



# ICAO

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

WORKING PAPER

E/CAR/CATG/8 — WP/04  
16/10/24

**Eighth Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Technical Group (E/CAR/CATG/8) Meeting**  
Miami, United States, 22 to 24 October 2024

**Agenda Item 3: Follow-up of the activities of the E/CAR/CATG**  
**3.3 Progress report of the ATM Committee**

**PROGRESS REPORT OF THE ATM COMMITTEE**

(Presented by E/CAR/CATG ATM Rapporteur)

<b>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b>	
This Working Paper presents a Summary of Discussions that emanated from the ATM Committee Meeting's activities from 2022 to 2023, taking in consideration, the E/CAR/CATG/7 Final Report.	
<b>Action:</b>	Suggested actions are presented in Section 4.
<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Safety</li><li>• Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency</li><li>• Security &amp; Facilitation</li><li>• Economic Development of Air Transport</li><li>• Environmental Protection</li></ul>
<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• E/CAR/CATG/5 Final Report – 26-28 July 2023</li><li>• E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee's Terms of Reference</li><li>• EUROCONTROL Guidelines - Common Format LOA between ATSUs, 5th edition</li><li>• Global Air Navigation Plan</li></ul>

**1. Introduction**

1.1 The ATM Committee continues to work towards achieving its objectives through the application of a performance-based, risk management approach for the development, improvement and implementation of ATM matters for States/Territories within the E/CAR Region.

1.2 **Appendix A** provides the number of E/CAR ATM Committee Meetings between August 2022 to June 2023.

1.3 **Appendix B** provides the updated PoCs for the E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee for 2023 - 2024.

1.4 **Appendix C** provides the updated ATM Committee's Work Programme for 2023-2024.

1.5 **Appendix D** provides the ATM Committee’s Terms of Reference produced in 2023.

## 2. Discussion

2.1 Updating the E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee’s Terms of Reference (ToRs)

2.1.1 The E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee’s ToRs was produced in July 2023, during the E/CAR/CATG/7 Meeting. The document will be reviewed by the ATM Committee Members as deemed necessary.

2.2 *Completion and submission of Basic Building Blocks (BBBs) Forms*

2.2.1 In accordance with Decision E/CAR/CATG/7/02, which addressed an action plan to complete evaluation of the E/CAR States on the status of ANS implementation, this work activity remains valid for the ATM Committee.

2.3 *Standardisation and Revision of LOAs and MOUs between adjacent States and Territories*

2.3.1 The review of LOAs and MOUs between adjacent E/CAR States/Territories and neighbouring FIRs is an ongoing process, with changes in technology, new/amended procedures and improving efficiency in the provision of ATS being the main drivers.

2.3.2 There was an initial decision that once the revised Quadrilateral MOU between Antigua and Barbuda, Puerto Rico, St Maarten and Trinidad and Tobago, was finalised and all the previously mentioned States/Territories incorporated the relevant sections of this MOU in their respective revised bilateral LOAs, the MOU would no longer be in effect. Dialogue held during the proceedings of E/CAR/CATG/7 Meeting by the relevant ATM Committee Members decide that it was best for the Quadrilateral MOU to transition to a Quadrilateral LOA. This decision was mainly due to the interconnectivity in the provision of ATS between the four States/Territories involved.

2.4 *Review and Submission of E/CAR ATM Contingency Plans*

2.4.1 E/CAR States/Territories continue working on the revision, harmonisation and submission of E/CAR ATM Contingency Plans to the ICAO NACC Office. The following E/CAR States/Territories have had their submitted Contingency Plans posted on the ICAO NACC website (<https://www.icao.int/NACC/Pages/edocs-atm.aspx>):

STATE	VERSION SUBMITTED
Antigua and Barbuda	May 2024
Barbados	May 2023
St Lucia	September 2019
St Vincent and the Grenadines	May 2020
Trinidad and Tobago	May 2024

2.4.2 St Lucia has since updated its ATM Contingency Plan, which will be submitted to the ICAO NACC Office for posting. Submissions remain outstanding from the following States/Territories: Dominica, Grenada, St Kitts and Nevis, Sint Maarten and Puerto Rico.

2.4.3 The ICAO NACC ATM/SAR RO and E/CAR/CATG ATM Rapporteur, remain committed to support those E/CAR States/Territories who require assistance in getting their ATM Contingency Plans finalised for submission to the ICAO NACC Office.

## 2.5 *ATFM implementation within the E/CAR Region*

2.5.1 The implementation of ATFM and associated activities within the E/CAR Region continues through collaboration with ATFM Groups and Service Providers, with the aim of improving upon demand and capacity balancing within the Region. This was evidenced with the recent 2024 International Cricket Council (ICC) Men's T20 World Cup (WC) Cricket, co-hosted by States within the NACC Region from 01 to 29 June 2024. Effective collaboration between the E/CAR Region, United States and CADENA, derived strategic actions (e.g. implementing offload routes to manage expected high volume of air traffic), which resulted in safe and manageable traffic flows.

2.5.2 During the E/CAR/CATG/7 Meeting consideration was given by the ATM Committee for a proposed E/CAR/ATFM/CDM Operational Group. While this proposal still remains valid, ad-hoc groups were formed during the 2024 ICC T20 WC Cricket event to achieve the attained outcome. Trinidad and Tobago will provide an Information Paper with more details on ATFM initiatives.

2.5.3 Trinidad and Tobago recently provided feedback associated with the NACC KPIs associated with ATC/ATFM.

## 2.6 *Monitoring Airspace Optimisation (AO) within the E/CAR Region*

2.6.1 The ATM/SAR RO held a Workshop on ATS Airspace Concept for the Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Authority (ECCAA) Member States was held in St Johns, Antigua and Barbuda, from 14 to 18 August 2023, with the main objectives of the Workshop being to provide the requisite guidance to ensure that the provision of ATS is associated with adequate airspace classification and that the anticipated level of ATS are in keeping with the international standards as established by the CAR/SAM Air Navigation Plan.

2.6.2 On October 25, 2023, Trinidad and Tobago conducted briefings on AO and Performance-Based Navigation (PBN) for Antigua and Barbuda. This follows similar sessions held in February 2022 for Barbados, Grenada, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. These efforts are part of a larger initiative to optimize the lower airspace within the Piarco FIR and ensure smooth air traffic flow across the region. Trinidad and Tobago remains committed to offering additional briefings as needed to harmonize both the upper and lower airspace within the Piarco FIR, thereby improving Air Traffic Management (ATM) throughout the ECAR.

2.6.3 In April 2024, meetings took place with ECAR States, including Antigua and Barbuda, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. These discussions focused on integrating new upper-level routes with the relevant Terminal Control Areas (TMAs) to ensure effective coordination between entities.

2.6.4 In June 2024, a new waypoint was established on the boundary shared between the Martinique TMA and the Piarco FIR. This waypoint supports transatlantic aircraft entering the Martinique TMA from the New York (KZNY) FIR, allowing for continuous descent operations.

2.6.5 In October 2024, another waypoint is scheduled for establishment at the boundary between the Pointe-A-Pitre (Guadeloupe) TMA and the Piarco FIR. This waypoint will facilitate transatlantic aircraft exiting the Pointe-A-Pitre TMA and transitioning to the New York FIR, enabling continuous climb operations.

## 2.7 *Monitoring ADS-B Surveillance within the Piarco FIR/CTA/UTA*

2.7.1 The E/CAR Region, inclusive of Trinidad and Tobago are currently engaged in the implementation of ground-based ADS-B for the Continental Sector of the Piarco FIR/CTA/UTA, initially as a complimentary form of surveillance/situational awareness in addition to the current use of Secondary Surveillance Radar. Plans are in effect by Trinidad and Tobago to have the ground-based surveillance system installed at strategic island high-sites (e.g. Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda) throughout the E/CAR Region by the first quarter of 2025. There is also the possibility of implementing space-based ADS-B for the Oceanic Sector of the Piarco FIR/CTA/UTA.

2.7.2 This introduction of redundant surveillance/situational awareness will serve to improve upon surveillance reliability and airspace efficiency while maintaining safety in the provision of ATS.

## 2.8 *Monitoring of AIDC Testing within the E/CAR Region*

2.8.1 After many years of collaboration, which began in 2014, Trinidad and Tobago (Piarco ACC) and United States (New York ARTCC) performed Air Traffic Services Inter-Facility Data Communications (AIDC) tests from 01 August 2024, involving exchange of coordination messages across our common FIR boundary with an aim towards full implementation of AIDC between the ATSUs.

2.8.2 AIDC is recognized by ICAO under its Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP) and Aviation System Block Upgrades (ASBU) framework. The implementation of AIDC within the E/CAR Region and with neighbouring FIRs will serve to increase efficiency by replacing manual flight data exchange, reduce Controller workload by enabling ATCOs to spend less time coordinating on the phone, enhance safety by mitigating the potential for manual entry and communication errors.

2.8.3 States/Territories such as Barbados, French Guiana, Puerto Rico and Portugal have shown interest in commencing AIDC tests with Trinidad and Tobago.

## 2.9 *Safety Intelligence and Safety Management Performance Workshop for the E/CAR Region*

2.9.1 The E/CAR/CATG ATM Rapporteur participated in a Safety Intelligence and Safety Management Performance Workshop, in San Jose, Costa Rica, from 18-24 March 2024. The objectives of this Workshop were to receive knowledge and practical skills related to:

- Understanding Safety Intelligence elements and strategy,
- Understanding Data Governance,
- Understanding Safety Data Collection and Processing Systems (SDCPS),

- Understanding and practicing the use of Indicators as a tool for Performance Monitoring and Management,
- Practicing Decision Making using performance monitoring results, and
- Practicing designing a Dashboard.

2.9.2 During the Workshop, the Presenters offered to provide a similar programme to those Participants interested in their Region receiving such. The Safety Implementation Regional Officer (SAF RO) from the ICAO NACC Office also offered expertise services to those States/Territories interested in receiving assistance from various Subject Matter Experts (SMEs).

2.9.3 The E/CAR/CATG ATM Rapporteur engaged the E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee Members, (along with Jamaica and Guyana) informing them of the offers made by the ICAO officials and SSP SME for the Caribbean Region for their consideration. All contacted States/Territories stated an interest in the Workshop. In order for the Workshop to occur, the hosting State/Territory is required to possess the following:

- An expressed interest and a request for the Workshop,
- An accredited Training Centre with the requisite resources, and
- The ability to host the ICAO Presenters.

2.9.4 Trinidad and Tobago has been approached by the E/CAR/CATG ATM Rapporteur to consider hosting this Workshop.

### **3. Activities**

3.1 The following activities are being proposed:

- E/CAR States/Territories continue the review of their respective LOAs with adjacent ANSPs through the adoption of the standardised EUROCONTROL Guidelines - Common Format LOA between ATSUs, 5th ed.
- E/CAR States/Territories collaborate with their adjacent ANSPs, the NACC ATM/SAR RO and E/CAR/CATG ATM Rapporteur in the production of their respective ATM Contingency Plans to ensure that they are harmonised in accordance with Conclusion NAM/CAR/CONT/3/3 before submission to the ICAO NACC Office.
- The E/CAR States/Territories resume collaboration with Trinidad and Tobago, regarding Airspace Optimisation when deemed appropriate. The ATM Committee continues to monitor the Airspace Optimisation activities within the E/CAR Region.
- That Trinidad and Tobago give serious consideration to the hosting of a Safety Intelligence and Safety Performance Management Workshop for the Caribbean Region.
- E/CAR States/Territories continue to place focus on completing the work agendas set out by the E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee.

**4. Suggested Actions**

4.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) take note of the progress and status of the ATM Committee's activities;
- b) review and agree on the activities to be carried out; and
- c) take any other action as deemed necessary.

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**APPENDIX A**

**E/CAR/CATG ATM MEETINGS August 2023 TO October 2024**

<b>NO</b>	<b>MEETING TYPE</b>	<b>DATE (dd-mmm-yyyy)</b>
1	14 <sup>th</sup> E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee Meeting	07 May 2024

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## APPENDIX B

## E/CAR/CATG ATM POINTS OF CONTACT 2023 - 2024

STATE	MEMBER/S & POSITION	E-MAIL ADDRESS	TEL / MOBILE / FAX
Antigua and Barbuda	<b>Shenneth Phillips</b> ATC Chief VC Bird Int'l Airport, Antigua & Barbuda <b>(E/CAR/CATG Chairperson)</b>	<a href="mailto:shenneth.phillips@ab.gov.ag">shenneth.phillips@ab.gov.ag</a>	T: +268 562 0301 M&W: +268 764 3328
	<b>Lorraine Davis</b> ATS Operations Officer, VC Bird Int'l Airport, Antigua & Barbuda	<a href="mailto:lorraine.davis@ab.gov.ag">lorraine.davis@ab.gov.ag</a>	T: +268 562 5232 M&W: +268 728 0396
Barbados	<b>Glyne Blanchette</b> Chief Air Traffic Control Officer Barbados Air Navigation Services Department	<a href="mailto:glyne.blanchette@barbados.gov.bb">glyne.blanchette@barbados.gov.bb</a>	T: +246 536 3602 M&W: +246 827 1132
	<b>Donna Archer</b> Chief AIS Officer (Ag) Barbados Air Navigation Services Department	<a href="mailto:donna.archer@barbados.gov.bb">donna.archer@barbados.gov.bb</a>	T: +246 536 3603 M&W: +246 243 9313
	<b>John Parris</b> Unit Chief Air Traffic Services Barbados Air Navigation Services Department	<a href="mailto:john.parris@barbados.gov.bb">john.parris@barbados.gov.bb</a>	T: +246 536 3606 M&W: +246 287 9211
France	<b>Vincent Andrillon</b> Chief ATS Operations, French Civil Aviation Directorate ANS Antilles-Guyana	<a href="mailto:vincent.andrillon@aviation-civile.gouv.fr">vincent.andrillon@aviation-civile.gouv.fr</a>	T: +596 696 44 90 53 M&W: +596 677 45 81 96
	<b>Arnaud Darras</b> Head of Safety Management of Change and Environmental issues Civil Aviation Directorate ANS Antilles-Guyana	<a href="mailto:arnaud.darras@aviation-civile.gouv.fr">arnaud.darras@aviation-civile.gouv.fr</a>	T: ++590 590 48 21 31 M&W: +596 696 86 04 34
Dominica	<b>Kirshton Pascal</b> Airport Manager (Ag) Dominica Air and Sea Ports Authority	<a href="mailto:kpascal@daspa.dm">kpascal@daspa.dm</a>	T: + 767 225 9884 M:: +
Grenada	<b>Desmond Baptiste</b> Manager ATS Grenada Airports Authority	<a href="mailto:dbaptiste@gaa.gd">dbaptiste@gaa.gd</a>	T: +473 444-4114 Ext: 2025 M&W: +473 534 5412
	<b>Dennis Philbert</b> ATC Supervisor Grenada Airports Authority	<a href="mailto:dphilbert@gaa.gd">dphilbert@gaa.gd</a>	T: +473 444-4555 Ext: 2085/2087 M&W: +473 533- 6344



STATE	MEMBER/S & POSITION	E-MAIL ADDRESS	TEL / MOBILE / FAX
St Kitts and Nevis	<b>Daron Sutton (Nevis)</b> Chief Air Traffic Services	<a href="mailto:Airport.Naspa@gmail.com">Airport.Naspa@gmail.com</a>	T: +869 664 5457 M&W: +869 663 5457
	<b>Kurt Louard</b> Senior Air Traffic Controller	<a href="mailto:kurt.louard@scaspa.com">kurt.louard@scaspa.com</a>	T: + 869 762 0828 M&W: + 869 665 3014
	<b>Kiah Wilkes</b> Air Traffic Services	<a href="mailto:kiahwilkes@gmail.com">kiahwilkes@gmail.com</a>	T: + M&W: +869 664 6639
Saint Lucia	<b>Kendell Peter</b> Manager- Air Navigation Services (MANS) Saint Lucia Air & Sea Ports Authority	<a href="mailto:kendell.peter@slaspa.com">kendell.peter@slaspa.com</a>	T: +758 457 6100 (Ext. 6116) M&W: +758 721 9336
	<b>Remy Avril</b> Senior ATCO- Training/Administration, ATS Division Saint Lucia Air & Sea Ports Authority	<a href="mailto:remy.avril@slaspa.com">remy.avril@slaspa.com</a>	T: +758 457 6100 (Ext 7014) M&W: +758 728 4886
Sint Maarten	<b>Gregory Hassell</b> Manager ATS Princess Juliana Intl Airport	<a href="mailto:ghassell@sxmairport.com">ghassell@sxmairport.com</a>	T: +721 546 7539 M&W: +721 520 0795
	<b>Lloyd Hinds</b> Director ATS Princess Juliana Intl Airport	<a href="mailto:lhinds@sxmairport.com">lhinds@sxmairport.com</a>	T: +721 546 7542/49 T: +721 546 7536
St Vincent & the Grenadines	<b>Dillett Davis</b> Director of Airports (Ag)	<a href="mailto:catcsvg@gmail.com">catcsvg@gmail.com</a>	T: +784 456 5994/458 4011 M&W: +784 495 1980
Trinidad and Tobago	<b>Ian R Gomez</b> MATS and ANS Safety (Ag) Unit Chief ANS Safety <b>(E/CAR/CATG Rapporteur)</b>	<a href="mailto:igomez@caa.gov.tt">igomez@caa.gov.tt</a>	T + 1 868 669 4806(Ext 2530) M: +868 788 8284 W: +868 723 4862
	<b>Ashley Lalman</b> Unit Chief ACC & APP (Ag)	<a href="mailto:alalman@caa.gov.tt">alalman@caa.gov.tt</a>	T: +868 669 4806 (Ext 2562) M&W: +868 784-8456
Puerto Rico (USA)	<b>Operations Managers</b>	AJT-ZSU-OM@faa.gov	T: +787-253-8664
	<b>Air Traffic Manager</b>	AJT-ZSU-ATM@faa.gov	T: +787-253-8790
	<b>Airspace Manager</b>	AJT-ZSU-Airspace@faa.gov	

STATE	MEMBER/S & POSITION	E-MAIL ADDRESS	TEL / MOBILE / FAX
<b>United States</b>	<b>Jorge Chades</b> Oceanic & Offshore Specialist Americas & ICAO Group (ATO/AJV-13)	<a href="mailto:Jorge.A-CTR.Chades@faa.gov">Jorge.A-CTR.Chades@faa.gov</a>	W: + 1 (202) 267 - 1007
	<b>Rudolph Lawrence</b> Oceanic & Offshore Specialist Americas & ICAO Group (ATO/AJV-13)	<a href="mailto:Rudolph.Lawrence@faa.gov">Rudolph.Lawrence@faa.gov</a>	W: +1 (202) 267 - 0116 M: +1 (202) 285-3099
	<b>Steven Pinkerton</b> Manager, Oceanic/Offshore Air Traffic Operations (AJT-2240)	<a href="mailto:Steven.pinkerton@faa.gov">Steven.pinkerton@faa.gov</a>	W: +1 202-267-0514 M: +1 202-815-5919
	<b>Shawn Knight</b> Manager, International Airspace and Procedures, New York ARTCC	<a href="mailto:Shawn.g.knight@faa.gov">Shawn.g.knight@faa.gov</a>	W: +1 631-468-1018
	<b>Vincent McMenemy</b> ATS, Technical Advisory Group Oceanic/Offshore Air Traffic Operations Team, AJT-2240	<a href="mailto:vincent.mcmenemy@faa.gov">vincent.mcmenemy@faa.gov</a>	W: +1 (202) 267-0627 M: (317) 730-3636
<b>ECCAA            (Antigua &amp;            Barbuda,            Dominica,            Grenada, Saint            Kitts and            Nevis, Saint            Lucia, Saint            Vincent and            the            Grenadines)</b>	<b>Denise Silston</b> Air Traffic Services Inspector Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Authority	<a href="mailto:dsilston@eccaa.aero">dsilston@eccaa.aero</a> <a href="mailto:contact@eccaa.aero">contact@eccaa.aero</a>	T: + 1 268 462 0000/0907/0030 M&W: +
<b>ICAO NACC            Office</b>	<b>Eddian Mendez</b> Regional Officer ATM/SAR	<a href="mailto:emendez@icao.int">emendez@icao.int</a>	T: +52 55 5250 3211 M&W: +52 1 55 3643 9265

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**APPENDIX C****UPDATED ATM COMMITTEE'S WORK PROGRAMME 2023-2024**

<b>ITEM NO.</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>
1	Updating the E/CAR ATM Committee's Terms of Reference (ToRs)
2	Completion and submission of Basic Building Blocks (BBB) Forms
2	Standardisation and Revision of LOAs and MOUs between adjacent States/Territories
3	Review and Submission of E/CAR ATM Contingency Plans
4	ATFM implementation within the E/CAR Region
5	Monitoring Airspace Optimisation (PBN Implementation) within the E/CAR Region
6	Monitoring ADS-B Service within the Piarco FIR/CTA/UTA
7	Monitoring of AIDC Testing within the E/CAR Region
8	Additional ATM related issues of concern to the ATM Committee

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APPENDIX D

E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee Terms of Reference

2023

E/CAR/CATG ATM  
COMMITTEE – Terms of  
Reference

THIS DOCUMENT PROVIDES INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE  
TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE E/CAR/CATG ATM COMMITTEE  
E/CAR/CATG ATM COMMITTEE

E/CAR/CATG ATM COMMITTEE |

## **1. Background**

This Committee, herein referred to as the Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Technical Group Air Traffic Management (E/CAR/CATG ATM) Committee, participated in the first E/CAR/CATG Meeting (E/CAR/CATG/1) in Martinique, French Antilles, France, in June 2013. Prior to this Meeting, the ATM Committee was part of the Eastern Caribbean Working Group (E/CAR/WG), which held its last meeting (E/CAR/WG/33) in Christchurch, Barbados in June 2012.

## **2. Purpose**

- 2.1 The E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee has been charged with the responsibility of supporting the implementation of ICAO Air Traffic Management related SARPs in the eastern Caribbean, aligned with the work programme of the North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group (NACC/WG), and the CAR/SAM Planning and Implementation Regional Group (GREPECAS) guidelines in accordance with ICAO Regional strategic objectives based on the CAR/SAM Air Navigation Plan, taking into consideration relevant ATM matters raised at ATM associated Meetings involving the E/CAR Region.
- 2.2 To identify possible solutions to challenges faced by E/CAR ATM Community, and facilitate the sharing of best practices within the E/CAR Region, with the intention of achieving its objectives through the application of a performance-based, risk management approach for the development, improvement and implementation of ATM Matters for E/CAR States/Territories.
- 2.3 The activities of the E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee will be achieved through the establishment of a Work Programme, which will be revised annually.

## **3. Reporting Relationships:**

- 3.1 The E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee reports to the E/CAR/CATG Chairperson and the ICAO NACC Office through the ATM/SAR Regional Officer. The E/CAR/CATG Chairperson reports to the NACC/WG and ICAO NACC Office.

## **4. Membership of the E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee:**

- 4.1 The E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee shall be comprised of one or more representatives from the following States/Territories:
  - Antigua and Barbuda,
  - Barbados
  - Dominica,
  - Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Authority (ECCAA)
  - Grenada,
  - Guadeloupe
  - Martinique
  - St. Kitts and Nevis,

- St. Lucia,
- St. Maarten
- St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- Trinidad and Tobago
- United States

4.2 The ATM/SAR Regional Officer shall be the Secretary of the E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee.

## 5. Working Methods

5.1 The E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee will establish a Work Programme, containing the activities of the group in terms of objectives, responsibilities and deliverables.

5.2 The E/CAR/CATG ATM Rapporteur in collaboration with the ATM/SAR Regional Officer will coordinate the annual programme of activities, which will comply with the requirement of the approved Work Programme.

5.3 The E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee shall establish Ad-hoc Groups as deemed necessary to work on specific activities associated with the approved Work Programme. These activities shall have clearly defined tasks.

## 6. Responsibilities of E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee Members

### 6.1 E/CAR/CATG ATM Rapporteur

- Chairs E/CAR/CATG ATM Meetings,
- Acts as the Secretary or, designates a Member of the ATM Committee to act as the Secretary,

**Note:** *The Committee Secretary ensures that the actions and deliberations of the ATM Committee are properly documented and disseminated to targeted participants of Meetings and officials.*

- Schedules ATM Committee Meetings in collaboration with concerned States/Territories,
- Periodically invites subject matter experts (e.g. Meteorology, AIM, CNS) to make presentations on topics that require a better understanding by the ATM Members,
- Relays the ATM and associated activities of the ICAO NACC Office to the participating ATM Committee Members, with assistance from the ATM/SAR Regional Officer,
- Collaborates with the ATM/SAR Regional Officer and ATM Committee Members to develop updated Work Programmes of the ATM Committee for submission to the ICAO NACC Office,
- Collaborates with the ATM Committee Members to achieve the objectives of the Committee's Work Programme,

- Identifies and relays to the ICAO NACC Office through the ATM/SAR Regional Officer, challenges faced by participating States/Territories, which can hinder their achievement of the objectives of the Committee's Work Programme,
- Collaborates with the other active E/CAR/CATG Rapporteurs to achieve common objectives of the E/CAR/CATG,
- Reports the activities of the E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee at E/CAR/CATG Meetings,
- Represents the ATM Committee at ICAO NACC Rapporteur Meetings

## 6.2 E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee Members

- Collaborate with the ATM Rapporteur to develop the ATM Work Programme and achieve the objectives of this Programme, along with identifying possible solutions to challenges faced by E/CAR ATM Community;

**Note:** *Any participating State/Territory experiencing challenges in achieving the set objectives of the ATM Committee shall bring its concerns to the attention of the ATM Committee or, ATM Rapporteur or, directly to the ATM/SAR RO for addressing.*

- Attendance and participation at E/CAR/CATG and ATM Meetings.
- Bring to the E/CAR/CATG ATM Rapporteur's attention issues of an ATM nature, which can have a direct effect on the E/CAR ATM Community;

## 6.3 ATM/SAR RO – Secretary

- Coordinates with the ATM Rapporteur to convene Regular ATM Committee Meetings,
- Collaborates with the ATM Rapporteur for the development and submission of updated ATM Committee Work Programmes,
- Relays the ATM and associated activities of the ICAO NACC Office to the participating ATM Committee Members,
- Provides guidance and support to the E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee towards achieving its objectives as established in the Committee's Work Programme,
- Relays the activities of the ATM Committee to the ICAO NACC Office.

## 7. Meetings

7.1 The E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee Meetings will be of three types:

- Regular Committee
- Sub-Committee
- Ad-hoc Committee

7.1.1 Regular Committee Meetings, which requires the attendance of all Member States/Territories, shall be held quarterly and shall address issues specific to the Work Programme of the ATM Committee. Attempts will be made to have at least one face-to-face Meeting of the E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee annually.

7.1.2 Sub-Committee Meetings, which usually involves the attendance of two or more Member States/Territories, to address issues specifically associated with those Members in attendance, shall be held when deemed necessary by those concerned Member States/Territories.

7.1.3 Ad-hoc Committee Meetings, which can require the attendance of all Member States/Territories, will be held when issues arise that cannot wait for a regular Committee Meeting (e.g. unplanned occurrences affecting ATM operations).

7.2 ATM Committee Meetings shall be held through the following means:

- In-person,
- Virtual (using secure platforms e.g. Teams Meeting, Zoom Meeting or WhatsApp Group Chat), and/or
- Hybrid (a combination of in-person and virtual meetings).

7.3 All E/CAR/CATG ATM Committee Meetings shall be minuted, disseminated by the Committee's Secretary to the concerned Member States/Territories for ratification, with e-copies of the final Minutes of the Meeting being provided to the participating States/Territories and the ATM/SAR Regional Officer for information and records.