

MINUTES OF THE 8TH ETAP/ETAC STEERING BOARD (SB)

VTC, 26 Jan 21 organised by ETAC

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

Chairman: Col Fernando Raimundo Martinez (CM), begin – 12:40Z/
LtCol Ferrario 12:40Z - end

Secretary/: LtCol Alex v. Lengriesser
Moderator

Annexes: 1. - List of Participants
2. - Action Item list
3. - Agenda
4. - Briefing (available@www.etac-mil.eu)

Start: 08:58 Z

End: 14:10 Z

1.	Verification of attendance and welcome by the Chairman (opening remarks)
	<p>After a short “Roll Call” to verify the presence in VTC of all the participants and the two (2) observers (for more details see Annex 1) the floor has been given by the moderator to the Chairman (CM).</p> <p>The CM welcomes all participants and observers. He appreciates their quick responses and their willingness to make themselves available. He thanks the ETAC Staff for their constant efforts to support the meeting. He continues stating that he might have to leave the meeting prior to its end due to an inexcusable national appointment with the Cabinet of the Chief of the ESP Air Force and proceeds explaining in detail the course of the SB based on the displayed tentative agenda. He concludes with wishing all participants a fruitful meeting.</p>
2.	Action Items (AI) review by the CM
	<p>The CM presents the status of the AIs from the 7th EATC/ETAP SB. In detail:</p> <p>07/01 FOC-status: The AI is not closed but becomes a new AI The status on reaching FOC is progressing, however, major conditions still prevent its formal confirmation. Expected to be declared by the SB as soon as the Participants fill the PE by 90% (SB AI 08/1)</p> <p>07/02 Cold Weather OPS project in FIN: This AI could not be executed. The preparation for a Cold Weather OPS has been delayed, since FIN has shifted the offer to receive a project into the year 2023.</p> <p>07/03 ETAP-T 21 HUN project investigation: The AI is closed by ETAC. On the possibility of a successful execution of an ETAP-T 21 in Hungary (HUN) has been investigated together with EATC. The report has been sent out to the SB on 21 Dec 2020.</p> <p>07/04 TPLM , TacILM trng and 'stand-alone TacILM course: The AI is closed by FRA & ESP in accordance with the editorial note</p>

	<p>No feedback by the respective SB representatives receiving a project regarding the add-on trainings has been received by ETAC.</p> <p><i>Editorial note: After the meeting, ETAC received confirmation from ESP representative that ESP is willing to host the new training deliverable ILM as a stand-alone project, becoming an ETAP-I Course.</i></p> <p><i>Editorial note. After the meeting, ETAC received the confirmation from the SB members that there is no objection to deliver the TPLM embedded in any ETAP-C. First iteration will take place in ETAP-C 21-3. Nations willing to send a candidate should apply for conveniently, communicating their intention to ETAC as an add-on to the already sent LoAcc.</i></p> <p>07/05 ETAP-C 21-1 (ESP): The AI is closed by ETAC.</p> <p>07/06 ETAP-C 21-3 (FRA): The AI is closed by France (FRA). FRA will adapt its participation in ETAP-C 21-3 to a number that guarantees an even number of Project Participants (PP).</p> <p>07/07 ETAP-T 21 decision on execution: The AI is closed by the SB. The SB has decided that the project will be executed.</p> <p>07/08 Draft PoW 22: The AI is closed. The Receiving Participants (RP) information has been received.</p> <p>07/09 Formalisation of project costs: The AI is closed. Except for the 'total estimated Projects Costs' for the ETAP-T 21 (HUN, AI 08/2) all details have been received by ETAC.</p> <p>07/10 NATO Travel Orders (NTO) for ETAC personnel of SNs: AI is not closed. NTOs from DEU; ITA and FRA are missing. <i>Editorial note: DEU representative confirm to ETAC COM that the NTO for his personnel will be provided by the DEU SNR in TLP. ETAC is still waiting for the hard copy in order to be sent to ESP MOD.</i></p> <p>07/11 Multinational Budget (MB) 2021: The AI is closed. MB 2021 has been approved and the follow-on actions been initiated.</p> <p>07/12 SB ToRs: The AI is not closed but becomes a new AI 08/04. The 'Centre' has managed its duty. An agreement by the SB is missing. The CM states that ETAC is not the working body for the SB for such affairs, however, agreed on request to draft an adapted version considering the outcome of the subsequent discussions later the day (see Sec. 6 ToR).</p> <p>07/13 PE rotation plan: The AI is not closed. SB-nations to appoint personnel to be employed in ETAC.</p> <p>07/14 ANNEX A: The AI is closed. ETAC proposed a new ANNEX A.</p> <p>07/15 ANNEXes C and D: The AI is closed. ETAC proposed new ANNEXes C and D.</p> <p>07/16 ANNEX G: AI pending EATC & EATC PNs requested more time to draft a proposal.</p> <p>07/17 Agreement with EATC: AI is pending The proposed date has not been reached yet. Working in progress. <i>Editorial note: Initial draft was sent in due time to ETAC nations for comments. After collecting the comments, the BGR version has been used as a "baseline document" for future draft. This draft version is being reviewed both by EATC representative and BGR LEGAD.</i></p> <p>07/18 National positions: The AI is closed. All nations provided their 'national positions'.</p>
3.	PoW 21
	The moderator presents the PoW 21:

	<p>ETAP-C 21-1 The planning proceeds. The Final Coordination Conference (FCC) is planned to be executed in some days. DNK has been won as PP.</p> <p>ETAP-C 21-2 As known cancelled by RP BGR</p> <p>ETAP-C 21-3 ITA apologises for the still missing LoAcc but confirms their strong intent to participate in. Mr. CM kindly reminds to ITA representative to comply with the provisions of the ETAP/ETAC TA concerning the activation and acceptance of the projects. ETAC & RP FRA are standing by for the LoAcc.</p> <p>ETAP-C 21-4 Due to the potential execution of ETAP-T 21 the new dates shift to 07–19 Nov. The shift requires the re-investigation on the PPs: CZE, DEU, NOR and PRT confirm next to the RP ESP their interest. ETAC will distribute the new dates and promote the vacant slots (AI 08/3)</p> <p>ETAP-T 21 The project is planned to be executed in Sep 2021. AUT, CZE, DEU, ESP, FRA and ROU are interested in a participation. BEL interest is pending the further release of project details. The moderator raises the question about a necessary balance between multinationalism and many participants (10) vs to be expected Covid-19 restrictions, however, no decision is made on this. ETAC will take note of the interest of 3rd party nations to participate in.</p> <p>ETAP-Is ETAP-I 21-1 has been accomplished. The CM mentions that on the running ETAP-I 21-2 two (2) students (DEU, ITA) could not participate in. The other ETAP-Is (3-6) are under planning. New execution dates for ETAP-I 21-5 need to be expected. All ETAP-I slots have been applied for.</p>
4.	ETAP-T 21
	<p>ETAC's Training Branch Head, LtCol Ferrario, presents the 'Centre's' considerations about the ETAP-T 21. He explains that HUN is not an ETAP/ETAC TA signatory and that the standard launching process (LoAct/LoAcc) must be supplemented by a bi-lateral TA coordination with the RP HUN or might be solved by utilising the new 'Common TA for Exercises' established under the umbrella of EDA. However, the latter one is not yet signed by HUN.</p> <p>He proceeds summarising some project specific limitations, which urgently need to be solved/coordinated before, during or parallel to the upcoming planning conferences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DZ/LZ survey and operation in general, especially regarding the use by A400M • Limited/missing HUN capabilities in form of : CCT; Fire, Crash and Rescue (allows only the operation of one LZ at the same time); GPS tracking; cargo drop preparation. <p>He states that for a proper planning of the project information is missing from each PP (nations) for Air Land and Air Delivery operations in form of Training Objectives (TO) and their willingness to provide support (CCTs, riggers, platforms) and, that the DZ/LZ surveys must be conducted. HUN will provide the DZs/LZs, rigging locations and cargo drop material recovery. The moderator interferes shortly and mentions the latest news that one (1) E-3A will support the project in its 2nd week with flights out of the home base (ETNG). Further constraints are the limited availability of Ground Support Equipment (GSE) including the provision of Liquid Oxygen (LOX), accommodation of all participants, their supply with food and the unpredictable situation regarding the evolvement of Covid-19. Before entering upon the dates for the planning conferences and their agendas he identifies some generic problems like the by HUN to be provided 'estimated planned Project costs' and the questionable contribution of any support in form of personnel, material or service by the PPs for the project and/or those which could be arranged using e.g. the ATARES/HERMES mechanism.</p> <p>He proposes as possible dates to convene the planning conferences and others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IPC week 15 (including site survey) • MPC week 24 • FCC week 29 • CPT deployment 30 Aug

	<p>As one other main constraint he lists manning uncertainties and missing expertise of ETAC personnel for the project execution, since a rotation of personnel on the positions ETACOM and all TacIPs (ITA/FRA/PRT) of the Training Branch is scheduled to happen during summer 2021. He concludes his briefing strengthening out the main objectives of the IPC: receiving the PP's TOs and the PP's commitment in the provision of personnel and material to the community (support) and the RP's offer in support and airspace.</p> <p>Mr De Sessa from EDA and LtCol Nagy enter on the status of the staffing process of the 'Common exercise TA' and state that this possibility should be taken into close consideration.</p> <p>LtCol Nagy thanks the SB for their trust in HUN and promises the best to support the execution of the ETAP-T 21.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>PoW 22</p>
	<p>The moderator presents the status regarding the drafting of the PoW 22. He reminds all Participants that the date the PoW 22 needs to be approved by the SB is the 30 Apr and that this agreement includes the approval of the participation in of interested PPs. The missing project execution dates by the RPs ITA and ESP are urgently required by the 'Centre' in order to continue any promotion of the PoW 22, especially to 3rd party nations in e.g. on the occasion of EATF AHWG O&T meetings. The CM expands on ETAC's most favourite dates for the execution of ETAP-C 22-1 between 06-18 Feb and ETAP-C 22-4 between 04-16 Sep. Furthermore, he requests the ESP representative to provide more specific data on the ETAP-S, which has been offered him to be received by ESP either in Mallorca or Malaga in Oct 2022. ITA and ESP announce their intention to provide the missing project execution dates asap.</p> <p><i>*Editorial note: Information received from ESP & ITA. PoW is update in consequence.</i></p> <p>AUT, CZE and PRT revise their interest to participate in various projects. Details will be incorporated in the next release. BGR requested to approach the Centre in ETAP-C 22-2 interested PPs to confirm their interest in order to avoid a later situation of ending up with a number of PP inferior to the number required.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Steering Boards Terms of Reference (ToR)</p>
	<p>The moderator presents a slide that shows the status of feedback ETAC has received on the subject.</p> <p>As mentioned before (Sec. 2, AI review) the CM agrees on adapting his last version of the ToRs to better meet the expectations of all SB representatives. More than 65% of the TA-nations agree so far mostly on the draft.</p> <p>BEL and PRT do not agree with the establishment of an 'Advisory Group' and have still some minor comments regarding the wording. They oppose, because of the limited human resources in their nations they themselves would be the representatives and an additional workload would be created, which should be avoided. ESP has the same major concern. The ESP representative states that he and the other representatives are convinced and well pleased about the 'Centre' expertise. Since its inauguration the 'Centre' has proven this on various occasions and has been providing multiple times helpful advice to the SB. ESP announces that simplicity is a keyword for ETAC's success in managing the ETAP (the simpler, the better). Improvements could be made in some issues regarding the management, but it must be avoided that additional workloads are generated.</p> <p>An 'Advisory Group' would only be needed to analyse complex documents, neither for the day-to-day governance of ETAP nor for preparing any SB meeting. This would create a new lower working-level for the SB. So far, ETAC has proven the ability to manage ETAP</p>

	<p>successfully with its easy structures and additional support of external organisations and forums. The augmentation by the establishment of an 'Advisory Group' is not deemed necessary or recommended. ESP representative will provide its own proposal of the ToR based on this point of view in two weeks. ETAC will take it into consideration for the 4th ToR draft (AI 08/4).</p> <p>The moderator states that the 'Centre' has the exclusiveness of solely having to take care of the ETAP, however, the fact that the 'Centre' does not employ any Legal Advisor (LEGAD), makes basically the preparation of some required decisions sometimes difficult. The CM accepts to wait on the ESP wording proposal not reflecting any 'Advisory Group' and to take them into account before releasing a new version to the SB for its consideration.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Approval of ANNEXes A,C and D, proposal of ANNEX G</p>
	<p>The moderator presents a table concerning the status of the provided feedback from all SB representatives concerning the ANNEXes. All representatives have given positive response on the last adapted version of the ANNEXes C (Letter of Activation/LoAct) and D (Letter of Acceptance/LoAcc). The moderator requests, whether all representatives can agree to that all written single feedbacks together are comparable with the 'unanimous written consent' required as mentioned in ETAP/ETAC TA Sec. 15. 2. This would make an extra query obsolete. No contrary statement by the representatives is made following this assessment. With that the new ANNEXes C and D are approved. ETAC will use and later distribute the approved ANNEXes (AI 08/05)</p> <p>ANNEX A requires some fine-tuning concerning the wording as requested by BGR and PRT. ESP comments that next to the improvement of some wording some paragraphs should be omitted. To achieve a consensus, ESP could agree to the latest version. ITA does not agree to the last version since it expects that the level of commitment of EATC in ETAP might influence scope and staffing of the ETAC PE. ITA proposes to wait for the outcome of the coordination with EATC and, after all practical modalities having been arranged. (AI 08/6).</p> <p><i>Editorial note: After the meeting, ITA representative communicates to the CM that ITA might revisit its initial objection to the new Annex A once the draft of the Letter of Intent with EATC is made, in order to resolve the gridlock on SB decision-making. This decision will facilitate the achievement of the conditions to declare the ETAC FOC.</i></p> <p>For a status about the progress of a new ANNEX G the EATC representative stated that the internal staffing process has not yet been concluded. The SB and ETAC will be informed once a proposal will be releasable.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Report on ETAC & Potential Lol with EDA</p>
	<p>Mr. Antonio De Sessa provides information that the EATF programme is coming to an end. The ETAP, the merging of several nations under and the establishment of the ETAP/ETAC Technical Arrangement and, subsequently the in 2017 in an impressive event inaugurated ETAC are considered to be one successful outcome of this programme and the work done by the EDA AHWG O&T. He congratulates the SB and the 'Centre' for the progress done and for the successful running the ETAP since.</p> <p>The EDA Representative on behalf of EATF MC requires some feedback from the SB regarding the project's history and the progress on ETAC's FOC-status in order to prepare the EATF final report. It is considered necessary also because all EDA members have financially supported the ETAP activities and, on request of the SB the acquisition of ETAC's second server.</p> <p>The EATF will be probably replaced by the Air Mobility Project Team and the AHWG O&T will likely be likely replaced by the Fixed Wing Operation and Training Working Group</p>

	<p>(e.g. FwWG O&T), however EDA's work on the idea will continue in other existing or new branches and working groups.</p> <p>The progress of FOC has been addressed by the CM in the beginning of the meeting. The moderator states that the financial support has solely been spent for the advantage of all PPs, this includes the 2nd Server.</p> <p>Due to the already advanced time the moderator apologises to Mr. De Sessa that a further discussion concerning this topic must be broken off.</p>
9.	AOB/ Comments on ETAP LoA with EATC
	<p>Based on the short-notice request of some nations the moderator gives some comments on the status of the new ETAP/EATC agreement and the feedback to the LoA proposal, so far received. The topic is being taken care of under AOB, so that the agenda did not need to be changed and, because of the not yet expired deadline for comments of the Participants. He kindly asks those representatives, who have not yet given any comment, to do so in writing.</p> <p>BGR states that as suggested by their LEGAD any form of 'treaty language' must be avoided. The EATC representative states that the per AI 07/17 determined process is not met and with that the sequence of actions is not obeyed at all and requests that a closer coordination between ETAC and EATC must be performed prior to any further submission to the SB. He requests EATC to be allowed to have insight on the several different national comments regarding the LoA to have a better idea on their positions before starting coordination with ETAC. The LUX representative wonders why he would have to submit any comment, though this is marked as 'having been done' (green) in the AI-list of the 7th SB.</p> <p>The moderator as well here apologises to the representatives for the time elapsed and asks for accepting to stop discussing at this point. The 'what and how' of the further coordination process between EATC and ETAC will be for utmost dependent on ETACCOM's assessment.</p>
10.	Summary (decisions and AI) and closing remarks
	<p>The moderator limited the summarisation to the decisions made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of the ANNEXes C and D <p>and continued with the enumeration of AIs without numbering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HUN to provide ETAC with the estimated total project costs asap • ESP to provide the announced proposal for ToR-draft within 14 days (15 Feb) <i>(Editorial note. The proposal has been received in due time. ETAC will take into account for the 4th draft)</i> • ETAC to use the new ANNEXes C and D as of the next launch of a project and to distribute them combined with the other ANNEXes once they are approved • ETAC to release a new PoW 21 adapted by ETAP-T 21 including all consequences, and to note any interest of 3rd parties to participate in any project ETAC to start a new query for interested PPs (3rd parties) for ETAP-C 21-4 based on the new dates (AI/07) • FRA/ESP to provide information/acceptance on the possibility to implement TacILM trng in combination with their projects <i>(Editorial note: Action is complete)</i> • ESP&ITA to provide project execution dates for their planned projects in 2022 <i>(Editorial note: Action is complete)</i> • ETAC to request ITA position concerning the new ANNEX A taking into account the initial draft in regard of a new agreement/LoI with EATC • ETAC to prepare new ToR version based on the feedback of ESP (AI 08/8) <p>The next (9th) SB is scheduled to be convened on 21/22 Apr 2021 in Salzburg, AUT in the format of a live meeting. Austria kindly kept their offer to host such an event alive. Coordination between the Host Nation AUT and ETAC regarding the event will start directly after the conclusion of this SB.</p>

(Editorial note: AUT subsequently stepped back from this offer due to the expected evolution of the Covid-19 situation. However, AUT keeps their invitation for a live SB-meeting at a later date alive.)

Thereafter the moderator thanks – as well in the name of the CM - all participants for making themselves available short-notice and being present and for all their fair contributions during the 8th SB.

50001 Zaragoza, 22 Feb 2021
Conference content compiled by Secretary:



Signature
LtCol v. Lengriesser

50001 Zaragoza, 22 Feb 2021
Approved by Chairman:

Signature
Col Raimundo Martinez