

---

**Agenda Item 3      Review of proposals to satisfy AFS communications requirements taking into consideration CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting Conclusion 9/8**

3.1            Colombia, following the agreements taken during the CAR/SAM 01/00-CNS meeting (Mexico, June,2000), presented an updated proposal concerning a solution to the identified deficiencies, as mentioned in the Summary of Discussions and Conclusions on Agenda Item 1, as well as for other AFS requirements, considered in RAN CAR/SAM/3 Conclusion 9/8. The proposal considered the subscription of bilateral agreements between Colombia and interested States/Organizations, and it was based on the following:

- a) the provision and installation of a VSAT node of Colombian digital network at the place designated by the interested States/Territories/Organizations in the modality of a loan (no cost involved for the interested States/Organizations). Colombia should be also responsible to provide the space segment and the training to the local technical personnel;
- b) the agreement should be subscribed for a period of one year and extended as required;
- c) the State/Territory/Organization that subscribe to the agreement should assume the responsibility to maintain in operation the node, both technically and physically and also be responsible against any damage that the node equipment can suffer during the validity of the agreement; and
- d) the State/Territory/Organization that subscribes to the agreement, should also be responsible to pay the use of the frequency to the national authorities, the civil works for the installation of the node equipment, insurance policies and the node equipment transportation costs for future return to Colombia.

3.2            Although other alternatives were proposed, including the installation of a MEVA station in Colombia, the participants to the meeting recognized that, in principle, the Colombian proposal presents a cost/efficient, satisfactory, immediate and interim solution to meet the current CAR/SAM FASID requirements contained in Tables CNS 1A and 1C. The meeting noted that the progress in the interconnection of the current regional/inter-regional digital networks such as MEVA, REDDIG, E/CAR and CAMSAT, could provide the means to meet in the future the communication requirements of Colombia with Jamaica, COCESNA, Panama and Curacao. In this regard, it was noted that the discussions on the mentioned interconnection were already started.

3.3            Colombia, in response to a meeting request, presented a document containing the general framework of the proposal, which should serve as a legal reference, by describing the conditions of the implementation of the VSAT nodes and included a technical Annex, which presented a description of the equipment to be provided, its operation, maintenance support, communication services and quality of service expected for the data and voice communications. In this respect, the mentioned proposal with its technical Annex were attached as **Appendix A** to this part of the Summary of Discussions and Conclusions on Agenda Item 3.

3.3.1 The meeting established 15 November 2001 as the target date for the replies from the interested States/Territories/Organizations to Colombia concerning the considerations to be made on Appendix A. It was also agreed that, based on the received replies, Colombia should start the elaboration of bilateral agreements in order to implement the VSAT node at the corresponding locations. The meeting requestd ICAO a follow-up of the whole process.

3.4 Based on the above, the meeting formulated the following Conclusión:

**CONCLUSION 3/1- IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VSAT NODES OF THE COLOMBIAN DIGITAL NETWORK**

Following the directives of Conclusion 9/8 formulated by the CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting, the representatives of COCESNA, Jamaica and Panama, recognizing that in principle the Colombian proposal attached as **Appendix A** to this part of the Summary of Discussions and Conclusions presents a cost/efficient, satisfactory, immediate and interim solution to meet the CAR/SAM FASID requirements, agreed that:

- a) the above mentioned States and COCESNA consider the indicated Appendix A and submit to Colombia their comments by 15 November 2001, at the latest date;
- b) Colombia, based on the received replies, initiate coordinations with the interested States and COCESNA to establish bilateral agreements for the implementation of VSAT nodes at the corresponding places; and
- c) the ICAO Regional Offices should follow-up the implementation of the mentioned bilateral agreements providing advices as necessary.

3.5 The meeting noted that Netherlands Antilles, that could not participate in the meeting, presented a working paper indicating that the current analogue leased circuit Curacao ACC-Barranquilla ACC through the Bogota voice switch provided a satisfactory means to meet the ATS speech communication requirement. The meeting felt that the Colombian proposal could be also of benefit to Netherlands Antilles and agreed that ICAO should address the Appendix A to this administration for its consideration. In this regard, the Meeting formulated the following Conclusion:

**CONCLUSION 3/2- OPINION OF NETHERLAND ANTILLES ON THE UPDATED COLOMBIAN PROPOSAL**

That the ICAO NACC Office submit to Netherland Antilles the updated Colombian proposal presented in **Appendix A** requesting its comments until 15 November 2001.

3.5 As indicated in the Agenda Item 2, it was observed that the subject of interconnection of regional/inter-regional digital networks were not the main issue to be discussed by the meeting. However, several working papers expressed the concern on this matter, in relation to the development of technical solutions for the mentioned interconnection. In this regard, it was noted that although in some cases the interconecion issues were clear and solutions were also under way, the meeting recognized that the interconnection of the MEVA and REDDIG networks should be adressed as an urgent matter in order to reach an homogeneous network environment to facilitate the interconnection for the data and voice

communications and to obtain the corresponding benefits for the States/Territories/Organizations participating in both network environments. In this regard, it was also noted that this task could be facilitated by the fact that the reconfiguration of the MEVA network is being under study and that the involvement of both the SAM and NACC ICAO Regional Offices, providing assistance, as necessary, to the MEVA Technical Management Group on the subject, could also be of benefit to reach the required solutions, as it was indicated by the MEVA/8 meeting. Based on the above and to encourage the development of the REDDIG and MEVA interconnections, the meeting formulated the following Conclusion:

**CONCLUSION 3/3 - INTERCONNECTION OF THE REDDIG AND MEVA DIGITAL NETWORKS**

That the States/Territories/Organizations participating in the MEVA and REDDIG digital networks environments, in coordination with the ICAO SAM and NACC Regional Offices, consider as an urgent matter to proceed with the studies on the MEVA and REDDIG networks interconnection considering those technical solutions leading at obtaining an homogeneous REDDIG/MEVA network environment to facilitate, in the future, the effective and efficient interconnection of both networks for voice and data communications.

3.6 COCESNA informed to the meeting that, based on the progress of the MEVA and REDDIG networks interconnection, as well as the implementation of the Colombian proposal indicated in the above Conclusion 3/1, it will consider, in the future, the acquisition of a REDDIG Node.