



First Meeting of the Interim Deployment Steering Group (IDSG)

29 February 2012, 09:30-13:30

Conclusions(adopted on 23.05.2012)

Agenda item 1: “Welcome”

The Chairman introduced the meeting stressing its importance since IDSG is recognized by the Commission as the most essential action to ensure SESAR's baseline deployment pending the establishment of the future governance. IDSG's initiative is expected to last about two years before handing over responsibilities smoothly to the future governance.

The expected wide participation was explained as well as the actions undertaken by the Commission to ensure a proper participation. The validated list of designated members, alternates and observers will be published on the Commission's website. The list of participants is attached in Annex 2.

It was underlined that the Commission as Chair together with its experts, EASA and the representatives of the States constitute the embryo of the level 1 (Political) of the future governance. The operational stakeholders, the NM, the SJU, the military and the manufacturing industry constitute an embryo of the level 2 (Management), level 3 being the Implementation/Projects.

Agenda item 2: “Introduction”

2.1 IDSG in the context of SESAR deployment

Deployment activities are very critical for the success of the SESAR programme. Following the publication by the Commission of the Communication on SESAR deployment, work is progressing to establish the full governance. The IDSG, building on the momentum created by the IP1 Steering Group, is also the “test bed” for the the future SESAR deployment governance.

The expectations from the IDSG work are very high. IDSG has been identified as the most appropriate initiative to steer and monitor on going and short term implementation activities, ensuring deployment baseline contributions to SESAR key features and essential operational changes and also the Network Strategic Plan.

During the period of the next two years, IDSG will evolve progressively taking into account relevant developments and experience gained to ensure a smooth transition to the full SESAR governance arrangements.

2.2 Main outcome from the IP1 Steering Group

The outcome of the IP1 SG was summarized. The work of the IP1 SG focused on:

- a) The refinement of IP1/baseline content;
- b) The prioritization of IP1/baseline both from a monitoring perspective as well as from a deployment/network critical perspective;
- c) The issuing of recommendations to facilitate/accelerate implementation and mitigate deployment risks;

Lessons learned from the functioning of the IP1 SG were taken on board when developing the Communication on SESAR deployment as well for the establishment of the IDSG.

Agenda item 3: “Adoption of the Rules of Procedure”

The IDSG is established as an Expert Group of the Commission. That implies certain formalities contained in the Rules of Procedure (RoP). The provisions of those RoP address amongst others details on appointment of participants, reimbursement expenses for the meetings of the Expert Team, treatment of data/confidentiality and matters on conflict of interest. IDSG will be included in the registry of the Commission’s Groups. Meetings documentation and agendas will also be sent to the European Parliament which in return may send EP experts to attend meetings. In the ensuing discussions some articles of the RoP were further explained.

Art. 2 “Tasks”

Art 2.2: Concerning the references to “ensuring the commitment of operational stakeholders to the implementation activities” it was agreed to maintain the current wording on the understanding that the commitment should be interpreted in the broader sense of committing to the execution of the commonly developed and adopted Interim Deployment Programme.

Art. 5 “Opinions and recommendations”

Art 5.1: It was highlighted that IDSG and Expert Team opinions and recommendations shall be adopted by consensus and that under the current arrangements there will be no legally binding decisions and repercussions following the adoption of those recommendations/opinions.

Art. 7 “Meeting expenses”

Art 7.1: It was explained that the proposal to cover only the expenses incurred by participants in the activities of the Experts Team was based on the rather high frequency of meetings and associated workload.

Conclusion IDSG1/1: The proposed Rules of Procedure of the Group of Experts on SESAR Deployment Steering were approved without any modification.

Agenda item 4 “Setting up and executing the Interim Deployment Programme”

4.1 Defining the Interim Deployment Programme

The Commission presented the “concept” and proposed approach for the definition of the Interim Deployment Programme. The Interim Programme would actually contain only a subset of implementation objectives (ESSIP) addressing essential enablers in the context of the ATM Master Plan and/or also priority Strategic Objectives and Network centric actions, in the context of the Network Strategy Plan (Areas 1 to 5 in Annex 1). Taking into account the rather limited resources/arrangements that will be available during the interim period, the Interim Deployment Programme will focus on a manageable set of particularly relevant implementation objectives (ESSIP) whilst organizing them into a project oriented perspective. Particular attention will also be given to implementation objectives where a high degree of synchronisation is required.

In the context of current developments, the identification of essential changes and enablers is based principally on “expert judgment” with regard to their contributions to the performance of the Network (Safety, Capacity, Flight efficiency, Cost effectiveness).

The IDSG should not duplicate at any expense work within the SJU concerning the maintenance and update of the ATM Master Plan as well as work within the NM and NMB for the Network Strategic Plan. The IDSG should use the outcomes of those two processes.

Concern was expressed on the high number of Operational Improvements and associated enablers identified as priority so far.

Conclusion IDSG1/2: The IDSG Members:

- a) Agreed on the approach to be undertaken to establish the Interim Deployment Programme, in particular on the need for criteria for the selection of implementation objectives;
- b) Invited the Expert Team to commence work on the definition of such criteria and the drafting of the Programme and to review inputs to the ATM MP update process including priorities if and as required¹.

¹ After further discussion in the framework of the Master Planning Group (MPG8, 1 March 2012), another input from the IDSG was felt not necessary considering that 1) the initial input provided on 16 January 2012 by the former IP1 SG has been already widely used in updating the Master plan; 2) the deadline of 31 March to freeze the Master plan update proposal is now too close to reopen widely the baseline issue. Stakeholders have been invited to channel any further comment they might have about the SESAR baseline in the Master plan's context directly to the MPG.

4.2 Execution of the Interim Deployment Programme

With the establishment of the IDSG, the focus is set on the steering of the deployment activities agreed in the Interim Deployment Programme.

One important aspect is funding opportunities that will become available. In this context the TEN-T Executive Agency (TENTEA) presented the on-going Annual Call 2011 and possible future Calls. Projects selected under the Annual Call 2011 will have to deliver results by the end of 2014. Attention was drawn on the possibility to focus proposals on two main areas:

- a) coordination activities in support of short-term deployments. This may cover for example the work to be done by the stakeholders to support the Expert Team of the IDSG. It has been explained that FABs are not eligible for all activities associated to the preparation of FAB establishment.
- b) short term deployment activities in line with the call text. Deployment activities connected with those essential operational changes and associated enablers identified in the updated master plan might be considered of greater relevance during the evaluation.

The eligibility for studies or work during the testing phase for short-term deployment activities that could be potentially considered as “pilot implementations” as well as the eligibility of Military partners for both coordination and technical adaptations for interoperability were discussed. Clarifications were provided on minimum/maximum funding and share between transport modes in Priority 3. Further clarifications will be provided soon through the "FAQ" page of the TENTEA's web portal (http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/en/apply_for_funding/follow_the_funding_process/2011_annual_faq.htm)

4.3 Monitoring and reporting

Agenda item was postponed for discussion at the first Expert Team meeting.

Although the focus is clearly set on the steering of the selected deployment activities, the monitoring initialised by the IP1 Steering Group will be continued.

Agenda item 5: “Way forward-the next 2 years”

The IDSG is one of the six main actions undertaken by the Commission or into which the Commission is involved to prepare for the governance and financing of SESAR deployment.

Within the next two years, the IDSG will interact with the following five other actions: i) Update of the ATM Master Plan, ii) Facilitation of the industrialization phase, iii) Further define and establish financing and funding mechanisms, iv) Further define and establish governance mechanisms and v) Prepare for continued technological innovation.

The following broad related work programme was presented:

- a) at the latest within the next 6 months develop and agree the Interim Deployment Programme, connecting the implementation actions related to baseline's essentials (ATM MP) and the network centrics actions (NSP)

which are either on-going or to be launched by 2014 (some of them resulting from TEN-T calls)

The objective is to submit the Interim Deployment Programme to the SSC/47 meeting (4-5 October 2012) for approval.

- b) subsequently focus on execution/steering using IDSG
 - as a coordination platform between the stakeholders with the appropriate reporting mechanisms to the Commission to escalate unresolved issues
 - as an opinions/recommendations making body and
 - supporting ATM MP maintenance through dedicated recommendations for consideration by SJU and WPC
- c) in parallel continue close monitoring of essential deployments.

The following tentative calendar of meetings was proposed.

- IDSG meets systematically 3 weeks before the SSC meetings throughout the year thus the following dates were proposed
 - 23 May, 12 September and 13 November 2012
- Expert Team meetings up to June 2012.
 - 12 March, 26 April, 22 May, 21 June,

Conclusion IDSG1/3: The IDSG Members

- a) Agreed the proposed work programme on the way forward
- b) Agreed to the calendar of IDSG's meetings up to end 2012
- c) Agreed to convene the first Expert Team meeting on the 12 March 2012.

Annex 1