

**Sixteenth Meeting of the Cross Polar Trans East Air Traffic Management Providers' Work Group
(CPWG/16)**

(Ottawa, Canada 3-6 December 2013)

**Agenda Item 8: Communications, Navigation, Surveillance (CNS) and Air Traffic Management
(ATM) issues**

**North European Functional Airspace Block (NEFAB) and
NORTH EUROPEAN FREE ROUTE AIRSPACE PROGRAMME (NEFRA)**

(Presented by Avinor)

SUMMARY

This paper presents information about recent developments in NEFAB (North European Functional Airspace Block) and the North European Free Route Airspace programme (NEFRA).

1 Introduction

- 1.1. NEFAB was established 23rd December 2012 in accordance with SES2 regulations.
4 member states: Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Norway.
4 ANSPs: Avinor (Norway) EANS, (Estonia), Finavia (Finland), LGS (Latvia)
4 national MET service providers: Norwegian Meteorological Institute, Latvian Environment, Geology and Meteorology Centre, Estonian Environment Agency, Finnish Meteorological Institute
NEFAB covers: 1 307 700 km² of continental airspace + 1 450 000 km² oceanic airspace
NEFAB ANSPs handled 1 233 000 IFR Flights in continental airspace in 2011
- 1.2. The NEFAB Programme has undergone substantial changes in focus and organization since June 2013. The main areas in focus today are Business Development Areas, NEFAB Target Concept to cover the final airspace development activities, implementation of seamless Free Route Airspace with DK/SE FAB and setting up of strategic targets for all involved ANSPs.

2 Discussion

- 2.1. In their pursuit of best possible airspace structure for the customers, the ANSPs in NEFAB are working actively towards the connection of the DK/SE FAB Free Route Airspace with NEFAB Free Route Airspace above the FL285. NEFAB Free Route Airspace is planned as low as possible pending the results of the ongoing simulations, but there is planned continuous seamless Free Route Airspace above FL 285 across the two FABs. The North European Free Route Airspace Programme (NEFRA) has been set up to deal with the interface issues between the airspaces of the two FABs.
- 2.2. The cooperation commenced when in March 2013 the member states of the two FABs made a declaration of commitment for cooperation in airspace development between the governments of Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden. The declaration aims at closer cooperation between the states of the two FABs, and as a first step the states are committed to

introduce improvement of the functionality in management of the airspace, inter alia, the Free route Airspace. Detailed development plans for NEFRA Concept of Operations are in progress and NEFRA is planned to be implemented on November 12, 2015, the same time as NEFAB Free Route Airspace.

3 Recommendation

- 3.1. The Meeting is invited to note the information provided in this paper.