

1. TITLE

Mandate to Eurocontrol to assist the European Commission in the development of a Single Aeronautical Information Publication (AIP) for the European Upper Information Region (EUIR).

2. PURPOSE OF THIS MANDATE

Eurocontrol is requested to assist the European Commission in the organisation and use of the airspace in the Single European Sky by the coordination of the development and implementation of a single AIP for the EUIR.

3. JUSTIFICATION

Pursuant to the Memorandum of Co-operation (MoC) between Eurocontrol and the European Commission, the Commission hereby issues a mandate to Eurocontrol to support the development of a specification for a single AIP for the EUIR.

Article 3.1 of the Airspace Regulation¹ lays down that the Commission shall aim at the establishment and recognition by the ICAO of a single EUIR and shall submit a recommendation to the Council within 2 years after the entry into force of the Airspace Regulation.

Article 3.5 of the Airspace Regulation states that, without prejudice to the publication by Member States of aeronautical information and in a manner consistent with this publication, the Commission, in close cooperation with Eurocontrol, shall coordinate the development of a single aeronautical information publication relating to the EUIR, taking account of ICAO requirements.

4. BACKGROUND

In order to address the organisation and use of airspace in the Single European Sky, the Airspace Regulation recognises that a EUIR encompassing the upper airspace under the responsibility of the member States within the scope of the Regulation should facilitate common planning and aeronautical information publication in order to overcome regional bottlenecks.

The need for accurately, timely and consistent aeronautical information to be provided progressively in an electronic form, based on a commonly agreed and standardised data set is specified in Annex II, Part, Section 7 of the Interoperability Regulation². This Regulation also specifies that accurate and consistent aeronautical information, in particular concerning airborne and ground-based constituents or systems, shall be made available in a timely manner.

To address the requirements for the provision of aeronautical information within the EUIR, there is a need to develop a Single AIP for the EUIR. The aeronautical

¹ Regulation (EC) N° 551/2004, OJ L 96 of 31.3.2004, .

² Regulation (EC) N° 552/2004, OJ L 96 of 31.3.2004, p37.

information requirements arising from the Interoperability Regulation will be addressed by a separate Mandate to Eurocontrol.

5. SUBJECT OF THE MANDATE

The approach taken by Eurocontrol in this area shall take full account of the provisions of the Single European Sky regulations, particularly Article 3 of the Airspace Regulation and Article 2 of the Interoperability Regulation.

Eurocontrol is mandated to carry out the following actions:

5.1 Main Issues

Eurocontrol shall:

- Evaluate existing rules and provisions for the provision of aeronautical information within the European Upper Airspace;
- Evaluate additional aspects pertinent to the development of the single AIP;
- Consider existing rules and provisions applicable to the possible extension of a Single AIP to the lower airspace;
- Identify and investigate key issues, opportunities and difficulties (e.g. institutional, commercial etc) arising from the provision of a single AIP;
- Identify implementation support requirements for Member States and Stakeholders, including Eurocontrol's role in providing implementation support.

In close cooperation with the Member States and the European Commission, Eurocontrol shall coordinate the development of a specification which:

- Provides for a Single AIP for the EUIR;
- Provides for and/or identifies associated guidance material;
- Provides an implementation plan for the single AIP;
- If necessary, ensures the coordination of changes/amendments with ICAO.

5.2 Specific Issues

Eurocontrol shall coordinate the development of the specification such that it includes:

- The scope and content of a Single AIP for the EUIR;
- The process by which aeronautical info shall be provided for the Single AIP for the EUIR;
- The process by which the Single EUIR shall be collated and distributed;
- The roles and responsibilities associated with the provision of a Single AIP;
- The Single AIP change control processes;
- The service oversight and external monitoring requirements;

- The performance, safety and quality of service requirements.

The proposal shall allow for the Single AIP to be provided in electronic form as a primary means but with the possibility for the provision of hard copy where required.

The proposal shall be developed taking into account that the proposed single AIP solution should be suitable for an extension to the lower airspace.

5.3 Impact assessment

Eurocontrol shall develop, as appropriate, impact assessments of the introduction of a single AIP on e. g. States, ANSPs, airspace users and institutional bodies, in particular in the areas of safety, efficiency and economic aspects. An assessment of the costs and benefits of the proposed single AIP for all stakeholders concerned shall be attached to the draft Final report as part of the justification.

Eurocontrol shall also assess the impact on and need for interaction with other areas of the Single European Sky package. In particular, proper account shall be taken of any requirements arising from the development of any implementing rules for interoperability concerning the systems and procedures for the provision of aeronautical information.

5.4 Consultation Process

Eurocontrol shall also organise a consultation process on the draft specification, including justification, for the single AIP and take into account the opinions of stakeholders, including:

- Relevant national authorities (Civil and Military),
- Civil and Military air navigation services providers,
- Relevant airspace users' organisations,
- Relevant international organisations,
- Military airspace users,
- Relevant social and industry representatives.

The Eurocontrol consultation process shall, as a minimum, include the following:

- Invite comments;
- Evaluate and report on the comments made;
- Be available for reasonable requests by individual stakeholders for meetings and discussions;
- Organise a public workshop to discuss the results.

5.5 Material to be used

Eurocontrol shall take into account and build further upon any relevant material available during the scheduled timetable (existing or under development), in particular:

- The ICAO Chicago Conventions and its Annexes;
- ICAO SARPS;
- ESARRs;
- Draft regulatory and supporting material concerning the regulation of end-to-end data integrity.

6. REPORTS AND DELIVERABLES

Eurocontrol shall deliver an initial plan and a final report as followed.

The initial plan will describe in detail the work programme, the proposed methodology and processes (including the Eurocontrol coordination role and involvement of the Member States) , the timing and planning of the project, including consultations and visits planned. Eurocontrol may propose additional or refined points (to be taken onboard under 5.1-5.4.) to the Commission for consideration in this mandate.

The final report will contain the results achieved in respect of section 5, notably the final draft of the proposal relating to the establishment of a single AIP for the EUIR and its justification, including a description of the opportunities and difficulties related to the provision of a single AIP. The final report will also describe actions necessary by the European Commission and Eurocontrol to support stakeholders' efforts to implement the proposal.

7. TIMETABLE

The work shall start from the acceptance of the Mandate by Eurocontrol.

Eurocontrol is asked to provide deliverables according to the following schedule:

Delivery date	Deliverable	Subject
	Initial plan	Presentation and agreement between Eurocontrol and the Commission of the initial plan.
	Draft final report including proposals for implementing rules	To be submitted to and discussed with the Commission.
	Final report including draft implementing rules	Update of the draft final report, taking full account of the Commission's comments. Submission of draft proposal for a single AIP to the Commission.

8. POINT OF CONTACT

The point of contact within the European Commission for this mandate is:

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The initial plan (as described under point 6.) will be agreed with the point of contact. The point of contact will be kept updated on the progress of the work under this mandate