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18 September 2012

Response to DG Move Orientations (09-07-12): Establishing guidance material on common projects for SESAR deployment

Dear Mr. Castelletti,

The attached document provides the joint position on SESAR deployment prepared by Airports Council International (ACI), Association of European Airlines (AEA) and Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) in response to the DG MOVE Orientations: Establishing guidance material on common projects for SESAR deployment, distributed on 9 July 2012. The opinions set out in this position paper are without prejudice to the views expressed in the position papers that have been submitted to the European Commission by each association individually.

In this context, we also wish to highlight the following points for your consideration:

1. The comments made in the joint presentation in the workshop on the 12th of July remain valid.
2. The guidance material has been distributed very late. There was virtually no time between the issuing of the guidance material and the workshop and therefore there was no possibility to consult the members of ACI-Europe. This in itself made it already very difficult to respond on the 12th of July meeting. The guidance material distributed on the 9th of July showed a quite different approach than the initial guidance material.
3. We noticed that the SJU got a mandate to prepare the key part of the work, the pilot common project. This happened only days after the 12th of July workshop. We can only act that the EC didn’t wait for the opinion of the stakeholders, bearing the end investment risk or not, to move ahead with the execution of the key part of the SESAR deployment road map.
4. We still consider that the industry should get the possibility to manage and execute the Deployment Programme.

We thank you in advance for taking into account our observations and naturally remain at your disposal for further discussions.

Yours sincerely,

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Director General  
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