



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization
North American, Central American and Caribbean Office

WORKING PAPER

E/CAR/CATG/3 — WP/07
13/10/16

Third Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Technical Group Meeting (E/CAR/CATG/3)
Basseterre, Saint Kitts and Nevis, 19 to 21 October 2016

Agenda Item 3: Air Navigation Matters

3.2 Follow-up on the implementation of the NAM/CAR Regional Performance Based Air Navigation Plan (RPBANIP) and the *Port-of-Spain* Declaration Air Navigation Targets in the Eastern Caribbean:

3.2.1 Progress reports of the AIM, AGA, ATM, CNS, MET and SAR Committees

REPORT OF E/CAR/CATG AIM COMMITTEE

(Presented by the Rapporteur)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
This working paper details the activities of the AIM Committee since E/CAR/CATG/2.	
Action:	The Meeting is invited to note the information contained in this working paper.
<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety• Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency• Environmental Protection
<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Second Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Technical Group Meeting (E/CAR/CATG/2), Miami, Florida, USA, 15 to 17 July 2015

1. Introduction

1.1 This report details the activities of the E/CAR AIM Committee since E/CAR/CATG/2 Meeting, convened in Miami, Florida, USA, 15 to 17 July 2015. In the interim the AIM Committee advanced its work programme by way of email and teleconferences. The AIM Committee is comprised of Barbados, France, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States and ECCAA. This Committee successfully coordinated the hosting of an AIM QMS Workshop 14-18 March 2016 in Antigua and Barbuda. A Summary of Discussions is available on the ICAO NACC Office website.

2. Discussion

AIM Quality Management System Workshop

2.1 E/CAR/CATG/2 recommended and E/CAR/DCA/26 approved an AIM QMS Workshop to be hosted by Antigua and Barbuda. This event was convened 14-18 March 2016, with excellent response from ten (10) E/CAR States, Jamaica and ICAO. Although the focus of the event was the development of an integrated QMS for the ECAR, matters discussed also included the Port of Spain Declaration, the Roadmap for the Transition from AIS to AIM, and Flight Planning related issues.

Flight Planning and Related Issues

2.2 The Eastern Caribbean is represented in the Flight Plan Ad hoc group and has participated in all exercises related to data gathering on erroneous/missing /duplicate flight plans. The efforts of the Flight Plan Ad hoc group have yielded little success and work continues towards the resolution of this problem. The Ad hoc group is currently only focussing on the reduction of duplicated flight plan since this problem is the most prevalent. As it relates to the most recent survey:

- a) Results collected showed no significant improvement to the number of erroneous FPLs; and
- b) The FPL Monitoring Ad Hoc group is currently analysing the data from the last data collection performed earlier this year. Recommendations are being formulated and shall be made available within the group later this year.

Centralized Flight Planning System (CFPS)

2.3 Some time ago, a centralized flight planning system was identified as a possible solution into the problem of missing and duplicate flight plans. The system had been installed in Trinidad and Tobago and was scheduled for implementation during 2015. However, deficiencies in the system were identified which led to PIARCO requesting a system modification. The requested modifications are currently being awaited from the Software provider, IDS North America. The new version should be made available, tested and implement by the second quarter of 2017. An AIC will be issued which will inform of all changes of procedure as follows:

- a) A single AFTN address would be used to address all FPLs within the Piarco FIR; and
- b) The CFPS would analyse the FPL and automatically address same to the appropriate states within the Piarco FIR only.

Quality Management System (QMS)

2.4 Trinidad and Tobago is at an advanced stage in the development of a QMS that meets the standards established by ICAO for a QMS in Aeronautical Information Management. The services of a QMS consultant, who will provide guidance and advice to the PIARCO AIM Department until ISO 9001 Certification is attained, was acquired in March 2016. Following the authorization of the QMS documentation, the deployment and implementation phases of the QMS officially commenced on 5th September 2016. An appropriate ISO 9001 Registrar has been identified and it is estimated that the QMS will be fully implemented in PIARCO by December 2016 and receipt of ISO 9001:2008 Certification by March 2017.

2.5 Currently, seven States are actively involved in the development of the integrated E/CAR AIM QMS; St. Lucia is working on a more limited basis. The documentation phase is ongoing, however the process is taking longer than anticipated. Group and individual teleconferences are being conducted in order to move the project forward. A revised LOA format was adopted and will shortly be sent to States for signing. November 30th is the target date for finalizing the signing of the LOAs. It is now projected that the integrated E/CAR AIM QMS will be fully implemented between August and December 2017.

Electronic Terrain and Obstacle Data (eTOD)

2.6 There has been some progress in this area, though the lack of expertise in the field still remains an issue within the region. In an effort to address these issues the Regional Officer, Aeronautical Information Management from the ICAO NACC Office, suggested that this is an area where a technical assistance programme could be developed for the Eastern Caribbean. The ICAO NACC Office hosted a workshop on the implementation of eTOD in the Regional Office in Mexico City 23-25 November 2015, which dealt mainly with the assistance available to States from the ICAO Office in Montreal. The tools available and a list of some of the companies that have vast experience and equipment for use in data collection were made available to states. The event provided a better understanding of the use of these data sets and the collection methods used.

NOTAM Contingency Plan

2.7 Since the signing of a Letter of Intent by Trinidad and Tobago and Curacao to develop a NOTAM contingency plan for the Eastern Caribbean States and Curacao, progress has stalled over issues pertaining to the technical support to be provided by IDS North America. IDS North America has a NOTAM software package in both States called SPATIA. The Directorate of the TTCAA remains committed to achieving this goal. Completion of this project is currently undetermined.

Implementation of AMHS in the PIARCO FIR/FAA

2.8 This project is also delayed. As reported to E/CAR/CATG/2 testing of the AMHS in the Eastern Caribbean using the Tobago node has been successfully completed. Cutover for the ECAR states is expected to take place during December 2016. It is intended that a detailed listing for each state's cutover plan will be sent out in November 2016. States are reminded that training will be very minimal as the Human Machine Interface (HMI) will be very much like the HMI of the AFTN and that this training is intended to be accomplished remotely.

3. Suggested Action

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) note the E/CAR AIS activities outlined above;
- b) urge States that are not currently active participants in the establishment of the E/CAR Intergraded AIM QMS, to become involved as soon as possible;
- c) urge States to sign the revised AIM LOAs by the date specified; and
- d) recommend any other action as deem necessary.

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