agree on the proposal to update the Regional ATM Contingency Framework of the CAR/SAM Regions.

3.2 Review and update the ATM Contingency Plans of the States/Territories and ANSPs of the CAR Region.

3.3 Harmonize and agree on contingency procedures for adjacent ATS units.

3.4 Evaluate and incorporate new risk scenarios for air navigation operations in the CAR Region.

4. Introduction

4.1 Contingency planning for air traffic services is a requirement established in ICAO Annex 11 and is part of the regional framework defined in the CAR Region ATM Contingency Plan.

4.2 ICAO has initiated actions to harmonize global guidelines for ATM contingency management. This harmonization has already begun with specific activities for the APAC and MID regions, and a similar activity was conducted for the CAR/SAM Regions.

4.3 Consequently, it is necessary to harmonize the National ATM Contingency Plans for the CAR Region. Furthermore, the NAM/CAR/CONT/5 meeting concluded the need to review and update ATM contingency plans to strengthen the resilience of the regional ANS system.

5. Workshop Schedule and Activities

5.1 The workshop webpage is located at:
NACC - Meetings | International Civil Aviation Organization

6. Outcomes

6.1 Completed a detailed review of the draft CAR/SAM Regional Air Traffic Management Contingency Management Framework (RACF).

6.2 Established the Ad Hoc Group to review the RACF and held its first meeting. Agreed on a roadmap for reaching consensus with the SAM Region and presenting the framework to GREPECAS.

6.3 Assessed ATM contingency management initiatives throughout the CAR Region.

6.4 Examined ICAO's efforts to harmonize the global ATM contingency framework.

6.5 Defined the interfaces and requirements for harmonizing regional contingency management.

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6.6 Assessed contingency scenarios involving multiple air navigation service providers.

6.7 Identified emerging CAR Region contingency scenarios and assessed new threats.

6.8 Undertook individual work to update ATM contingency plans for participating States/Territories and ANSPs.

6.9 Worked toward aligning ATM contingency plans with those of adjacent units.

6.10 Established operational agreements to support ATM contingency plans.

6.11 Identified alternative mechanisms for service delivery.

6.12 Developed and agreed on an action plan to harmonize E/CAR and Central American ATM contingency plans.

7. Recommendations

7.1 Develop a roadmap/work schedule for following up the harmonizing the individual national contingency plans for the CAR Region and agreeing collaborative response actions.

7.2 Prepare an instructional guide/tutorial on completing the contingency arrangements template.

7.3 Create a CAR Region mechanism to facilitate coordination among Flight Information Regions (FIRs) in three areas: (1) agreeing on contingency planning, such as contingency routes and airspace segment closures; (2) planning and coordinating multi-FIR testing and training exercises; and (3) coordinating during an actual contingency involving more than two FIRs or involving the NAM and CAR regions or the SAM and CAR regions.

7.4 Create a CAR Region mechanism for issuing alerts on unpredictable natural phenomena (such as volcanic eruptions or earthquakes) and social events (such as strikes or civil unrest). Early alerts would give the relevant units enough time to coordinate and respond quickly to any resulting disruption.

7.5 An in-person eastern Caribbean regional workshop is proposed for April 2027 to facilitate the final review and harmonization of the ATM Contingency Plans ahead of the 2027 hurricane season.

8. Follow-up Actions

8.1 Revise the RACF to:

- Align with ICAO terminology and provide explanation for other terms used.
- Clarify how national- and regional-level events relate to the ACG, CCC, CCT, and the proposed classification dimensions.
- Clarify whether focal points are responsible for strategic plan updates, operational response, or both, and propose a harmonized designation applicable to regulators and service providers.

8.2 Define the regional monitoring mechanism and web-based repository for current contingency plans, readiness status, and the contingency-event risk register.

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8.3 Establish a recurring process to update the regional contingency risk register at least every two years, incorporating input from participating states and organizations.

8.4 Add a process for verifying contingency planning contact details at least every six months and for notifying the regional office when contacts change.

8.5 Review each national ATM contingency plan against the proposed revised regional framework and identify the changes required for alignment.

8.6 Assess existing national emergency-response structures and determine whether an appropriate formal committee can fulfil the National Contingency Coordination Committee role, including any legal or mandate gaps.

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