



ICAO

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INFORMATION PAPER

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Seventh North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group Meeting (NACC/WG/7)

ICAO NACC Regional Office, Mexico City, 29 August - 1 September 2022

Agenda Item 3: Follow-up of the Activities of the NACC/WG Task Forces

- 3.3 Improvements to the ATS Voice Link (MEVA) reports and the new communication network CANSNET, the Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Technical Group (E/CAR/CATG), and the Eastern Caribbean Aeronautical Fixed Service Network Technical Group (E/CAR AFS NTG)

CARIBBEAN AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES NETWORK (CANSNET)

(Presented by the MEVA/TMG Rapporteur)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
This information paper presents the Caribbean Air Navigation Services Network (CANSNET) procurement activities.	
<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety• Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency• Security & Facilitation• Economic Development of Air Transport• Environmental Protection
<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MEVA/TMG/34 meeting• CANSNET RFI Process• MEVA/TMG/35 meeting• MEVA/TMG/36 meeting• MEVA/TMG/37 meeting

1. Introduction

1.1. Given the need to upgrade the existing MEVA II network, the MEVA III was implemented in 2014, which has been performing according to expectations and requirements.

1.2. In 2018, during the 33 Technical Management Group for the Improvements to the ATS Voice Link meeting (MEVA/TMG/33), the Central Caribbean States/Organizations members of the MEVA III Network identified the need to review the MEVA architecture and services to ensure that the Network will support emerging requirements in a cost-effective manner.

2. Discussion

2.1. During the MEVA/TMG/33 meeting, members agreed to create a MEVA Ad-Hoc Group with the objective of developing technical/operational requirements for a new platform of IP communication to support the new services.

2.2. MEVA/TMG Members agreed to name the new network as “Caribbean Air Navigation Services Network (CANSNET). This name covers all new possibilities and services that new telecommunication network will provide.

2.3. The content of the Request for Information (RFI) document of the CANSNET Project was prepared by the CANSNET Ad-Hoc team to explore technologies and solutions currently offered by the telecommunication industry that address the requirements of the CANSNET community and could be targeted in a subsequent Request for Proposal (RFP). Major improvements were proposed in the RFI document for the migration process to CANSNET in anticipation of increased bandwidth demands created by new data exchange and provision technologies, like System Wide Information Management (SWIM) and AMHS extended level of service to support dissemination of OPMET data according to the ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange Model (IWXXM).

2.4. During the TMG 35 meeting, in April 2020, the RFI document was reviewed, updated and approved by MEVA/TMG Members, accepting it as the final version of the document. This document was published by ICAO TCB on 1 June 2020 as RFI 22502099, free of charge. Vendor proposals were collected by the TCB and made them available on the ICAO Secure Portal for review by the Ad-Hoc team. During February to March 2021, the TCB invited the vendors to present (virtually) their solutions. All vendors made a presentation to the CANSNET Ad-Hoc team.

2.5. The CANSNET project suffered a delay in its execution due to the COVID19 pandemic and its commissioning was not ready in March 2022, as planned, the date on which the current contract with Frequentis concluded. It was necessary to take the corresponding measures to ensure that the communications network would remain in operation to support regional air navigation services. In this sense, the MEVA/TMG/36 meeting, in June 2021, agreed to extend the contract with the current MEVA III service provider until March 2025.

2.6. According with the frame line to development CANSNET Network, the MEVA/TMG/36 agreed the following:

Year	Activity
First Quarter 2021	Request for Information
Second semester 2021	Start process to Development Request for proposal (RFP) (Definition of methodology for the new process)

Year	Activity
First Semester 2022	Complete process for RFP (Document/RFP)
Second Semester 2022	Tender of the project
First Semester 2023	Award of the project
Second semester 2023	Contract between members and the Provider
First Quarter 2024	Project implementation

2.7. For the ICAO Technical Cooperation Bureau (TCB) to provide procurement assistance to the CANSNET Tender Process, a collective Management Services Agreement (MSA) is being signed between the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and the RLA22801 Project members States and Organizations, referred in that document as CANSNET Member States and Organizations.

2.8. The Project Document (PRODOC) that will contain all the details related to the assistance that ICAO will provide is going to be prepared by the CANSNET Ad-hoc Group, using the templates provided by ICAO/TCB. This document will also be signed by all CANSNET Members.

2.9. During the MEVA/TMG/37 meeting, in August 2022, the RFP document was reviewed and updated by MEVA/TMG Members. The final draft version will be distributed among members for reviewing and approval by August 31st, 2022.

2.10. The purpose of the CANSNET Network RFP is to have a document that reflects the current and future needs of network members, and through a bidding process to obtain offers from the telecommunications industry that meet the requirements established for the CANSNET network. In this sense, the CANSNET RFP provides potential bidders with a general understanding of the current MEVA III network and the scope of services that will be required under a new Service Level Agreement.

2.11. CANSNET has been designed to support all the ATN requirements for the CAR Region, with its interconnection with the adjacent ICAO regions in a cost-effective way, achieving the quality, redundancy and reliability required by the evolution of air navigation services.

3. Conclusion

3.1. The Meeting is invited to review the information presented in this paper.