

ECOGAS Notes 22nd June 2022

Attendees:

Francoise Horiot

Anais Bensai

Dan Banja

Marcel Gisel

Kurt Dahlmann

Alex Segens

Apologies:

Balz Albertin

1. Finalise accounts with ECOGAS the association and ECOGAS Ltd. Any additional actions required.

We confirmed that a final amount had been transferred from ECOGAS Ltd to ECOGAS the association in France. The amount transferred was 1916.65 euro. We agreed that Anais will invoice the existing members for the sum of 300 euro and that request will go out before the end of the week, with payment requested by the end of July 2022. We also agreed that if additional funds were required for marketing or other activities to promote ECOGAS then we would come back to the members and make such a request. For 23/24 we will likely look to increase the membership fee to 600 euro.

2. Populate our website with key material:
 - a. Including quick bio, picture from each person so we can use.
 - b. Dates of all meetings for 2022
 - c. Confirm all the meetings we attend and who the representative is , plus current info, minutes, papers on each subject.
 - d. Active contact us email with someone monitoring.

It was explained to the team that the website was now ready to be passed to ECOGAS and the new owner of that website. The high-level update of the ECOGAS domain is still provided by the BBGA through its previous contract and if there were any updates to core software the BBGA IT person would manage that without disruption.

We discussed the value of the ECOGAS website and agreed that it is not a marketing tool to promote our association. It is in fact a vehicle to validate our activities to EASA and the European Commission should any questions be raised about the validity of our voice.

We also agreed that the diary and meeting element of the website will serve to clearly identify who does what and when so that we know what is happening throughout the year. We will look to make it clear who is our representative on each EASA group and we will publish the latest information on the subject relative to the year in question.

We need to agree who will be our webmaster for any routine updates to the above and we need a focal point to pick up any info@ECOGAS.aero messages.

We committed to ensuring that we will populate the core data on our website by the next time we meet in September. May I ask that you use myself and Anais as the recipients of your information please. I will follow up with some specific requests to expand on the original list above.

We noted that there may be a need for some English text before the weblink to individual associations websites. We may be able to set up a routine that automatically triggers google translate rather than providing additional information

3. Review of current crop of EASA meetings.

Anais was able to attend part of the SAB and Alex attended the whole meeting. Alex highlighted that there were some questions about the DS4 process and the ability to utilise this in a constructive way to look at sector issues. The problem is one that we have seen in many such safety databases and that is how can you effectively analyse free text.

There was some debate regarding new technologies engines, SAF and any developments to benefit aviation. It was acknowledged that all of these are at least ten years away and our best improvements must be in air traffic optimization.

Finally on general topics it was acknowledged that the Ukraine war will impact the EASA budget by 5M euro.

The restructuring of EASA meetings is now moving onto implementation. The main groups have been retained including the GA.COM and CAT.COM. However, groups like E&M, D&M and Training are now to be treated as cross functional activities rather than individual groups. These will continue to exist, but how that will operate in a matrix structure that is not clear. Our approach is now to try and make this work irrespective of any politics. We still have representation in key groups, and no one has tried to restrict our input so let us wait and see.

4. Identify any key consultations

The consultation which we had been working on NPA 2021-15 is now closed with many comments. We have no other consultations to answer currently.

5. Reaffirm what our top strategic issues should be addressed in 2022.

After some discussion we highlighted the need to look at four key areas for the remainder of 2022.

- a. The Part 145 GA task force was passed into the E&M Tec, however, with the change in status of that group we may need to bring that back into GA COM. The bottom line is that the initiatives of B2L and B3 have not yielded anything in the workplace and if we are to address this issue across the member states we need to consider this afresh.
 - b. The roll out of SMS to Part 145 is far too onerous for SME's with many small organisations just over 10 staff having to introduce a full system like that for a national carrier. We need a balanced proportionate solution to this requirement.
 - c. Cyber security is the next issue for SME's which arrives fully in force for our community in 2024. We need a pragmatic proportionate approach for SME's just like the case for Part 145 SMS.
 - d. Training initiatives seem to be spread out in many places and it is important that we have a far more focused approach. With a move towards competency-based training we need to create pathways to bring in our next generation of aviation staffs. We are all seeing significant shortfalls in aviation and a unified approach is required. We may well develop a position paper on this subject.
6. Re-establish industry working groups IAOPA, GAMA, EIMG and EBAA in third quarter 2022.

Simply put we agreed that this was vital to unite our associations to work with single purposes where possible so that we amplify our message to EASA. We agreed to target a physical meeting in Paris on the 8th of September starting at 1100.

7. Latest position regarding board member James Black.

We have not heard from James for some considerable time and we agreed that we should contact James in writing to thank him for his support to ECOGAS over many years. James will not form part of the new board of ECOGAS the association going forward. The board agreed and supported this approach.

As a side discussion we mentioned the participation of other national associations in ECOGAS and we know from previous discussions that few exist. However, the team were made aware that a Spanish association has been established and an Irish association likewise. Marc confirmed this from their links with EBAA. Marc will approach these associations to see if they would like to participate in ECOGAS and will offer them to join our meeting as a guest when feasible.

8. Look at secretariat positions for ECOGAS 2023:-
 - a. Chair
 - b. Vice Chair
 - c. Secretary

As part of our process for ECOGAS the association we are due to hold our AGM in December. If anyone would like to undertake the roles of chair, vice chair, or secretary please let the ECOGAS team know and we will look to agree this in advance of our meeting on the 8th of September, so we can record in the minutes ready for the December AGM.

9. Next meeting Suggested date of September the 8th September in Paris at 1100 CET.