

ENR 1.8
ATM CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR NOUAKCHOTT ACC

PART I: LEVEL 2 CONTINGENCY PLAN (REQUIRING INTERVENTION OF ADJACENT FIR)

1. OBJECTIVES

- 1.1. This contingency plan contains procedures to ensure the provision of air navigation services in the event of partial or total disruption of Air Traffic Services (ATS) within the NOUAKCHOTT Upper Traffic Area, and is in accordance with Mauritanian Aeronautical Technical Regulation RTA11 Air Traffic Services Chapter 2, paragraph 2.31, and Attachment C) - and Procedures for Air Navigation Services-Air Traffic Management (RTA-PANS-ATM) Chapter 15.8 and chapter 16.6.
- 1.2. This Contingency Plan is designed to accommodate the flow of international air traffic with a minimum of disturbance for aircraft transiting the airspace under the responsibility of NOUAKCHOTT ACC. Routes and flight levels are limited.

2. STATES AND FIRS AFFECTED

- 2.1. In the event that Mauritanian Civil Aviation Authority activates this Contingency Plan, the adjacent ACC, will be notified in accordance with the Letter of Agreement (LOA) established between them. The adjacent ACC directly affected by this Contingency Plan are as follows:
 - DAKAR ACC
 - BAMAKO ACC
- 2.2. The contact details of the civil aviation authorities and organizations concerned are contained in PARAGRAPH 15 below.

3. MANAGEMENT OF THE CONTINGENCY PLAN

- 3.1. The contingency measures set out in the first part of this Plan are applicable in cases of foreseeable events is for level 2.
- 3.2. The following procedures have been put in place to ensure that the management of the Contingency Plan provides for international flights to proceed in a safe and orderly fashion through NOUAKCHOTT UTA

3.3. CENTRAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The Central Coordinating Committee (CCC) function shall be to oversee the implementation of the Contingency Plan and in the event that the Air Traffic Services (ATS) in NOUAKCHOTT UTA is disrupted for an extended period, make arrangements for and facilitate the temporary relocation of the ATS to DAKAR ACC and Bamako ACC and the restoration of Air Traffic Services in NOUAKCHOTT UTA.

The Central Coordinating Committee comprises representatives from the following:

- 1) MAURITANIAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY
- 2) ASECNA HEADQUARTER AND ASECNA-MAURITANIA
- 3) OTHER RELEVANT AUTHORITIES.

Contact details of its members are provided in paragraph 15.1 below.

3.4. ATM OPERATIONAL CONTINGENCY GROUP

The ATM Operational Contingency Group (AOCG) will be convened by the CCC with a primary responsibility to oversee the day to day operations under the contingency arrangements, and coordinate operational ATS activities, 24 hours a day, throughout the contingency period in coordination with the WACAF Contingency Coordination Team and adjacent FIRs. The AOCG will include any necessary specialist personnel from the following disciplines:

- Air Traffic Control Services (ATS)
- Aeronautical Telecommunication (COM)
- Aeronautical Meteorology (MET)
- Aeronautical Information Services (AIS)
- ATS equipment maintenance service provider.

Contact details of its members are provided in paragraph 15.2 below.

4. AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND CONTINGENCY PROCEDURES

4.1. Air Traffic Services Responsibilities

- 4.1.1. Tactical ATC considerations during periods of over-loading may require re-assignment of routes or portions thereof
- 4.1.2. Alternative routes are designed to maximize the use of existing ATS route structures and communications, navigation and surveillance services.
- 4.1.3. In the event that ATS cannot be provided within NOUAKCHOTT UTA, ASECNA, or ICAO shall publish not less than 48 hours before, if practicable, the corresponding NOTAM indicating the following:
 - a) Time and date of the beginning of the contingency measure;
 - b) Airspace available for landing and over flying traffic and airspace to be avoided;
 - c) Details of the facilities and services available or not available and any limits on ATS provision (e.g. ACC, APP, TWR and FIS), including an expected date of restoration of services if available;
 - d) Information on the provisions made for alternative services;
 - e) ATS contingency routes;
 - f) Procedures to be followed by neighboring ATS units;
 - g) Procedures to be followed by pilots; and
 - h) Any other details with respect to the disruption and actions being taken that aircraft operators may find useful.



4.1.4. In the event that ASECNA is unable to issue the NOTAM, ICAO will take action to issue the NOTAM of contingency measures upon notification by NOUAKCHOTT ACC.

4.2. Separation

Separation criteria shall be applied in accordance with the Aeronautical Technical Regulation - Procedures for Air Navigation Services-Air Traffic Management RTA-PANS-ATM and the Regional Supplementary Procedures (Doc7030). Longitudinal separation of fifteen (15) minutes or 20 nautical miles Radar separation, where Radar services are available for aircraft maintaining the same cruising flight level shall be applied.

4.3. Level restriction

Where possible, aircraft on long haul international flights shall be given priority with respect to cruising levels.

4.4. Airspace Classifications

Airspace classification will not be changed.

4.5. Aircraft position reporting

4.5.1. The primary means of communication will be by VHF or HF radio. When CPDLC has been authorized for use by the relevant ATC authority this will become the primary means of communication, with HF as secondary Traffic Information Broadcast by Aircraft (TIBA) procedures shall apply in NOUAKCHOTT UTA during periods of contingency.

4.5.2. TIBA frequencies shall be as follows:
AFI REGION – 126.9 MHz.

4.6. Other measures

Other measures related to the disruption of air traffic services and the implementation of the contingency scheme within the NOUAKCHOTT UTA may be taken as follows:

- Suspension of all VFR operations;
- Delay or suspension of general aviation IFR operations; and;
- Delay or suspension of commercial IFR operations

4.7. Procedures for ATS Units

The ATS units providing Air traffic control services will follow their unit emergency operating procedures and activate the appropriate level of contingency procedures in line with this plan.

- a) ATC will inform pilots of the emergency condition and advise if it is likely that the ATS will be suspended and transmit on the radio frequency in use providing pilots with alternate means of communication;
- b) during the period the contingency procedures are in effect, flight plan and other aircraft movement messages must continue to be transmitted by operators to NOUAKCHOTT ACC via the AFTN/AMHS using normal procedures;
- c) On notification by ASECNA Mauritania, the ATS authorities operating the DAKAR and BAMAKO ACCs will activate the contingency procedures in accordance with this plan (where it also serves as the formal LOA);
- d) prior to entry to the NOUAKCHOTT AIRSPACE during contingency operations prior authorization must be obtained from Mauritania Civil Aviation Authority, and flights must comply with the ATC clearance and communications instructions issued by the ATC authority responsible for the airspace immediately adjacent to the contingency airspace;
- e) Coordination of aircraft boundary estimates and flight levels by the adjacent ATC authority responsible for aircraft entering the Mauritania airspace shall be in accordance with this plan (where it also serves as the formal LOA);
- f) the ACC responsible for aircraft entering the NOUAKCHOTT UTA will instruct pilots to maintain the last flight level assigned and speed (MACH number if applicable) while operating in the NOUAKCHOTT UTA;
- g) The ACC responsible for aircraft entering the NOUAKCHOTT UTA will not authorize any change in route, flight level or speed unless specifically authorized by the ATS unit normally responsible for the affected airspace, or under this plan (where it also serves as the formal LOA);
- h) The ACC responsible prior to aircraft entering the NOUAKCHOTT UTA will inform aircraft that they must establish contact with the first ATS unit after transiting the NOUAKCHOTT UTA not less than 10 minutes before the estimated time of entry to the Nouakchott UTA.

5. TRANSITION TO CONTINGENCY SCHEME

During times of uncertainty when disruption of air traffic services seems possible, aircraft operators should be prepared for a possible change in routing while en-route, familiarization of the alternative routes outlined in the contingency scheme as well as what may be promulgated by ASECNA via NOTAM.

In the event of a disruption of air traffic services that has not been promulgated, NOUAKCHOTT ACC will, if possible, broadcast to all aircraft in the NOUAKCHOTT UTA, airspace that is affected by the disruption and any further instructions.

It is recognized that when a disruption of air traffic services or airport closure occurs and is promulgated, operators may have different requirements as to their alternative routings. NOUAKCHOTT ACC will evaluate all requests to ensure safety is maintained.

6. TRANSFER OF CONTROL, COORDINATION AND DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITY IN THE PROVISION OF AIR TRAFFIC SERVICES WITHIN NOUAKCHOTT UTAE

- 6.1. The transfer of control and communication will be at the common ACC boundaries or as previously agreed upon between:
- a) NOUAKCHOTT – Alger ACCs;
 - b) NOUAKCHOTT – Canarias ACCs;
 - c) NOUAKCHOTT – Niamey ACCs;
 - d) NOUAKCHOTT – Dakar ACCs;
 - e) NOUAKCHOTT – Bamako ACCs;
 - f) NOUAKCHOTT – Casablanca ACCs



- 6.2. The responsibility for ensuring the provision of air traffic services within NOUAKCHOTT UTA is transferred to Dakar and Bamako ACCs according to the following considerations:
- Bamako ACC will ensure the provision of air traffic services for traffic operating along the contingency ATS: UA600 (KIMGA-PE) HF frequencies of Bamako (6673-8861) will be used;
 - DAKAR ACC will ensure the provision of air traffic services for traffic operating along the following contingency ATS routes:
 - UR975 (NEVDI – ECHED)
 - UA854 (ARDAR – BRENA)
 - UR866 (BULIS – ONIMI)
 - UR977 (BULIS – EREMO)
 - UG851 (ILDES – MIYEC)
 - UB600 (LIMAX – PE)
 - UB735 (POTOL- ONTOL);
 - NOUAKCHOTT ACC will also review current coordination requirements in light of contingency operations or short notice of disruption of air traffic services.

7. CONTINGENCY ATS ROUTES NETWORK

In the event of disruption of air traffic services within NOUAKCHOTT UTA, aircraft operators should file flight plans using alternative contingency routes listed in the scheme below:

Note: ATS routes not included in the table below are temporarily unavailable.

Contingency Routes Code	Contingency Routes name	Flight level allocation scheme
DKCR1	UR 975 (NEVDI - ECHED)	ODD : FL290, FL330, FL410 EVEN : FL280, FL320, FL380
DKCR7	UR 866 (BULIS – ONIMI)	ODD : FL350 EVEN : FL340, FL400
DKCR8	UA 854 (ARDAR - BRENA)	ODD : FL290, FL330, FL410 EVEN : FL280, FL320, FL380
DKCR9	UB 600 (LIMAX - PE)	ODD : FL290, FL330 EVEN : FL280, FL320, FL340
DKCR10	UR 977 (BULIS - EREMO)	ODD : FL310, FL370 EVEN : FL300, FL360
DKCR11	UG 851 (ILDES - MIYEC)	ODD : FL350, FL370 EVEN : FL360, F400
DKCR12	UA 600 (KETAS - KIMGA)	ODD : FL310, FL390 EVEN : FL300, FL340, FL360
DKCR13	UA 600 (KETAS - PE)	ODD : FL310, FL390 EVEN : FL300, FL340, FL360
DKCR14	UB 735 (POTOL - ONTOL)	ODD: FL250, FL270, FL290, FL330, FL370, FL410 EVEN: FL260, FL280, FL320, FL360

8. PILOT AND OPERATOR PROCEDURES

8.1. Filing of flight plans

Flight plan requirements detailed in ASECNA AIP continue to apply during contingency operations, except where modified by the contingency ATS routes and FLAS specified by ATC and/or in NOTAM.

8.2. Overflight approval

Aircraft operators must obtain over-flight approval from ANAC prior to operating flights through the Nouakchott UTA. During the period of activation of this Contingency Plan, the adjacent ATS authority will provide normal ATC clearances for aircraft to enter the Nouakchott UTA. The adjacent ATS unit is not responsible for coordination or provision of over flight clearances for the Nouakchott UTA. The operator must ensure that any required over flight approval has been obtained.

8.3. Pilots operating procedures

All aircraft transiting through Nouakchott UTA shall strictly comply with the following:

- a) Maintain contact with DAKAR ACC or BAMAKO ACC according to the paragraph 4 of this contingency plan.
- b) Operate along or as close as possible to the centerline of the assigned contingency air traffic route.
- c) Reach the flight level assigned by adjacent ACC for the transit of Nouakchott UTA at least ten (10) minutes before entering Nouakchott UTA.
- d) Maintain the flight level assigned by the last adjacent ACC while operating within Nouakchott UTA, unless an emergency or flight safety reason exists.
- e) Maintain a continuous listening watch on the VHF frequency 126.9 MHz, and transmit blind in English on 126.9 MHz position reports five (5) minutes before and overhead each compulsory reporting point established along the respective air traffic route.
- f) Include in the last position report to the competent adjacent ACC the estimated time of arrival over the entry and exit points of Nouakchott UTA.
- g) Whenever emergencies and/or flight safety reasons make it impossible to maintain the flight level assigned for the transit of Nouakchott UTA, climb or descend well to the right of the centerline of the air traffic route being flown but remaining within NOUAKCHOTT UTA, and to inform immediately, by blind broadcast on the VHF frequency 126.9 MHz, all other aircraft likely to be affected by transmitting a relevant emergency level change message (comprising the aircraft call-sign, the aircraft position, the flight levels being left and crossed, etc.).
- h) Contact the competent adjacent ACC as soon as possible and at least ten (10) minutes before the estimated time of arrival over the relevant exit point of Nouakchott UTA to obtain clearance for entering the adjacent airspace concerned.
- i) Display navigation and anti-collision lights always during the transit of contingency airspace.

COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES

8.4. Degradation of Communication - Pilot Radio Procedures

- 8.4.1. When operating within the contingency airspace, pilots should use normal radio communication procedures
- 8.4.2. In the absence of communication with ATC, the pilot should continue to make routine position reports on the assigned frequency, and also broadcast positions in accordance with the TIBA procedures.

9. PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES

- 9.1. The ACC of NOUAKCHOTT, upon receipt of information from a pilot regarding suspected case(s) of communicable disease, or other public health risk, on board the aircraft, shall forward a message as soon as possible to the ATS unit serving the destination / departure, unless procedures exist to notify the appropriate authority designated by the State and the aircraft operator or its designated representative.
- 9.2. To avoid misunderstanding that may result in inappropriate reaction from the stakeholders including air operators, information provided by the Health Sanitary Board (HSB) should be obtained in written form and relayed to air operators in written form. Where communication means do not enable relay of written text, the information shall be read verbatim.

10. VOLCANIC ASH CONTINGENCY PLAN (VACP)

- 10.1. If a volcanic ash cloud is reported or anticipated in NOUAKCHOTT UTA, NOUAKCHOTT ACC should take the following actions:
 - a) Immediately transmit relevant information to the flight crews of potentially affected aircraft to ensure that they are aware of the current position and expected position of the cloud and the concerned flight levels;
 - b) Respond to requests for a course change or a level change as far as possible;
 - c) Propose a route change to avoid or leave the reported or predicted areas of presence of the volcanic ash cloud when requested by the pilot or as the controller deems it necessary; and
 - d) Where possible, request a special flight report when the flight route enters or anticipates the planned volcanic ash cloud and transmit the report to the appropriate agencies.
- 10.2. When a flight crew informs NOUAKCHOTT ACC that they have inadvertently entered a cloud of volcanic ash, NOUAKCHOTT ACC should:
 - a) Respect measures applicable to an aircraft in an emergency, and;
 - b) Alter the assigned route or level only if the pilot requests so or if the airspace or traffic conditions require it.

11. INTERCEPTION OF CIVIL AIRCRAFT

- 11.1. Pilots need to be aware that in light of current international circumstances, a contingency routing requiring aircraft to operate out of normal traffic flows, could result in an intercept by military aircraft. Aircraft operators must therefore be familiar with international intercept procedures contained in ICAO Annex 2 - Rules of the Air Paragraph 3.8 and Appendix 2, Sections 2 and 3.
- 11.2. Pilots need to continuously listen out on the VHF emergency frequency 121.5MHz and should operate their transponders always during flight, regardless of whether the aircraft is within or outside airspace where secondary surveillance radar (SSR) is used for ATS purposes. Transponders should be set on a discreet code assigned by ATC or select code A2000 if ATC has not assigned a code.
- 11.3. If an aircraft is intercepted by another aircraft, the pilot shall immediately:
 - Follow the instructions given by the intercepting aircraft, interpreting and responding to visual signals in accordance with international procedures;
 - If possible, notify appropriate ATS Unit;
 - Set transponder code to 7700, unless otherwise instructed by the appropriate ATS unit;
 - Attempt to establish radio communication with the intercepting aircraft by making a general call on the emergency frequency 121.5MHz; and
 - If instructions are received by radio from any source that conflict with those given by the intercepting aircraft, the intercepted aircraft, shall request immediate clarification while continuing to comply with the instructions given by the intercepting aircraft.



12. SEARCH AND RESCUE

- 12.1. ATS UNITS involved in this contingency plan are required to assist any distressed aircraft of which they are aware and which flies over a contingency space.
- 12.2. The center that receives a distress message from an aircraft shall send the necessary messages (INCERFA, ALERFA or DETRESFA) to all authorities in the SAR service involved in this plan including the SAR authority of the center which is in contingency situation.
- 12.3. Each SAR authority shall assist as necessary its neighbor as requested in their LoA. Contact details of its SAR Authority are provided in paragraph 15.3 below.

13. PLAN TESTING AND REVIEW

- 13.1. The plan shall be tested by ATC simulation at least once per two years.
- 13.2. A full review shall be conducted at least once per three years.

14. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN

The provisions of this contingency plan shall be promulgated by NOTAM to be issued by ASECNA in coordination with ICAO and the concerned States

15. ALL CONTINGENCIES UNITS**15.1. CENTRAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

N°	Member Title	Telephone	Email
1	ANAC HEADQUARTER AIR NAVIGATION SAFETY	+222 46 16 51 56	Vetahe@anac.mr
2	ASECNA HEADQUARTER	+222 22 43 66 49	SIDIMoh@asecna.org
3	Chargé Contrôle en Route	+222 28 58 72 49	M'bodjlbr@asecna.org
4	Commandant d'aérodrome	+222 28 58 97 29	MOHAMEDOUMoh@asecna.org
5	Chargé MIRE	+222 26 31 00 80	HAMEDBra@asecna.org
6	Chargé MTO	+222 28 58 22 38	THIAMMou@asecna.org

ASECNA HEADQUATERS (CRISIS ROOM)

N°	Member Title	Telephone	Email
1	Director of Operations	+221 77 333 27 88 +221 338 69 56 51 +221 338 69 20 62	bakienonlou@asecna.org

15.2 ATM OPERATIONAL CONTINGENCY GROUP

N°	Member Title	Telephone	Email
1	Chef Unité OPS/ATC	+222 28 58 00 89	KABOREJea@asecna.org
2	Chef Unité QIP	+222 22 30 47 01	HAMETTOUMoh@asecna.org
3	Chef Unité CA	+222 28 58 50 54	ALYPAHELMam@asecna.org
4	Chef unite TELECOM	+222 22 25 33 10	MOHAMEDFAD@asecna.org
5	Chef unite AIM	+222 26 51 14 35	COULIBALYama@asecna.org

PART II: LEVEL 3 CONTINGENCY (REQUIRING AVOIDANCE OF AFFECTED AIRSPACE)

UNAVAILABILITY OF MAURITANIA AIRSPACE

OBJECTIVES

In the event that the total disruption of Air Traffic Services (ATS) within Nouakchott UTA does not allow to fly in the airspace affected, users are invited to circumvent the airspace.

Users may also choose to avoid the Nouakchott UTA by flight planning via any alternative ATS routes provided by adjacent ATS unit of Nouakchott ACC

Users are advised to circumnavigate Nouakchott UTA and try to establish contact with the ATS unit responsible for the provision of air traffic service as soon as possible.

EXAMPLE:

Flights from East to West: Join NY VOR (Niamey) and follow instructions from Niamey ACC.

