



MINUTES OF THE 10TH ETAP/ETAC STEERING BOARD (SB)

per VTC, 19 Oct 21 organised by ETAC

Participants: The participating main representatives are listed in Annex 1.

Chairman: Col Juan Gonzalo Fernández González (CM)

Secretary: LtCol Alex v. Lengriesser (vL, Sec)

Annexes:

1. - List of Participants
2. - Action Item (AI) list
3. - Agenda
4. - Briefing (available only at www.etac-mil.eu)

Start: 09:35loc

End: 12:26loc

These SB-meeting minutes have been created in accordance with the guidelines for a standard of discussion minutes. They follow the adopted agenda, record the sequence of events and actions and present at the same time the meeting results (summarised at the end).

1.	Verification of attendance
	<p>Prior to the official start of the 10th ETAP/ETAC Steering Board (SB) the different national representatives join the VTC and a proper connection is verified. The Italian representative is able to join completely at 10:10loc.</p> <p>The SB-representative from Luxembourg is being prevented from participating. vL informs all participants that the SB will be recorded and reminds all on proper use of individual microphone and video settings during the VTC.</p>
2.	Opening remarks and introduction by ETACCOM
	<p>Col Fernández welcomes all participants to the 10th ETAP/ETAC SB, his first edition after the start of his duty tour in July this year. Foremost he would like to use this opportunity to introduce himself as new ETACCOM, but as well to welcome the new incoming SB-representatives of DEU, ESP, PRT.</p> <p>In a short 'tour de table' all SB-representatives shortly introduce themselves. Following this introduction round he gives the opportunity to the new ETAC personnel, who joined the 'Centre' following the last SB in April, to introduce themselves.</p> <p>He apologises that due to the ongoing impact of Covid-19 the 10th SB is other than expected executed once again virtually and not as a face-to-face meeting in Salzburg (AUT). However, he emphasises the need for this 10th SB in 2021 in order to (iot) get better known to each other, to review closed and open actions and to timely address upcoming urgent matters.</p> <p>He briefly points out some facts regarding the ETACCOM position: He wears three (3) hats: one (1) as ETACCOM, one (1) as Chairman (CM) and one (1) as Head of the national component (CN-ETAC). Connected with a short presentation of the history of the ETAP and ETAC, he sums up the 'Centre's' responsibilities specified by the ETAP/ETAC</p>

	<p>Technical Arrangement (TA). However, he stresses out the important role the SB and each of its representatives have: - a guidance giving institution to ETAC. He appreciates some of the successful achievements in the latter past like the establishment of <i>Terms of References (TOR)</i> for the SB, the '<i>Coordination and Cooperation Document (CCD)</i>' with EATC, the ETAC Orders, the new ETAC Job Descriptions and the <i>ETAP Reference Book</i>. Same time he reminds all representatives on some matters, which he would appreciate, should they improve in future. The prevalent practise by some signatory nations hesitating not to respond to Letters of Activation (LoAct) within the given time, prevents chances to invite 3rd party nations to projects.</p>
3.	Announcement of the SB-mandate to ETACCOM
	<p>Thereafter ETACCOM passes the floor to the SB-representatives asking them for an assignment of the in the TOR written down 'mandate to ETACCOM. No direct mandate is expressed by the SB-representatives to the new ETACCOM. The French representative suggests to implement as of the following SB a system comparable as it is used by the 'Multinational Air Transport Committee' (MATraC) for advising the EATC Commander to be established . The BGR representative states that any mandate should be unambiguously and should be validated by a national LEGAD before being issued due to the lack of legal advice. ETACCOM stated that he would like to keep any LEGAD uninvolved in the act of issuing the mandate, and that wording should be prepared avoiding sensitive legal issues or controversy since this type of initial document should not be a very legally serious document.</p>
4.	Review of open Action Items (AI)
	<p>Prior to his presentation of an overview about open Action Items (AI) ETACCOM states that an agreement had been reached concerning the ETAC Multinational Budget (MB) 22 on 15 Oct within the proposed time and that the 'Centre's' work in the upcoming year is financially covered by the approval of the ETAC MB 22. Thereafter he asks the representatives, whether there are objections against the 9th ETAP/ETAC Steering Board minutes dated of 20 May 2021. No objection is raised. By that the minutes in the distributed version dated of <i>20 May 2021</i> are approved. ETACCOM continues and presents the AIs in three (3) blocks: closed AIs, closed AIs that entail subsequent actions by the SB and still open AIs. The AIs 09/01 and 09/02 concerning a possible 'side-training' given at ETAP-C 21-4 are closed. It was finally agreed upon by EATC, ETAC and ESP not to run a complementary training along with ETAP-C 21-4. Col Raimundo, in his function as former ETACCOM had proposed to have had reached FOC on 07 Jul 2021. AI 09/05 is closed by that. Even so the Intel position will be vested not before Jan 2022 by BEL, AI 09/06 (Information about SN personnel assigned to ETAC) is considered as being closed. With the establishment of a Coordination and Cooperation Document (CCD) between EATC and ETAC (signed by ETACCOM on 08 Jul 21/signed by Cmdr EATC on 29 Jul 21) AI 09/08 is closed. Subsequently he informs the representatives that ETAC has accomplished its tasks of developing Job Descriptions in accordance with (iaw) AI 09/04, the provision of a Point Paper regarding Legal Service to the SB and ETACCOM (AI 09/07) and the publication of ETAP/ETAC draft documentation on the ETAC website (09/11). He considers all three (3) AIs as closed, however, their submission results in new AIs for the SB, since they require discussions, staffing, probably modification and thereafter approval. Comments to the drafts in addition to the very few received are still welcome. He proceeds enumerating Action Items that for several reasons haven't been concluded yet: Considerations to include a 'Cold weather Ops' project in Finland in the program (AI 07/02) are still ongoing. He advises the representatives that FIN has requested the chance to explain to the SB the restrictions that keep them from participating in ETAP-projects and the FIN proposal on how to overcome the issue. A Finnish representative will be invited</p>

	<p>to the next SB. Regarding the establishment of a dedicated TacILM project (ETAP-I TacILM, AI 07/04) he states that the Site Survey (SiSu) at Salamanca Airbase, the location which had been proposed by ESP, haven't been performed yet (AI 09/03). The SB will be informed upon the outcome once the SiSu has been accomplished by ETAC.</p> <p>He mentions that in the ETAC's PE there is still a vacant ChPlans position to be covered by a signatory nation and reminds the AUT and NOR representative on the former statements made: '<i>To investigate in their nation on the willingness to provide this person (AI 07/13)</i>'. The AUT representative stated that AUT will not continue bidding on that position. The NOR representative states that NOR more likely is interested in sending a replacement of the BEL Intel-officer, once his tour has come to an end. AI 07/03 is closed by that.</p> <p>He asks the PRT representative on the process regarding the intention to invite Brazil with a KC-390 to ETAP-T 22 (AI 09/09). The PRT representative states that no decision has been made yet concerning this matter in PRT.</p> <p>Concerning the elaboration of a new Annex G (AI 07/16) he presents the current version of ANNEX G next to the by the 'Centre' in June distributed last known version of the EATC proposal.</p> <p>He questions the representatives, if there is any more discussion on that topic necessary and passes the floor to the EATC representative, having been appointed for the coordination of the new wording between EATC-nations. He asks him to provide some comments to the proposal. The EATC representative states that the content of the proposal was coordinated with all seven (7) EATC nations, however, as the implementation process of the CCD (AI 09/08) had to be waited for, the release of the proposal took some longer. ETACCOM thanks the EATC representatives for his explanation and concludes that, the topic needs to stay open until all representatives provided their point of view at a later stage to ETAC. This concludes the AI-part of the SB meeting. (editorial note: Col Raimundo in his function as EATCCOM has sent out the official request for approval of the proposal to all SB-representatives already on 20 Jun 2021 with a passed deadline of 02 Jul 21. Three (3) answers are still missing.)</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Status of PoW 21 and PoW 22</p>
	<p>The Cmdr's Asst presents the PoW 21 and the actual status. The 'Centre' currently prepares the execution of the upcoming projects ETAP-C 21-4 in Zaragoza with eight (8) Project Participants (PP) and the three (3) ETAP-I 21-4, 5 and 6 in Orleans and Pisa with unfortunately in total only 9 candidates. He approaches all representative to investigate in their nations should they have a suitable candidate on hand to fill up the projects. The French, German and Spanish representative show interest in sending a candidate short notice. vL announces that subsequent communication by the 'Centre' will follow.</p> <p>Subsequently he gives a brief wrap-up about the recently performed ETAP-S 21 in Málaga. He highlights that any ETAP-S offers a big opportunity for passing information via lectures, but is to be considered as well as a hugely welcome opportunity for an exchange of interests. ETACCOM adds that everybody is welcome to propose a topic for upcoming ETAP-S and vL stresses out that offers to host the upcoming ETAP-S 22 are still very well welcomed.</p> <p>Regarding PoW 22 he highlights the change of location of ETAP-C 22-1 Sg Night/NVG and some of the resulting issues linked to this change. The 'Centre' still awaits responses to the Letter of Activation (LoAct) already sent out in June 2021. The reluctance of nations to confirm the participation with a Letter of Acceptance (LoAcc) leads to problems for the 'Centre' and the Receiving Participant (RP) ESP to plan the project. Information about the change of location have been distributed by ESP, information to the possible PPs on how to proceed best concerning the matter of a proposed possible new launch of the project have already been released by the 'Centre'.</p> <p>He mentions that so far only limited interest exists for the planned flying projects ETAP-C 22-2 Sg Day in BGR and ETAP-C 22-3 Multi-Ship in FRA. He states that reasons for the reluctance to participate in those projects are not known by the 'Centre'. He asks the representatives on anew to investigate in their nation about the intention to participate in one of these two (2) projects. The official announcement (launch) of the project ETAP-C</p>

	<p>22-3 in Orleans has already been delayed by the 'Centre'; the SB had been informed about accordingly. Several options are being considered to allow an increase of participants. The project ETAP-T 22 in Beja (PRT) will be launched soon. Currently 10 nations with 13 aircrafts considered to participate in the project.</p> <p>He concludes stating that ETAC would appreciate a feedback from the nations, why the projects in BGR and FRA do not meet the same interest as other projects.</p> <p>A short discussion arises regarding ETAP-I 22-1 TacILM planned for Oct 2022 about the consideration of applications to participate in the project. vL states that no decision has been taken so far. The FRA and the DEU representatives inform the SB about some current concerns regarding the participation of personnel from the new bi-national DEU/FRA C-130 wing (BATS). Concerns related to LoAcc signatures and associated matters are of financial origin and will be clarified between FRA and DEU in due time. ETAC will be informed about the results.</p>
6.	Preview on the intentions for PoW 23
	<p>vL presents a blank PoW 23 table and states that many ideas are existing within the 'Centre' on how to build up a PoW 23, however, that he prefers first to receive offers from the nations. Should they want to receive a project, the receipt of information together with some required data about location, period and kind of the project will be highly appreciated. (AI 10/06)</p> <p>The BGR representative informs the participants that BGR offers to receive a flying project (ETAP-C) in the period 18-29 Sep 2023. The offer is accepted. Further communication will follow.</p> <p>The French representative states that FRA is happy to receive once more in 2023 an ETAP-C projects as well as ETAP-Is. ITA as well offers to run ETAP-Is in 2023.</p> <p>vL concludes his contribution and hands over to ETACCOM.</p>
7.	ETAC way ahead
	<p>ETACCOM approaches the AUT-representative and asks him, whether AUT keeps the offer alive to invite the SB to a face-to-face SB edition. The request is agreed on. Coordination between AUT and the 'Centre' for an 11th SB in Salzburg will follow.</p> <p>ETACCOM continues his view into the future. He states that the ETAP/ETAC Technical Arrangement (TA) is limited to a coverage of nine (9) years and by that will come to an end in April 2025, shouldn't the Participants decide to go for an extension of an agreement within the left-over time.</p> <p>He briefly reflects on the history of ETAC and its way ahead after having reached FOC. He closes this topic by enumerating some thoughts on how to reinforce this. Fostering ETAC's work, gaining new Participants out of circle of 3rd party nations and improving and strengthening any coordination with related other military organisations as there are TLP or AATTC. However, flexibility will be requested.</p>
8.	Any Other Business (AOB); Mtg/AI review; closing
	<p>ETACCOM reminds the SB-representatives that their information and guidance is key element for a successful continuation of the ETAP/ETAC and challenges them to use any opportunity.</p> <p>The DEU-representative brings up again the matter of extending the tour of duty of the 'Cmdr's Asst' (actual incumbent: vL). He provides some background information, however, receives no feedback neither from ETACCOM nor any of the SB-representatives.</p> <p>Thereafter vL reviews the unresolved AIs and proposes some new AIs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of the ETAP Reference Book, the proposal of the new ANNEX G, feedback by the representatives on receiving a project in 2023, feedback on the Point Paper Legal Advice. <p>ETACCOM thanks all representatives for making themselves available and for their attention and concludes the 10th SB officially.</p>

50001 Zaragoza, 10 February 2022

Approved by Chairman:

Signature
Col Gonzalo Fernández

50001 Zaragoza, 10 February 2022

Conference content compiled
by Secretary:

v. Lengriesser (vL)

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LtCol v. Lengriesser (vL)