

Work Plan NEFAB Council – 2015

Version 2.2

Revision history

Version	Date	Description/Change	Author	Approved
1.0	13.11.2014	Draft	Finland	
2.0	20.11.2014	Draft	Finland	
2.1	28.1.2015	Draft; table on NEFAB Council and Committees Chairmen in 2015 added	Finland	
2.2	3.2.2015	Initiating the written procedure	Finland	
2.2	12.2.2015	Approval of the work plan via written procedure	Finland	

Work Plan for the Council in 2015

NEFAB Council shall ensure the implementation of the NEFAB State level Agreement and the fulfilment of the objectives of NEFAB in general.

1. Tasks

In order to achieve a successful cooperation and a well-functioning FAB, the Council has been entrusted with specific tasks, cf. Article 9 of the NEFAB State Level Agreement:

- **define strategic objectives**, assess the results achieved and take appropriate measures if required;
- **define the development of civil-military cooperation**; modalities of the cooperation on the application of the concept of flexible use of airspace;
- agree on an **airspace policy**;
- **support harmonisation** of the substantive rules and procedures;
- **facilitate** the joint designation process of the air traffic service providers;
- **facilitate** the work of the Air Navigation Services Consultative Board;
- **adopt a charging policy**;
- **agree on a common safety policy** and support the development and the implementation of a common safety management system by the air navigation service providers;
- **adopt NEFAB performance plans and related performance targets** and decide on incentives and additional or corrective measures;
- **aim at** coordinating the positions of the Contracting States with regard to the work of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), Eurocontrol, the European Commission, the European Aviation Safety Agency and joint undertakings in the field of air navigation services;
- **ensure the coordination** with adjacent functional airspace blocks, including efficient interfaces;
- **establish** additional committees and/or working groups to assist it in specific matters; **approve** the proposals of the committees and working groups.

2. Planned activity

The Council is scheduled to meet two times in 2015; in May and in November.

For the Council, the primary and key task is to define the strategic objectives for the NEFAB cooperation; discussing ambitions, opportunities and challenges *"to achieve optimal performance in the areas relating to safety, environmental sustainability, capacity, cost-efficiency, flight efficiency and military mission effectiveness, by the design of airspace and*

the organisation of air traffic management in the airspace concerned regardless of existing boundaries.” The regulatory power of the performance scheme of the Single European Sky legislation will be important to factor-in and will influence the approach taken towards coordination activities with adjacent FABs.

The outline of key deliverables from the Committees to the Council follows from the various tasks entrusted to the Council and includes important issues that should be addressed and presented to the Council for discussion and adoption during 2015:

- Modalities of Civil-Military Cooperation and FUA application (Civil-Military Committee)
- Airspace Policy (NSA Committee)
- Harmonisation of rules and procedures (NSA Committee)
- Common Charging Policy (Financial and Performance Committee)
- Safety Policy (NSA Committee)

3. Planned deliverables of a high level/strategic nature

Discussions on the implementing of the NEFAB Strategy and establishing the implementation plan related to it will continue. The NEFAB Strategy was adopted by the Council in November 2014. An implementation plan will be adopted by the end of 2015 the latest.

The most important **legislative proposals** announced by the European Commission are to be discussed/ assessed by the Council with a view to arriving at a coordinated position and joint feedback, if possible.

Foremost is the 'Single Sky package 2+ and implementing the NEFAB Performance Plan for Reference Period no. 2 (2015-2019).

Monitoring the actions sent to the European Commission in the EU Pilot is of utmost importance as well as monitoring the actions in NEFAB in general. The NEFAB States have stated in their pilot answer to the EC the following:

“NEFAB States will ensure that the NEFAB-Council acts as the requested monitoring mechanism. NEFAB States will ensure that the agenda for the Council meetings includes a specific agenda item that serves this monitoring purpose until the implementation plan is fully implemented.

The implementation plan will be discussed in the Council meetings internally among the NEFAB states and the actions stated in the implementation plan will be monitored.

The relevant parts of the minutes of the Council meetings regarding the monitoring function can be sent to the Commission for information.

Furthermore, the Commission can also be informed about the outcome of relevant Committee meetings on a case-by-case basis, if this is necessary in view of the monitoring purpose.

Regarding NEFRA, the NEFAB States propose that the network of representatives at Ministerial level from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Norway and Sweden act as the monitoring mechanism. This has also been stated in the NEFRA Programme Management Plan. The assistance of respective NSAs will be called upon for this task, as appropriate.”

Further development of the dialogue between the NEFAB States and Denmark and Sweden at Ministerial level – on the basis of the joint Ministerial Declaration – is another priority that calls for specific follow-up measures in 2015.

One particular cooperation project between the NEFAB States and Denmark and Sweden is the development and implementation of continuous free route airspace in the area covered by NEFAB and the Danish/Swedish FAB. Implementation is planned by the end of 2015. This is the most important cooperation project between the two FABs and is a priority issue in 2015. Furthermore, phase 2 of this project is supposed to be initiated in 2015 in order to be finalised by end of 2017.

The relation with other neighbouring States is another priority issue in 2015 – in particular the relationship with Russia in view of concrete calls for enhanced cooperation. The Council will have to agree on a joint approach for furthering the process.

The following topics are foreseen to be addressed at the various Council meetings in 2015:

May 2015:	Implementation plan related to the strategy for NEFAB – status report, Monitoring the pilot action list, SES II+ - state of play, NEFAB performance plan RP 2, free route airspace – status report, common charging policy – mapping exercise –follow up, Council annual report 2014, Relations with neighbouring States
November 2015:	Work Plan 2016, Implementation plan related to the strategy for NEFAB – adoption, free route airspace – status report (phase 1 & 2), SES 2 + - state of play, Common Airspace policy, Monitoring the pilot action list, Relations with neighbouring States

4. Planned deliverables from the NEFAB Committees

The NSA Committee has already tabled key deliverables during 2015 in its own Work Plan and similarly key deliverables are expected to be identified also from the other two Committees.

From the NSA Committee, the Council can expect:

- Periodic Performance Dashboard presentations/ assessments on evolution and achievements in relation to adopted performance plans 2012-2014 as well as RP 2 (2015-2019) plan
- Periodic reports on regulatory harmonisation activities including
 - o policy and procedures applied by the NSAs for oversight of ANSPs
 - o policy and procedures relating to acceptance of safety related changes

- procedures on licencing of ATCOs and certification and oversight of ATCO training organisations
 - practises, training and qualifications for personnel performing oversight tasks
 - Report on the progress in developing NEFAB NSA handbook
- Proposal for Airspace Policy
 - Progress reports concerning the Free Route Airspace (FRA)
 - Progress report concerning 7-State NSA Group work
 - Progress report concerning NSA Cooperation in Borealis framework

From the Civil-Military Committee, the Council can expect:

- Report to the NEFAB Council on FUA application in the NEFAB States and future common FUA harmonisation in NEFAB (Progress report end 2015)
- Development of performance monitoring of the Military Mission Effectiveness
- Harmonisation in regards to military aviation as far as appropriate i.a. common military requirements and harmonisation of procedures.
- Aspiration for harmonized Civil Military view as far as practical on issues relevant to efficient use of airspace e.g. NEFRA

From the Financial and Performance Committee, the Council can expect:

- Implementation plan related to the strategy for NEFAB
- Report of the present status in the NEFAB States - primarily the national charging policies (December 2015)

5. Planned deliverables from the ANSPs

The NEFAB ANSPs have already adopted a number of key (planning) documents, which specify the direction and priorities in their cooperative venture in the next few years.

An important milestone in this regard is the revision of the NEFAB ANSP Annual Plan 2016 (new version for 2015) and – even more importantly – the NEFAB ANSP 5 year Business Plan (new version 2016-2020).

6. Other deliverables – “management tasks”

NEFAB Council is committed to engaging in a dialogue with stakeholders:

One of the channels for such dialoue is through the Air Navigation Services Consultative Board (ANSCB). The inaugural meeting of this body took place in September 2013 in Oslo in conjunction with the NEFAB Council meeting. The second ANSCB Meeting took place in Tallinn in November 2014 in connection with the NEFAB Council meeting.

The NEFAB Council decided at its meeting in May 2013 that air space users and staff associations will be consulted through the NEFAB Air Navigation Consultative Board.

7. NEFAB Council and Committees Chairs in 2015

NEFAB Council

Function		Surname	First name	Position/title	e-mail
Chair (FI)	Ms	Ahokas	Maija	Ministerial Counsellor	majja.ahokas@mintc.fi
<i>Vice Chair (LV)</i>	Mr	Muižnieks	Arnis	Director	arnis.muiznieks@sam.gov.lv

NSA Committee

Function		Surname	First name	Position/title	e-mail
Chair (EE)	Mr	Vallimäe	Kristo	Head of Department	kristo.vallimae@ecaa.ee
<i>Vice Chair (LV)</i>	Mr	Jekabsons	Eižens	ATM Inspector	eizens.jekabsons@latcaa.gov.lv

Financial and Performance Committee

Function		Surname	First name	Position/title	e-mail
Chair (LV)	Ms	Betaga	Ligita	Senior Expert	ligita.betaga@sam.gov.lv
<i>Vice Chair (FI)</i>	Ms	Ahokas	Maija	Ministerial Counsellor	majja.ahokas@mintc.fi

Civil-Military Committee

Function		Surname	First name	Position/title	e-mail
Chair (NO - CIV)	Mr	Raknes	Eivind	Inspector ATM	eivind.raknes@caa.no
<i>Vice Chair (NO - MIL)</i>	Mr	Nordskog	Hans Jørgen	Lieutenant Colonel	hnordskog@mil.no