



Third Meeting of the Steering Group of the Improvement of Air traffic Services over the South Atlantic (SAT/SG3)

Virtual, 8-10 December 2025.

Agenda Item 7: SAT issues that require action by the ICAO HQ

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(Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY	
This working paper presents a summary of actions or enhancements pertaining to SAT that would require consideration by the ICAO HQ.	
Action by the Meeting is in paragraph 3.	
<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Safety</i> • <i>Capacity and Efficiency</i>

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The SAT Group was established with the responsibility to ensure a continued, coherent and harmonized implementation of the air navigation system in the airspace over the South Atlantic.
- 1.2 SAT Group effectiveness requires close support from and coordination among relevant PIRGs, SAT Bodies and also from ICAO Headquarters regarding global and cross regional matters.

2. DISCUSSION

Governance challenges

- 2.1 The SAT IMG Secretariat support since its establishment has been provided by the EUR/NAT Regional Office on a temporary basis. As announced at the previous SAT SG in December 2024, this arrangement will cease as of SAT IMG/6 and this responsibility will be handed over to the ICAO Regional Offices that have SAT in their areas of accreditation.
- 2.2 Following coordination between the ICAO Regional Offices involved, the ESAF Office will assume the role of SAT IMG Secretariat. The EUR/NAT will continue providing guidance and advice for another 12 months by the, with contribution from the other Offices involved.

In addition, discussions are on-going between Spain and ICAO regarding a possible part-time secondment to support SAT IMG activities until the end of 2026. The arrangement is still under review, and the meeting is invited to encourage its continuation with a view to securing support for at least part of the 2026–2028 triennium.

Resource challenges

- 2.3 Repeated SAT meetings have highlighted persistent resources challenges that impede the effective implementation in the SAT. Resource challenges identified mainly include:
- a) Lack of funds to support the effective conduct of projects under SAT IMG and SAT SOG.; and
 - b) Limited means to ensure the participation of the SAT secretariat to SAT Bodies and NAT SOG/IMG meetings as required by the SAT Handbook.
- 2.4 ICAO HQ is called on to continue supporting SAT implementation and specifically to assist in the mobilization of financial resources to address issues identified in this paper.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to.
- a) take note of the information provided in this working paper; and
 - b) Call on ICAO HQ to take action on recommendations outlined in section 2.2 and 2.4.
