



Agenda Item 4: NOTAM Contingency Plan

NOTAM CONTINGENCY PLAN VIA THE INTERNET

(Presented by Colombia)

SUMMARY	
<p>This working paper addresses the situation of NOTAM contingency plans in relation to the Bogota NOF, considering that Colombia does not have a NOTAM Databank to ensure reciprocity in contingency plans. It also presents an alternate way of developing NOTAM contingency plans through the public Internet.</p>	
<p>References:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annex 15 to the ICAO Convention.• GREPECAS/12, Conclusion 12/99.• SAM/AIM/2 Multilateral Meeting.• SAM/AIM/3 Multilateral Meeting.• SAM/AIM/4 Multilateral Meeting.	
ICAO Strategic Objectives:	<i>A - Safety</i> <i>C - Environmental protection</i>

1. Background

1.1. The GREPECAS/12 meeting adopted Conclusion 12/99 - Agreement on NOTAM Contingency Plans, requesting States to develop their NOTAM Contingency Plans for Flight Information Regions (FIRs) and to the extent possible enter into bilateral and/or multilateral agreements with the States/Territories and International Organisations responsible for neighbouring airspaces. In this manner, it is expected that they may be part of a regional NOTAM Contingency Plan, if necessary.

1.2. The SAM/AIM/3 Multilateral Meeting updated the model of a Regional Catalogue of SAM NOTAM Contingency Plans, which appears with the latest information update as of March 2012.

2. Discussion

2.1. Colombia NOF vs. NOTAM Contingency Plans

2.1.1. All SAM States have NOTAM data banks, some more updated than others, and with functionalities that do not ensure 100% proper utilisation, as is the case of the Colombia NOTAM data bank.

2.1.2. The Colombian Data Bank does not guarantee its operation, since it does not validate the information contained in the NOTAMs published by other States, such as NOTAM sequence, codes, fields, etc. Furthermore, it cannot publish information of other States because of limitations in the configuration of parameters, since it is a closed system.

2.1.3. Colombia is planning to acquire a new NOTAM Data Bank, including a digital NOTAM, which would start operating by July 2014. In addition to the minimum functions required by ICAO, the data bank must also guarantee support to contingency plans with other States.

2.1.4. The Colombian NOF is willing to develop contingency plans with the States that so require. However, these contingency plans will have a limitation, since Colombia is not in a position to support the publication of NOTAMs of other States. Thus, such contingency plans would be guaranteed only in one direction, since the State that signs a contingency plan with Colombia would have to support the publication of the NOTAMs of Colombia for a period of time, without receiving the same service from the Colombian NOF.

2.1.5. Colombia proposes the following implementation timetable to those States willing to develop a NOTAM contingency plan, taking into account the condition of the NOTAM data bank of the Colombian NOF:

State	Backup State	Implementation date
Colombia	Peru	September 2013
Colombia	Panama	October 2013
Colombia	Ecuador	November 2013
Colombia	Other States	To be defined

2.2. NOTAM contingency plan between States *via* the public Internet

2.2.1. The basic format for the development of NOTAM Contingency Plans establishes that, when they become effective, the backup State will publish the NOTAMs of the State facing problems with its NOTAM data bank.

2.2.2. The new NOTAM data banks are developed in web environments, where users can obtain different access profiles (*e.g.*, query, administrator or publisher profile), ensuring NOTAM integrity and security.

2.2.3. By using the NOTAM data banks *via* the Internet, the States can establish NOTAM Contingency Plans, whereby each State is provided a name and access code for publishing their NOTAMs through the data bank of the backup State, establishing the minimum rules and parameters for the contingency plan developed between the States.

2.2.4. This method ensures that each State will continue to watch over the proper publication of its NOTAMs, and although the contingency plan ensures the proper provision of NOTAM services by the States because of the number of officials available in some NOFs, the publication process may take a little longer.

2.2.5. An element that could work against this is that NOTAM data banks could be from different providers and NOF officials might not be acquainted with the operation of the data banks of the other States. This may be overcome by providing inter-institutional and bilateral training, and conducting periodic drills in line with the Contingency Plan.

3. **Suggested action:**

3.1. Based on the foregoing, the Meeting is invited to:

- a) approve the timetable for the implementation of the NOTAM Contingency Plan of the Colombian NOF with the States proposed in the previous table and with other States that might so request; and
- b) analyse the proposal of allowing the NOTAM data bank of the backup State to be used by officials of the State whose NOTAM data bank has become inoperative, through a user name and special code *via* the public Internet.

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