



## EUROPEAN AIR NAVIGATION PLANNING GROUP (EANPG/59)

*Combined with*

## EUROPEAN REGIONAL AVIATION SAFETY GROUP (RASG-EUR/06)

*(Paris, France, 30 October – 3 November 2017)*

**Agenda Item 6:** Work Programme; Terms of Reference, election of Chairperson/Vice-Chairpersons

### TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CREATION OF THE EUROPEAN REGION AVIATION SYSTEMS PLANNING GROUP

*(Presented by Secretariat)*

*Following the decision to move to a single European Region Aviation Systems Planning Group at the DGCA's meeting held in Paris in May 2017, there is considerable attention on the Region to see what new arrangements are put in place. These arrangements will also be discussed at the First Global Forum on PIRGs and RASGs that will take place in Montreal on 13 December 2017.*

*This WP proposes principles to be applied to the creation of Terms of Reference for the EASPG for discussion at the back-to-back meeting of the EANPG/RASG in Oct/Nov 2017 and sets out a possible timeline for transition planning.*

*The paper also proposes interim chairmanship arrangements for the EANPG during the transition period.*

#### 1. Introduction

1.1 Following the agreement to move towards a European Aviation Systems Planning Group (EASPG) at the EUR NAT Directors General Meeting, held in Paris in May 2017, it is necessary to consider how the Terms of Reference of the 2 existing bodies, the EANPG and the RASG-EUR, should be amended to accommodate the new working arrangements.

1.2 The existing Terms of Reference for the EANPG are set in the EUR Doc 001 the EANPG Handbook, whilst the RASG-EUR TOR are contained in the RASG-EUR Handbook and reflect the differing criteria that were applied to membership at the times the 2 groups were created, for different purposes, some 40 years apart.

1.3 EANPG is fundamentally an organisation of Member States from within the EUR Region which also includes participation from certain approved international organisations. RASG-EUR was set up at the direction of the Council, following the Assembly Resolution A37-4, with the aim to encompass the widest possible participation from States and industry and is thus open to broader participation.

1.4 The ICAO Council publishes a list of organisations which may be invited to attend suitable ICAO meetings. Officially, ICAO does not classify these as observers. This list includes UN bodies, other inter-governmental organisations (such as the EU and Eurocontrol) and non-governmental organisations (such as IATA, IACA, IFALPA, IFATCA, etc). The full list is available via the ICAO website.

1.5 In considering the future EASPG structure it is also appropriate to consider the arrangements that are employed in the NAT SPG and to draw on the experience of the Systems Planning Group where it is relevant and appropriate to do so, having regard for the various differences that exist between High Seas airspace and that over sovereign territory.

1.6 The purpose of this paper is to consider the appropriate participation for the various groups that will enable the EASPG to work efficiently and effectively in delivering its objectives and not lose the benefits that are delivered by both groups currently.

1.7 Following discussions at COG/69, held in Paris from 2 to 5 October 2007, the paper also proposes interim chairmanship arrangements for the EANPG for the period from EANPG/59 up to the creation of the EASPG and the election of a new Chairperson/Vice-Chairpersons. The paper also includes a possible transition timeline for consideration during the discussion at the meeting.

## 2. Current Terms of Reference

2.1 The existing working arrangements and Terms of Reference are set out in:

- a) EANPG – in the EUR Doc 001 – EANPG Handbook (1<sup>st</sup> Edition 13).
- b) RASG-EUR - RASG-EUR Handbook (5<sup>th</sup> Edition Nov 16)
- c) NAT-SPG – in the NAT Doc 001 – the NAT SPG Handbook (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition July 16).

(All of these documents are available on-line via the ICAO website).

2.2 From these documents it is clear how the structure and membership arrangements vary for each of the bodies. This can be summarised as follows:

- a) The **EANPG** Membership is drawn from all ICAO Contracting States who are service providers in the EUR air navigation region and part of the EUR eANP. User States are entitled to participate in EANPG meetings as non-members. International organizations recognized by the Council may be invited as necessary to attend EANPG meetings as observers. The EANPG is composed of all States providing air navigation services in the ICAO European Region. However, a group of States may choose to have a common representation. The following international organizations may be invited to participate on a regular basis: ACI, CANSO, EASA, ECAC, EUROCONTROL, European Commission, IAC, IAOPA, IACA, IATA, IBAC, IFALPA, IFAIMA and IFATCA.
- b) The **RASG-EUR** membership is deliberately selected to encompass Member States and industry in its widest regard in furthering the interests of safety. Contracting States entitled to participate as members in the RASG-EUR meeting are those whose territories or dependencies are located partially or wholly within the area of accreditation of the European and North Atlantic (EUR/NAT) Office of ICAO. In addition, Regional organizations, within the area of accreditation of the EUR/NAT Office of ICAO, which have mechanisms in place for the management of aviation safety are entitled to participate as members in the RASG-EUR.

International organizations, air operators, aircraft design organizations and manufacturers, air navigation service providers, aerodrome operators, aircraft maintenance organisations, aviation training organisations and other aviation industry representatives are invited to

participate in and contribute to the work of the RASG-EUR and its contributory bodies. They are entitled to participate in RASG-EUR activities as RASG-EUR Partners.

Contracting States, non-Contracting States and Regional Organizations which are not Members of the RASG-EUR but wishing to contribute to its work may become RASG-EUR Partners, subject to decision by the RASG-EUR Secretariat.

- c) By way of comparison, the **NAT SPG** Membership is drawn from all ICAO Contracting States, who are service providers in an air navigation region and part of that region's ANP, should be included in the membership of that region's PIRG (the SPG). Furthermore, user States are entitled to participate in any other PIRG meetings as a non-member. Representatives of Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Ireland, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom and the United States are Members of the NAT SPG. International organizations recognized by the Council may be invited as necessary to attend NAT SPG meetings as observers.

Representatives from the Russian Federation and Spain as well as Observers from IATA, IACA, IFALPA, IAOPA, IBAC, IFATCA, IFAIMA, Iridium and Inmarsat are routinely invited to participate in the work of the NAT SPG.

Requests from any other ICAO Contracting State or an international organization to attend the NAT SPG meetings will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and decided by the NAT SPG Chairman. Such requests must be supported by the appropriate rationale to attend the meeting.

2.3 Consequently it is necessary to propose arrangements for the EASPG which meet the needs of the 2 bodies and which follow ICAO general policies and principles and, where relevant and appropriate, builds on the experience of the NAT SPG.

### **3. Proposed Principles to be Applied to Future Terms of Reference**

3.1 It will be necessary to re-draft the Terms of Reference of the EASPG to accommodate the revised arrangements. While a detailed draft is not yet available, it is proposed to apply the following principles in the re-drafting process:

- a) Participation arrangements for the EASPG will be in-line with the policies and procedures adopted by ICAO HQ.
- b) The EASPG (Level 1) will be comprised of representatives of Member States accredited to the EUR Region.
- c) Representatives of the approved organisations will be invited to participate in the EASPG (Level 1) as Observers.
- d) Level 2 arrangements for the combined COG will follow the same principles as Level 1.
- e) Level 3 will enable participation from industry groups and other bodies on a group-by-group basis, along the lines adopted in the existing IE-REST teams and in the NAT, either as members, observers or partners (the term partner as currently utilised by RASG-EUR may require further clarification).
- f) Requests from any other ICAO Contracting State or an international organization to attend the EASPG meetings will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and decided by the EASPG Chairman. Such requests must be supported by the appropriate rationale to attend the meeting.

- g) The EASPG Chairman may invite any State or international organisation, or industry body to attend a particular meeting of the EASPG should the situation warrant their participation.
- 3.2 These arrangements would ensure that high-level decision making (Level 1) within the EUR Region on safety and air navigation matters, as envisaged by the DGCA's meeting, will be retained by Member States, appropriately supported by the approved organisations. At the working group level (Level 3) there will be the possibility for wider participation by representative organisations and industry to ensure the broadest possible input.
- 3.3 The meeting is invited to consider the proposed principles and endorse their use in the creation of the new arrangements. Therefore, the following draft EANPG RASG-EUR Decision is proposed:

<b>Why</b>	Requirement exists to amalgamate the existing Terms of Reference of the 2 groups into a single EASPG version.
<b>What</b>	Adopt the principles proposed in this WP in drafting the new Terms of Reference.
<b>Who</b>	EANPG/RASG EUR members.
<b>When</b>	During the course of EANPG /59 and RASG-EUR/06

**Draft EANPG59 RASG-EUR06 Decision/\_ eanpg59rasgeur06wp24/1 – Principles to be Adopted in Drafting EASPG Terms of Reference**

That EANPG RASG-EUR agrees to the principles as set out in this Working Paper being utilised to create the new draft Terms of Reference for the EASPG.

#### **4. Interim Chairmanship Arrangements for the EANPG**

4.1 During COG/69 a discussion took place on the potential changes to EANPG chairmanship brought about by the retirement from their respective administrations of the current Chair and Vice-Chair, at the same time as the Deputy Regional Director would be leaving his post on retirement. Whilst other potential candidates might be available, having regard for the planned transition to the EASPG structure, this was described by the COG Members as the 'perfect storm' which ideally should be avoided if at all possible. Under normal circumstances the procedures set out in the EANPG Handbook would apply, however, the current transition to EASPG was considered to warrant exceptional measures out-with the procedures in the Handbook.

4.2 As a consequence of their deliberations on this issue, the COG proposed that the current Chair, Mr Phil Roberts, stay in post in order to provide continuity during the transition period and that he should be replaced in due course by whoever is elected, under the EASPG arrangements, as the chair of the new, combined body. As part of the interim arrangements, 2 members of the COG agreed to stand as interim Vice-Chairs in order to assist with the transition arrangements. These were Mr Luc Lapene (France) and Mr Alessandro Ghilari (Italy).

4.3 The EANPG is invited to consider this proposal and the associated draft Decision.

4.4 Therefore, the following draft EANPG RASG-EUR Decision is proposed:

<b>Why</b>	Highly exceptional circumstances associated with the transition to EASPG and the coincident retirement of key individuals.
<b>What</b>	Extension of the current Chair EANPG, supported by 2 vice-chairs, for the interim

	period up to the election of a new EASPG Chair.
<b>Who</b>	EANPG Membership
<b>When</b>	During the course of EANPG /59

**Draft EANPG59 RASG-EUR06 Decision/\_eanpg59rasgeur06wp24/2 – Interim Chairmanship Arrangements for EANPG**

That the EANPG agrees to the continuation of Mr Phil Roberts (formerly of the UK CAA) as the interim Chair of EANPG, supported by Mr Luc Lapene (France) and Mr Alessandro Ghilari as vice-chairs, pending the election of a new chairmanship team for the EASPG.

## **5. Potential Transition Timeline**

5.1 During COG/69 there was discussion on a possible indicative timeline for transition to the new arrangements. To date the focus has been on the activity at Level 0 (the DGCA Level) and Level 1 (the EANPG and RASG-EUR) hence the joint meeting in autumn 2017. To date, there has been little discussion on the working arrangements at Level 3 (the working group/Task Force level).

5.2 An initial, draft timeline for consideration and discussion during EANPG/69 and RASG-EUR/06 is attached to this Working Paper. This is a work in progress and will require considerable refinement, however, if we are to make progress towards the changed arrangements then it is necessary to create a transition plan.

5.3 Subject to the outcome of the discussion at the meeting, it is proposed to create a small Transition Project Team, comprised of representatives from the Chair, the Secretariat and the chairs/rapporteurs of some of the Level 3 bodies. Wherever possible this TF will meet virtually and the outcome of its deliberations will be made available to all EANPG and RASG-EUR participants via the ICAO Paris website.

5.4 The meeting is invited to discuss this initial, outline transition timeline.

## **6. Action by the Meeting**

6.1 The EANPG/RASG is invited to:

- a) note the information presented;
- b) discuss the pros and cons of the proposed participation arrangements and the principles to be adopted in creating the new EASPG Terms of Reference;
- c) consider the proposed interim chairmanship arrangements for EANPG;
- d) comment on the draft timeline;
- e) agree the draft decisions.

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## **APPENDIX A**

### **DRAFT TRANSITION TIMELINE**

**2017**

- Oct 17 COG/69 & R/COG
- Nov 17 Back-to-back EANPG59/RASG-EUR/06
- Dec 17 3rd PIRG/RASG GLOBAL Co-ord meeting and Symposium Montreal

**2018**

- May 18 1st back-to-back COG/R-COG Meeting (location TBN - possible RO Paris)
- Small Transition PT created from reps from EANPG and RASG-EUR  
(Meets during the course of 2018)
- Oct 18 1st joint COG/R-COG meeting Paris
- ANC 13 Montreal
- Possible DGCA Meeting (to discuss ANC outcomes)
- Nov 18 1st EASPG Meeting – elect new Chairperson/Vice-Chair Persons

**2019**

- Sep 19 ICAO 40<sup>th</sup> Assembly
- Oct 19 2nd joint COG/R-COG Meeting
- Possible DGCA Meeting (to discuss Assembly outcomes)
- Nov 19 2nd EASPG

– END –