

## Minutes of meeting

### Scientific Committee meeting SC(M)08-2024

Wednesday, 26 June 2024 (9h30 to 16h00)

Brussels

#### Item 1. Welcome & review of actions

The SC Chair, TBO, welcomed all participants to the 8th meeting of the SESAR 3 JU Scientific Committee (SC).

#### Review of Actions

	Responsibility	Description	Due Date	Status
SC06/06	TBO	Organise meeting with EUROCONTROL DG in the next year to further develop the 'open science alliance'	Q1/Q2 2024	Open
SC07/02	IVA/DBA	Check if ICAO papers are available for distribution to the SC	asap	Ongoing
SC07/04	TBO	Invite PEARL and AMPLE 3 project representatives to the SC meeting in September	Q2	Open
SC07/06	IVA	Check if SIDs presentations are available on the website, and that the names of the Programme Committee members are visible	asap	Done
SC07/07	SC Members	Identify any blocking points to development priorities on Master Plan V2	Early June	Done
SC07/09	TBO+IVA	Planning for the White Paper	asap	Done
SC07/10	SC Members	Produce a White Paper reflecting on the future of ATM research beyond 2028	Mid-November	Open
SC07/11	SC Members	Volunteer to participate as evaluators to the YSA 2024	End of August	Open

### Item 1. Conclusions:

The open actions were reviewed as above. The updated list of open actions can be found in Annex II.

### Item 2. SESAR 3 JU activities overview

ABO provided an overview on the DES calls timeline.

Looking at ER1, the first reporting and payment is ongoing; regarding ER2, grant agreements are ready to be signed, as planned by mid-July and 2 under finalization; about IR1, all project reviews were successfully completed.

Regarding the Synergy call, Europe's Rail JU is dealing with the grant agreement preparation with the aim of signing the grant agreements in July.

The ER3/IR2 draft technical specifications, that are based on the MP update, are in preparation and will be discussed with the members at a dedicated workshop on 17/18 September. The technical specification will then be included in the BAWP 2024-2025 amendment planned to be adopted in December 2024.

ABO informed that in order to ensure the submission of proposals of good quality, the ER3/IR2 calls material will be published in the EU Funding and Tenders Portal in January, but the opening of the calls is postponed to March/April (i.e. date at which proposals elaboration and submission could start), with a submission deadline set at mid- September.

Under CINEA's management, the DSD1a and DSD1b projects are in execution.

Regarding the DSD2 call, 2 proposals have been submitted, the evaluations are ongoing (conducted by CINEA) and the notification of the results is expected in July.

The technical specifications for the DSD3 call are under preparation, based on the priorities identified by the SDOs; the call is planned to open on 24 September 2024, with a deadline on 25 January 2025.

The current DES portfolio includes 58 active grants (ER1:18; IR1:32; DSD1a:5; DSD1b:3); 19 grants under preparation (ER2:18; Synergy call:1). This represents a total investment of more than Euro 672 M and a total EU contribution of more than Euro 350 M.

ABO added that 129 Solutions are expected to be delivered at the end of the current calls, of which: 60% are targeting at least TRL6, 30% are addressing phase C, 27 solutions are covering the flagship "Aviation Green Deal" and 25 the flagship "Urban air mobility".

Among the items adopted at the Governing Board on 25 June, ABO listed the Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2023 and the GB Opinion on the Annual Accounts 2023. During the meeting, the SESAR 3 JU welcomed the representatives of the Associated Members Lillium and NATS and presented the SESAR 2020 closure report.

ABO informed the SC that the Clean Aviation JU and the SESAR JU have cooperated to align the respective strategic documents and continue a dialogue on the decarbonisation of aviation to ensure that ATM will integrate SAF and zero emissions aircraft.

### Item 2. Conclusions

The SC Members took note of the information provided by ABO.

### Item 3. SESAR JU International Affairs, including cooperation on exploratory research with the US

DBA presented an overview of the SESAR 3 JU International Affairs.

Objectives are to establish a global leadership for SESAR and the EU in the ICAO context, by favouring global interoperability and harmonisation through SESAR Solutions and by promoting EU industrial leadership.

Within the EU external aviation policy, key partners are the major ATM modernisation programmes, i.e. US, Japan; strategic partners in the ICAO context, are e.g. China, Singapore, whereas among the European neighbourhood countries, there is Georgia. Exchanges with UAE and Qatar occurred as part of DG MOVE umbrella.

The mechanisms that are used are SESAR 3 JU bilateral arrangements, EU/EC bilateral arrangements or EU/EASA technical cooperation projects.

He briefly presented the topics of the EU-US MoC for ATM Modernisation, Civil Aviation Research & Development and Global interoperability. One of these topics has as objective to identify areas of mutual interest for deeper exchange and cooperation with FAA and NASA.

DBA asked the SC members to suggest relevant topics where closer cooperation with the US would be valuable.

PHE suggested liaising with Eurocontrol to check activities done on their side with the US; RSA suggested cooperation on satellite; DDE mentioned OTS.

ACO has some contacts with FAA/NASA and TBO volunteered to follow up with US Academia.

DBA reported that the Global TBO symposium organised by the European Commission, EASA, Eurocontrol, the SESAR Deployment Manager and the SESAR 3 JU on 2-4 June, has been a major success with 300 on-site participants and 3000 online views, 36 worldwide countries represented.

DBA reported on the Transport Research Arena, held on 15-18 April in Dublin, that gave more relevance to aviation themes than previous editions and offered potential engagement and visibility opportunity for the SESAR 3 JU projects. The SESAR 3 JU participated with a joint stand with the CA JU, Europe's Rail JU and Clean Hydrogen JU and was active on various panels.

Regarding the main upcoming events, the SESAR3 JU will participate in the 14th ICAO Air Navigation Conference (Montreal, August/September 2024), in the ICAO Advanced Air mobility Symposium on 9-12 September and the ICAO Symposium on Non-CO2 Aviation Emissions on 16-18 September, both in Montreal; to the IAM Madrid on 24-26 September in Madrid. The SESAR Innovation Days will be organised on 12-15 November in Rome and the Annual Conference 2025 on 18 February 2025 in Brussels.

### Item 3. Conclusions

The SC Members took note of the information provided by DBA. ACO shall provide a contact in FAA/NASA; TBO will contact US Academia representatives (actions SC08/01 and SC08/02).

### Item 4. Updates on Performance Task Force

ACO reminded that projects PEARL and AMPLE 3 are dealing with performance and that a possible activity could

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be developing a matrix of KPAs to identify the major gaps and the correct approach and modelling could be used to fill them.

Regarding the Economic Evaluation deliverables of ER projects, he suggested that a transversal team could look at them and assess their usefulness as well as their links to performance and open data in order to suggest the most appropriate approach for their development.

### Item 4. Conclusions

The SC Members took note of the information provided by ABO.

ACO and TBO will contact some project coordinators to check the usefulness of and the right approach for the economic evaluation (action SC08/03). The JU will then follow up (action SC08/04).

### Item 5. Open data task force

TBO updated the SC on the status of project “Engage 2” that is working on enabling the listings of datasets, on the new version of the Engage wiki and on creating repositories for different research aspects.

It is also conducting a survey on opportunities and barriers for implementing Open science policies in ATM and it is organising a Summer school.

Answers to the survey have shown that Open data is very important and gave an indication about the types of data sources and obstacles in accessing the necessary data.

Among the identified Opportunities there are: reproducibility and transparency; faster solution development; avoiding time/money spent on data acquisition and better education possibilities. Existing barriers are related to confidentiality, sovereignty, legal issues, costs of data collection and maintenance, lack of a common platform.

TBO then presented the “Open source tool workshop” held at the University of Westminster, where different source tools were presented and under which conditions these can be accessed.

SC members had a discussion of the possibility of funding a project that would deal with collecting SESAR available data and making them accessible to the other research projects (e.g. a CSA).

It was highlighted that some repositories might already exist, but there are several resistances to share data, due to conflict of interest.

TBO suggested to start an Open science alliance and publicise it to all projects, through the Terms of reference and inviting interested parties to accept it, as a starting point.

JBE commented that having a section dedicated to making data available should be a transversal requirement to all ER projects. He also suggested that in order to help populate the open data repositories, future ER calls may clearly establish those proposals generating open data and including them in those repositories will be favoured (not obligatory, but preferred).

### Item 5. Conclusions:

The SC Members took note of the exchanges. ABO committed to follow this up by considering the possibility of asking all ER projects to make data available in a common repository and of inserting this requirement in the technical specifications of the next ER calls (action SC08/05). TBO to draft the Terms of reference for the Open Science Alliance in the ATM, to be sent to the parties that expressed interest, as a first step (SC08/06).

### Item 6. Master Plan campaign and SC support

PHE provided an overview of the process and the outcome of the consultation conducted on v2: the most important blocking points have been presented to the MPSG meeting of 24 June and resulted in 9 key improvements to be implemented. An updated version will be produced and shared by the end of July, in view of its adoption at the Governing Board meeting of December 2024.

ABO explained that according to the SBA, the revision of the European ATM Master Plan requires the positive votes of the Union and Eurocontrol, that need to follow their respective internal process to establish their position.

He commented that the MPSG had an intense discussion on 24 June on ambitions and on target date: they eventually agreed to maintain the current level of ambitions for deployment in 20235, but opted for a postponed end date to 2045 in the light of the challenges for Phase D.

He added that the SESAR 3 JU has facilitated a meeting between by the CEOs of the A6 group of Air Navigation Service Providers and the general managers of the manufacturing industry companies Indra, Leonardo and Thales. The meeting resulted in a “Joint statement on the transition to a new service delivery model for ATM in Europe in line with the MP update”. This is a commitment to work together to rapidly implement a new core ATM service delivery model, enabling: open ATM patterns, decoupling service and infrastructures and a cloud native architecture.

The declaration recognises the importance of collaboration, trust and partnership under the SESAR umbrella (SESAR JU, SESAR DM as well as all SESAR partners) as well as the need of appropriate legal, regulatory, financial and standardisation frameworks. It is open to all ATM actors to join.

TBO suggested the members to propose a risk for the ATM MP related to the ‘non’ – open data availability – to be added to the MP and to liaise on this with the MPSG .

### Item 6. Conclusions

The SC agreed to contact MPSG, suggesting including the risk on non-availability of open data (action SC08/07).

### Item 7. Outlook on the future of ATM research beyond 2028

TBO presented the status of the discussion on the paper about the outlook on the future of ATM research beyond 2028.

She informed the SC that the ex-post evaluation of H2020 published in January 2024, the JUs mid-term evaluation prepared by the EC services, that should be provided to the SC as soon as available, an additional evaluation conducted by the Council, should be considered as a reference for the paper.

She added that these evaluations will serve as a basis to define the shape of the next programme and that discussions on research and innovation priorities and on the need of sectoral partnerships versus partnerships with a larger and/or horizontal scope, will take place in the upcoming months.

The research priorities included in the draft version of the paper, presented to the SESAR 3 JU in January, were considered as an input for the development priorities identified in the MP update and will be taken into account for the definition next ER calls.

SC will develop the paper on the basis of the detailed description of all priorities.

ABO suggested to use a policy perspective and to look at what research activities would be needed in the next decades.

The SC agreed to mention that qualified research will help in granting a solid basis for the industrial and technological leadership of the EU.

**Item 7. Conclusions**

SC Members agreed to advance in the drafting of the respective sections of the paper in order to have a first draft by mid-July and a refined draft by September (SC07/10).

**Item 8. Young Scientist Award 2024 update**

LDE recalled the timeline for the YSA 2024, that will conclude with the announcement of the winning candidate at the SIDs 2024 in November.

The Applications are planned to be transferred to the evaluators by 9 September and a briefing to streamline the process will be organised around 10 September.

RSO, RAR and SMA confirmed their availabilities to take part of the evaluations as independent experts. RSO as Chair.

Once all the applications received LDE will be in touch with the experts to organisational matters.

**Item 8. Conclusions**

The SC Members took note of the information provided by LDE.

**Item 9. Environmental initiatives**

TBO presented the list of projects currently working under the Green Deal flagship and added that some of the projects were requested to be present in Montreal for the ICAO's non-CO2 symposium in September. She informed the SC that EASA is setting up the "ANCEN" network, a non-CO2 expert network, and she suggested to try to stay informed on the next developments, by asking the involved organisations/points of contact for updates, if and when possible. For example, SJU and EUROCONTROL have representatives in the ANCEN projects.

**Item 9. Conclusions**

The SC Members took note of the information provided and agreed to follow the developments in the environmental initiatives action SC08/08).

**Item 10. AOB**

The SC meetings for 2024:

SC09: Thursday 19/09, online – 9-12

SC10: 12 November, morning in Rome

TBO closed the meeting thanking all for their participation.

*Signature of the Chairperson*



**Annex I – List of participants**

MEMBERS

Andrew Cook (ACO)

Rosa Arnaldo (RAR) - online

Sara Bagassi (SBA)

Juan Besada (JBE)

Tatjana Bolic (TBO)

Daniel Delahaye (DDE)

Peter Hecker (PHE)

Efstathios Malakis (SMA) - online

Fedja Netjasov (FNE)

Rita Somogyi (RSO)

SESAR 3 JU

Andreas Boschen –Executive Director (ABO)

Peter Hotham –Advisor for ATM Science & Technology (PHO) - excused

Alain Siebert –Chief Technology & Strategy (ASI) – excused

David Batchelor – Chief External Affairs and Communication (DBA)

Lili Deyanova-Stanoyevic (LDE) – Grant Manager

Ilaria Vazzoler (IVA) –Corporate Governance Officer

**Annex II - List of actions**

Please note that closed actions from past meetings have been removed from the list.

Actions	Responsibility	Description	Due Date	Status
SC06/06	TBO	Organise a meeting with EUROCONTROL DG to further develop the 'open science alliance'.	Q3/Q4 2024	Open
SC06/08	IVA+TBO	Contact CA JU SC to plan a joint meeting in 2024.	Q1 2024	Closed – CAJU will revert to IVA
SC07/02	IVA/DBO	Check when ICAO papers are available and if they can be available for distribution to the SC.	asap	Uploaded in <a href="#">STELLAR</a>
SC07/04	TBO	Invite PEARL and AMPLE 3 project representatives to the SC meeting in September.	Q3	Ongoing
SC07/10	SC Members	Produce a White Paper reflecting on the future of ATM research beyond 2028.	Mid-November	Open
SC07/11	SC Members	Volunteer to participate as evaluators to the YSA 2024.	End of August	Done
SC08/01	ACO	Provide a contact in FAA/NASA.	Q3	Open
SC08/02	TBO	Contact US Academia representatives.	Q3	Open
SC08/03	ACO/TBO	Contact some project coordinators to check the usefulness of and the right approach for EC Evaluation.	Q4 2024	Open
SC08/04	SESAR 3 JU	Follow up on the results of SC08/03.	Q4 2024	Open
SC08/05	SESAR 3 JU	Considering the possibility of asking all ER projects to make data available in a common repository and of inserting this requirement in the technical specifications of the next ER calls.	Q3/Q4 2024	Open
SC08/06	TBO	Draft the Terms of reference for the Open Science Alliance for ATM.	Q3 2024	Open
SC08/07	PHE/TBO	Suggesting including the risk on non-availability of open data in the MP update.	Asap	Open
SC08/08	SC members	To follow the developments in the environmental initiatives.	Ongoing	Open