2013 Annual SW FAB Report

This page is left intentionally blank for printing purposes

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

TITLE OF THE DOCUMENT: 2013 Annual SW FAB Report	
AUTHOR(S): Council; Supervisory Authority Committee (SAC); Operational Board (OB)	**ORIGINATOR:** SW FAB State Agreement
EDITION: 1.0	**DATE:** 12th March 2014
SCOPE: SW FAB / Council / SAC / OB	**KEY WORDS:** SW FAB / SES / Operational /
ABSTRACT: 2013 Annual SW FAB Report	

DOCUMENT CHANGE RECORD

EDITION	DATE	REASON FOR CHANGE	SECTIONS AND PAGES AFFECTED
1.0	12th March 2014	First Draft	All

This page is left intentionally blank for printing purposes

PREFACE

Signature event SW FAB State Agreement (Lisbon 17th May 2013)

We are pleased to present the first annual report on the activities carried out in the SW FAB in 2013.

It was in 2008 when the two air traffic service providers, Aena and NAV Portugal, started the first collaborative works related to the establishment of a FAB in the SouthWest region with the aim of achieving an optimised air navigation service provision, in accordance with the requirements established in SES Regulation Framework.

Since then many activities have been performed assuming a considerable effort of individuals and organizations involved, civil and military aviation national administrations, national supervisory authorities and providers of air navigation services.

Year 2013 has definitely seen the launch of SW FAB after the signature of the State Agreement for the establishment of the SW FAB by the Minister of Economy and Employment of Portugal and the Minister of Public Works of Spain in May 17th.

Other key milestone has been the approval of the SW FAB Operational Board Common Plan by the SW FAB Council in November 2013. This is a performance driving rolling plan which includes the projects to be developed until 2020.

We hope that the development and progressive implementation of synchronized operational projects identified as high added value as well as technical and regulatory synergies within the SW FAB will provide airspace users immediate benefits reflected in a delay reduction and shorter and efficient routes thus saving fuel and reducing environmental pollution due to lower greenhouse gas emissions.

Year 2013 has also been very productive and fruitful year. We are confident that the information contained in this report will be useful for all of those who wish to follow us on the way to the achievement of the goals for SW FAB and SES initiative.

The members of the SW FAB Council,

Ángel-Luis Arias Serrano; Director General of Civil Aviation – DGAC Spain (SW FAB Council Chairman)

Luis Miguel Pereira Trindade Santos; Chairman of the Board of the Portuguese Civil Aviation Authority – INAC, I.P.

Mayor General Eduardo Gil Rosella; Deputy Chief of the Air Staff – Spain

Major-General Piloto Aviador Manuel Fernando Rafael Martins; Portuguese Air Force

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1 INTRODUCTION 9
2 SW FAB COUNCIL 9
3 SW FAB Supervisory Authorities Committee 13
4 SW FAB Operational Board 15

This page is left intentionally blank for printing purposes

1 INTRODUCTION

This document contains the report of the SW FAB initiative as required by the SW FAB State Agreement and summarizes the main activities developed by the different bodies of the SW FAB in 2013.

2 SW FAB COUNCIL

Laying the institutional framework

If 2012 was a year of preparatory activities for the establishment of the SW FAB, 2013 has been the year of the consolidation. Along twelve months many collaborative tasks have been carried out among all SW FAB partners paving the way towards the achievement of SW FAB objectives.

Two events have been instrumental for the establishment of SW FAB.

- First, the signature of a Political Declaration to reaffirm the commitment of both States to establish a FAB in the Southwest region.
- Later the signature of the SW FAB Agreement. This legal text defines the general conditions and the governance to ensure the development and implementation of the SW FAB.

Both high-level documents were signed by the Minister Economy and Employment of Portugal and the Minister of of Public Works of Spain in May 2013.

The ratification process by both Parliaments is underway and it is expected that the SW FAB Agreement is ratified early 2014.

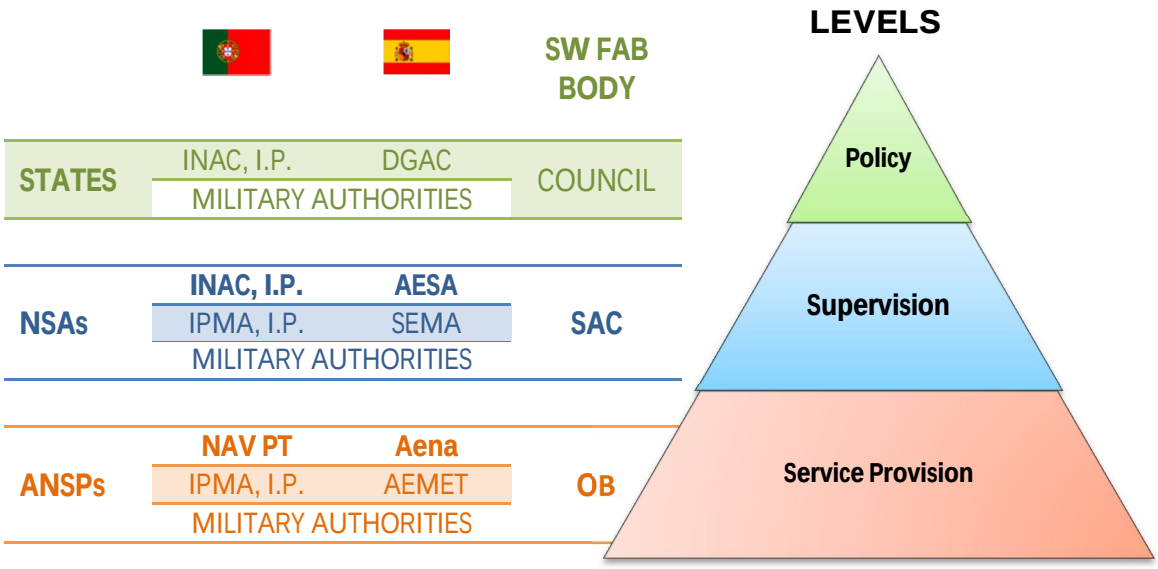
Making up the governance of the SW FAB

One of the first and most important tasks has been to develop and establish the organs of governance.

As stated by the SW FAB Agreement a single structure comprising three interrelated levels has been defined:

- Institutional Policy through the SW FAB Council;
- Supervision through the Supervisory Authority Committee (SAC); and
- Service provision through the Operational Board (OB).

Figure below shows the composition of the SW FAB governing bodies and the associated level's role.



INAC, I.P.	*Instituto Nacional de Aviação Civil I.P.*
DGAC	*Dirección General de Aviación Civil*
IPMA	*Instituto Português do Mar e da Atmosfera I.P.*
SEMA	*Secretaría de Estado de Medio Ambiente*

In 2013 the three governing bodies have appointed their representatives. It has to be highlighted the joint presence of civil and military representatives in the three levels of management ensuring the full coordination and cooperation in the civil-military field.

Note: Also a Standing Secretariat Office has been created to undertake managerial support tasks for the SW FAB Council. This support is jointly provided by Aena and NAV PT.

SAC and OB have also divided their structure in workings groups and task forces to undertake their work program and the implementation of the SW FAB Operational Board Common Plan of the SW FAB.

SW FAB structure and main functions of the governing bodies is shown in the next figure.

Activities of the SW FAB Council in 2013

The SW FAB Council has met three times this year.

Date	Location
17.04.2013*	Madrid
10.07.2013	Lisboa
15.11.2013	Madrid

* *This meeting was an informal character before signing the SW FAB State agreement.*

The SW FAB Council has been primarily in charge of establishing the basis that allowed further development of the activities for the progress in the implementation of the SW FAB.

Among the 2013 activities and results is noteworthy:

- Approval of the ToRs and RoPs of the governance bodies and the Standing Secretariat;
- Establishment of the Council's priority task schedule;
- Coordination activities of the SW FAB with the European Commission;
- Discussion forum about new Single European Sky (SES) developments and regulation framework, i.e. RP2 EU-wide targets, SES II+;
- Agreement on a common approach between Portugal and Spain concerning the "EU Pilot" received by the SW FAB to answer Commission;
- Approval of the SW FAB Operational Board Common Plan developed by the Operational Board in response to the mentioned "EU Pilot". This Plan describes the most important operational and technical projects to be carried out for the successful implementation of the SW FAB.

1St SW FAB Council Meeting (Madrid, April 2013)

3 SW FAB Supervisory Authorities Committee

The SW FAB Supervisory Authorities Committee (SAC) was created by Article 9 "Bodies of the SW FAB" of Chapter 3 "Bodies and Operation" of the SW FAB State Agreement signed on 17 May 2013. The SAC is the body established in the framework of the State Agreement to address all matters related to the supervision, performance and harmonisation of the SW FAB. It is made up of representatives of each NSA (INAC, IPMA, SEMA, AESA and EMA), including the military authorities that are not established as NSA (EFMA).

The SAC held its first meeting in Madrid on the 17 October 2013, thus formally inaugurating its activities, which were informally started at the end of 2012. The second meeting of the SAC will be held on 11 March 2014.

Working arrangements of the SAC

The following four Standing Working Groups (WGs), which were set up by the SAC in its first meeting, develop the matters that fall under the remit of the SAC:

- **SAF WG**: this WG basically deals with the safety policy, the common schedule for joint ATM/ANS oversight activities and the safety assessment of changes. It consists of the following task forces (TFs):

  ***POLICY TF** : The safety policy task force, in charge of developing the common safety policy to be presented to the Council;*

  ***PLAN TF**: The task force for the common schedule for joint ATM/ANS oversight activities; and*

  ***CHANGES TF**: the task force for the safety assessment of functional changes to the ATM system.*

- **HAR WG**: this WG basically deals with harmonization of external inspections results (EASA and ICAO), procedures and training (qualification profiles):

  ***EASA/ICAO TF**: The task force in charge of the handling of the results (findings) of external audits (EASA and ICAO) in relation to the activities within the SW FAB; and*

  ***HANDBOOK TF**: The task force in charge of developing the common handbook requested by article 6 of the NSA Cooperation Agreement.*

- **PER WG**: the main task of this WG is to elaborate the FAB Performance Plan for RP2 mandated by regulation (EU) No 390/2013. It must be noted that this group was established in March 2013 on an informal basis.

- **MET WG**: this is a "horizontal" WG that deals with all issues that have to do with the oversight of meteorological service provision in the SW FAB. It liaises with the rest of the WGs (SAF, HAR and PER) in those matters that fall within the remit of each of these WGs.

These Working Groups have already defined their terms of reference (ToRs) and rules of procedure (RoPs) and have been working since their inception on the different aspects of the supervision of the SW FAB.

NSA cooperation activities

As said before, NSA cooperation activities were initiated between the civil NSAs in charge of ATS at the end of 2012 on an informal basis.

Personnel of the civil NSAs in charge of ATS have been attending oversight visits by the other NSA as observers.

Thus, observers from AESA have attended two inspections by INAC in 2013:

1. **Porto Santo (Madeira)**: inspection of CNS installations between 12 and 13 September 2013; and
2. **Oporto**: inspection of CNS installations on the 22 November 2013.

Supervision of the SW FAB Implementation

As part of its activities in 2013, the SAC formally endorsed the SW FAB Operational Board Common Plan 2014-2020 on 20 November 2013. The SAC then proceeded to supervise the implementation of the Common Plan.

In particular, the introduction of the concept of free route airspace in the SW FAB through the FRASAI project has been dealt with by the SAC. This change to the ATM functional system of the SW FAB has been formally notified to the SAC on the 26 November 2013.

4 SW FAB Operational Board

The SW FAB Operational Board (OB) was created by Article 9 “Bodies of the SW FAB” of Chapter 3 “Bodies and Operation” of the SW FAB State Agreement signed on 17th May 2013.

A low level Organisational Structure for the Operational Board was agreed during the KOM of that Body with the identification of one committee and two working groups as follows:

- **Operational Board Coordination Committee (OCC)**: mainly responsible for preparing conclusions, recommendations and giving advice to the Operational Board as well as direct the development of the working groups under its umbrella;
- **Airspace Working Group (AWG)**: mainly responsible for identification, harmonization and development of airspace structure;
- **Technical Working Group (TWG)**: mainly responsible for proposing activities or plans towards harmonized and interoperable technical systems;

OB activities in 2013

- The main product of the OB in 2013 was the SW FAB OB Common Plan 2014-2020 that was approved by the SW FAB Council in november 2013. This plan includes all operational and technical projects in the period 2014-2020, that, due to their objectives and relevance are key for the future development of the SW FAB.
- With regard to this document it was also established a follow up process in order to monitor the projects included in it and a report process in order to keep the SW FAB Council regularly informed.
- A new design of the SW FAB web page was approved and the development of this design started in order to make it available as soon as possible.
- The SW FAB nominated a Focal Point and an alternate which will receive and coordinate all the information concerning Network Manager (NM). Also it is foreseen that a NM representative will participate as an observer in AWG meetings, under SWFAB invitation and when the agenda topics justify it.