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**Agenda Item 4: Other matters**

4.1 Under this agenda item the Meeting discussed matters related with future activities. After a long exchange of points of views, it was noted that, although the work required by CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting Conclusions 9/8 and 13/28 has advanced, there is still much to be developed in order to finalize the connection of digital CAR/SAM networks to meet the communication requirements of the CAR/SAM FASID using these new digital network environments. In this regard it was recognized that more than one additional Meeting would be required.

4.2 On the other hand, it was noted the importance of preparing in advance the work to be done before any future Meeting, using in the possible extend the e-mail communications. There was a consensus that this methodology could prepare mature proposals for discussion, which would permit the evaluation in advance of the work. As a consequence, this will facilitate the establishment of the future Informal Meetings dates and places. In order to adopt the working methodology by e-mail it was agreed that a list of responsible persons should be nominated by the CAR/SAM States to prepare material for the future Informal Meetings concerning this matter. It was noted that this mechanism provided good results in the MEVA Group. The Meeting was of the opinion that in order to coordinate the work of the participants in the e-mail list, the Regional Offices of ICAO should be the responsible entities for that work. In this regard it was also mentioned the possibility of opening a virtual space in the Web page of the ICAO Regional Offices to introduce information concerning mature documents, mainly, proposals for consultation of all interested parties. In relation with this matter the Meeting formulated the following Conclusion:

**Conclusion 1/2- Future work on the development of solutions for the connectivity of CAR/SAM Digital Networks.**

Based on the mandate of the CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting Conclusions 9/8 and 13/28 to streamline the work of the future Informal Meetings dealing with the connectivity of CAR/SAM Digital Networks, that the ICAO Regional Offices request the CAR/SAM States/Territories/Organizations involved in this matter, to nominate a person with experience in digital communications in order to work closely in an informal way through electronic mail with the accredited regional offices in preparation of future CAR/SAM Informal Meetings for the connectivity of digital networks.

4.3 The Meeting recognized that the collection of the required information to develop the corresponding solution alternatives for the options indicated in Conclusion 1/1 of the Agenda Item 3 will benefit the future regional work on digital network connectivity, for the development of alternative solutions concerning the options indicated in Agenda Item 3, and for coordinating accordingly with the Regional Office. It was agreed that this action should be finalized by the end of August 2000.

4.4 The Meeting discussed possible places and dates for future Meetings. In this regard, although Colombia offered Bogota as the next location for the forthcoming Meeting, it was noted that it was premature to consider this possibility. This should be decided in light of the preparation of future work and the establishment of an adequate strategy to procure a high participation of States/Organizations. The Meeting noted that the above informal group working through e-mail could provide adequate advice to ICAO in order to define the future place and date for the next Informal Meeting.

4.5 The Meeting expressed its concern in respect to the lack of participation of certain States/Territories that play a key role in the development of the work requested by the CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting on digital networks connectivity. It was agreed that the Meeting's concern be expressed by ICAO when the Meeting Summary of Discussions and Conclusions be circulated. In this regard the Meeting formulated the following Conclusion:

**Conclusion 1/3- Participation of the CAR/SAM States/Territories/Organizations in the work to define alternatives for the connectivity of digital networks.**

That the States/Organizations along the boundaries of the CAR/SAM Regions affected by the CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting Conclusions 9/8 and 13/28 consider the need to make all the necessary efforts to participate actively in the work of the informal meetings dealing with the connectivity of digital networks organized by the ICAO regional offices.

4.6 To close the discussion of this agenda item the Secretary announced that ICAO will inform the forthcoming GREPECAS Meeting of the results of the CAR/SAM 01/00-CNS Informal Meeting.

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