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Meeting of the ETF-ATM Committee

Vienna 24th November 2015

The chair opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees. He expressed his thanks to Vida for hosting the meeting. The chair also welcomed a representative of the Serbian Air Traffic Controller union, attend the meeting in an observer status.

The agenda was adopted with 2 items of AOB, a) to create a study on the Pension scheme arrangements for member unions, and b) the introduction of the upcoming Aviation Package to be presented by the Commission on 2nd December. Agenda Item 6 - Italian Study on ATCOs was dropped from the agenda due to Marcello being unable to attend the meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

1. Adoption of update SES2+ Position Paper

The chair introduced the updated position paper on SES2+ which has had additional paragraphs added on the future of Functional Airspace Blocks and on the concept of 'over regulation'. Colleagues from GPF Austria also suggested the addition of a paragraph on delegate acts, which was accepted by the committee and has been added to the position paper. The Position paper was adopted and updated paper  be circulated.

2. National Reports

Reports were received and presented with a short overview in the meeting from the following countries:

Austria
Bulgaria
France
Hungry
Italy
Portugal

Sweden – presented a verbal report highlighting issues surrounding the raise in pension age and the cost efficiency program that LFV (Swedish ANSP) has embarked upon. One Remote Tower is operational with a second due in quarter 1 of 2016 and a third tower due to become a remote tower end 2016 early 2017
U.K.

3. EASA

The steering committee presented an overview of the topics currently being worked on within the EASA remit. The following topics were updated on:

Opinion 03/2014 on provision of ANS and oversight,
SERA-C
ATCO Med (EU Reg 2015/340)
Part-MET guidance material
ROT AMC and GM published and applicable

The opinion 03/2014 has not been put to a vote in the last two Single Sky Committee meetings and there are issues with the content surrounding ATSEP and 'small' ANSPs, and some changes proposed by the Commission which are still undergoing technical assessment.

SERA part C is largely technical and no social issues have been identified.

The committee asked attendees to submit information to the EASA team on the issue of AUTO MET in order for ETF to be able to produce a position paper.

There was an update of the current rulemaking program that is of interest to ATM and these include:

RMT 464: ATS RMG

Fatigue Risk Management Systems (FRMS) (expected 2nd quarter 2016)

RMT 692: SKPI (guidance material)

Part-MET guidance material

RMT 477: AIS

Gautier then provided an update on the joint work with CANSO following the publishing of the ECORYS report on safety critical / related roles. This work is looking at providing alternative method of determining which roles should have a competency schemes and training in ATM.

4. Focal teams and recruitment

A new approach was presented in which each member of the steering committee has responsibility for leading a focal team on each area of work that the committee carries out, e.g. EASA, SESAR, SES etc. The focal point names were reviewed and a call was made to the representatives attending the meeting to supply names to the focal points for people to become involved in topics of interest. A template will be made available on the website for each area to track progress on each area. The focal team steering committee member can update the current progress on the topic in order that it can be followed by all of the national unions.

5. Communication / Website

The ATM committee website is in the process of being updated and was displayed to the meeting for information. In the members area there will be documentation on the various topics. There are also links to the twitter feed and the facebook page. There was a proposal made to have a meeting calendar to allow colleagues to see what work is ongoing and which meetings are programmed and when. This will be examined by the chair team and a proposal will be made as to how best to display this information.

6. SESAR Deployment

A presentation was given by the SESAR team updating on the progress from SESAR 1 to SESAR 2 known as SESAR2020. This next phase is a little uncertain in the funding but ETF expects to continue to have experts involved in the projects. The SESAR representatives are involved in projects and providing experts to the International Validation Team IVT. Marcello will take over for the focal point for SESAR and the committee recorded its thanks to Tord for his work on this over the last years.

7. Remote Towers

The draft remote towers position paper was presented to the meeting setting out the position of the committee with respect to the regulation of remote tower operations. Feedback from the meeting will require some additional paragraphs adding to the document to call on support from other EU organisations and to express a target for moving forward on this topic. Another sentence on support staff will be added to ensure they are covered by the report in more detail. The additions will be made to the draft paper and then the updated draft will be distributed for any further comment.

AOB Aviation Package introduction

Francois Ballesteros briefed the meeting on the upcoming aviation package that will be published on 2nd Dec. The package sets out the Commission's vision for the up coming years on aviation within the European Union. 3 measure will be introduced:

- a) Revision of the EASA Basic regulation
- b) Regulation on RPAS (drones)
- c) Mandate to negotiate with on behalf of member states with 3rd party states on aviation. E.g. open skies agreements

A 'staff working document' will also be introduced setting out ambition for work on SES, and focusing on 2 areas within ATM, a minimum level of service in member states and staff mobility.

Following the publication of the package on 2nd Dec ETF Secretariat will issue a press release and will seek with the CAS to produce a position paper. The ATM committee and individual unions are urged to contribute and the chair team would request unions to provide them with comments by 20th December. The CAS will meet in an extraordinary meeting on 19th Jan to adopt the paper.

AOB A call was made by the chair team for information on pension schemes to obtain some information on the challenges facing national unions. It is intended to launch a survey in the near future.

Future Meeting Dates

19th Jan 2016 Extraordinary CAS
8th March 2016 Extended SC
13th June EASA Strategy group
14th June 2016 ATMC Plenary
15th June 2016 CAS
28th Nov EASA Strategy group
30th Nov 2016 ATMC Plenary
1st Dec 2016 CAS