

**NSA Coordination Platform
Work Programme 2018**





This document sets out the Work Programme and priorities for the NCP over the next three years. The Work Programme reflects the changing needs and challenges NSAs are facing, arising from the requirements to implement both current and future SES regulations.

This document is the final version of the NCP Work Programme, which was developed using input received from Working Group and Advisory Board members throughout 2018. The list of topics included in section 4 has been updated and new topics have been developed to bring the document in line with the current requirements of NSAs.


This version of the Work Programme 2018 was adapted from comments received from Advisory Board and Plenary members during the last Advisory Board (NCP/AB/Sep18) and Plenary (NCP/14) meetings. It has been issued following tacit approval, as agreed at NCP/14.

NCP Work Programme summary

Key achievements in 2017-18

<p>15 papers finalised</p>  <p>13 papers being drafted and 5 living documents updated</p> 	<p>19 meetings held</p>  <p>Including NCP ATM cybersecurity workshop in September 17</p> 
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High-priority topics for 2018-19

<p>NSAs' role in European Airspace Architecture</p> <p>Define the role of the NCP in EASA RMTs</p> <p>Streamlining reporting mechanisms</p> <p>Implications of emerging technologies for NSAs</p> <p>Impact of drones on the work of NSAs</p> <p>Impact of IR (EU) 2017/373 and the new EASA BR</p> <p>Financial oversight within the Charging Scheme</p>	
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1 Defining the NCP Work Programme

The NSA Coordination Platform (NCP) Work Programme provides an overview of the main topics to be addressed by the NCP over the next three years.

This medium-term view aims to focus discussions and direct effort towards the most relevant activities of interest to NCP members. It also reflects the timescales required for the development of NCP outputs, providing the continuity and direction necessary to develop quality deliverables and to maximise their value to NSAs.

The Work Programme is structured as follows:

- Section 2 introduces the NCP's objectives, and describes activities contributing to their achievement;
- Section 3 explains how the Work Programme was developed;
- Section 4 sets out a list of potential topics, to be discussed within the NCP Plenary;
- Section 5 summarises the identified topics per Working Group;
- Section 6 summarises the timescales for completing the tasks described in the Work Programme.

2 Achieving the objectives of the NCP

NSAs play a key role in the implementation of the Single European Sky (SES). There has been major progress since 2004 and new tasks have been assigned to NSAs in that period. However, NSAs continue to face many challenges.

As identified within the NCP Terms of Reference, the Platform (which was established in 2009) has four main objectives supporting its mission:

1. To provide for discussion on SES implementation issues which have an impact on NSAs;
2. To validate and/or contribute to the identification of best practices among NSAs, including material to support the harmonisation of their procedures and arrangements;
3. To identify potential issues, current and future, emerging from SES implementation and identify ways and means for their solution;
4. To provide a framework for possible mutual assistance with regards to human resources and expertise.

The Work Programme supports the achievements of these goals by prioritising topics to be addressed within the NCP and proposing a way forward for developing concrete deliverables.

3 Developing the NCP Work Programme

3.1 Process for updating and endorsing the Work Programme

The process for identifying and prioritising the topics listed in the Work Programme is summarised in Figure 1 below.

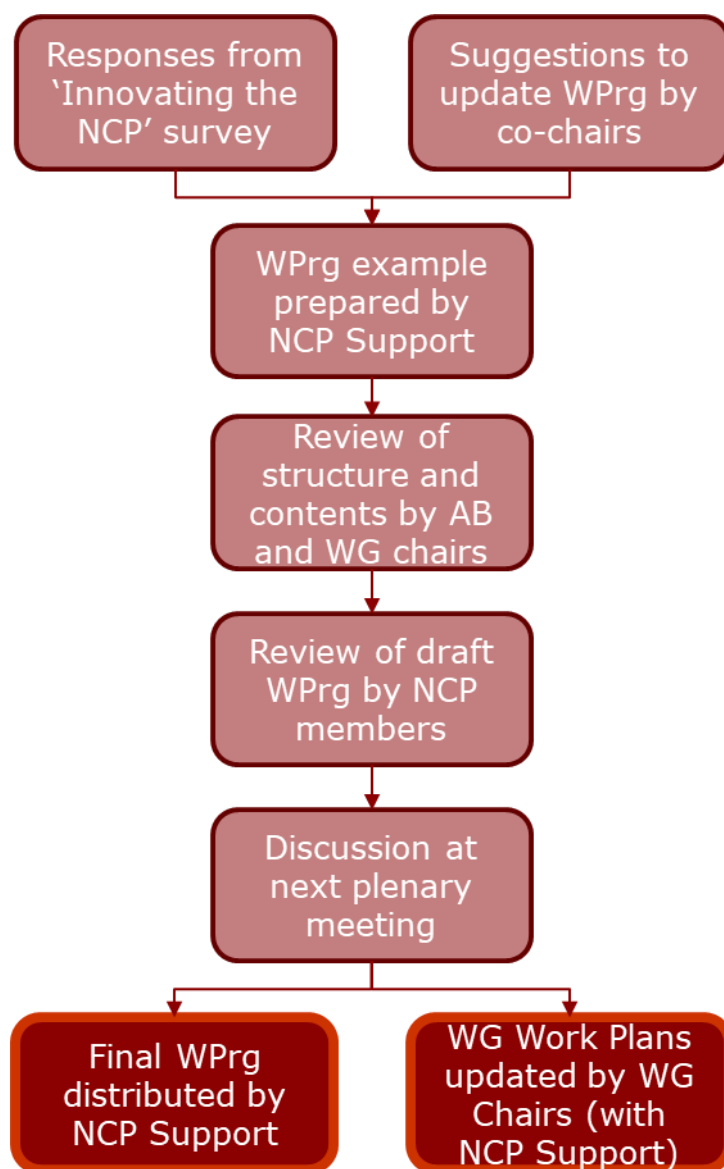


Figure 1: NCP Work Programme development process. Steps that have been completed are shown in a lighter colour.

Discussions at the February 2018 meeting of the NCP Advisory Board (AB) suggested specific topics which could be addressed by the NCP, either at Plenary or at WG-level (in addition to, and therefore not overlapping with, topics already captured in the Working Groups' Work Plans). Further suggestions for topics at Working Group (WG) level were provided by individual WGs between February and May 2018. These inputs were used to produce a draft Work Programme for review by AB members, which was sent to members in advance of the May 2018 AB teleconference.

Following comments received at the May 2018 AB teleconference, the draft version of the Work Programme was updated and then discussed at WG-level between May and July 2018. Additional suggestions for topics/outputs were submitted and incorporated into an updated draft of the Work Programme, which was distributed to NCP Plenary members for comment. Feedback from Plenary members informed the creation of a final draft, which was presented at NCP/14. It was agreed that, once updated based on comments from NCP/14 and NCP AB/Sep18, the Work Programme would be issued by tacit approval and distributed to NCP members.

Topics are grouped into themes to help identify synergies between groups and prevent overlaps. Priorities are established between topics, and outputs, timescales and WG leads are identified. High priority topics should be the focus of the WG activities while low priority items are monitored and/or

discussed on an ad-hoc basis, as required. The number of high priority topics is limited to ensure efforts are concentrated.

Priorities, timescales and WG leads should be reviewed and updated on an annual basis to ensure they remain aligned to the current NCP goals. They may therefore change as dictated by circumstances or on the advice of the Working Groups.

3.2 Links with Working Groups Work Plans

The Working Groups Work Plans should be aligned with the NCP Work Programme by integrating the high priority topics into their activities. It is anticipated that topics identified in the NCP Work Programme should be considered as ‘open topic items’ in WG Work Plans; however, this classification should be discussed within each Working Group.

‘Standing items’ in WG Work Plans, which are discussed on a recurrent basis at each meeting and have no definitive deadline, are not included in the Work Programme. This said, a Working Group may decide that certain topics from the Work Programme are within the scope of a standing item.

Topics described in the next section should therefore be considered **as complimentary** to the activities currently defined in the WG Work Plans. A review of each WG Work Plan will be undertaken to ensure the activities from the Work Programme are adequately covered.

3.3 Interactions between Working Groups

To ensure the entire NCP benefits from the work of its members, the outputs of each Working Group are regrouped and shared on the NCP Portal, in the NCP Knowledge Sharing section.

Some topics are of interest to several Working Groups. In such cases, NCP Support coordinates with the relevant WG Chairs to give updates on the activities and progress achieved on these subjects at Working Group meetings. If deemed beneficial, bilateral or cross-NCP Working Group meetings may be organised. This will give members the opportunity to comment on the work being undertaken and implement adequate communication channels to ensure effort is not duplicated.

4 Current themes and proposed topics

This section details the topics for inclusion in the NCP Work Programme, grouped into themes.

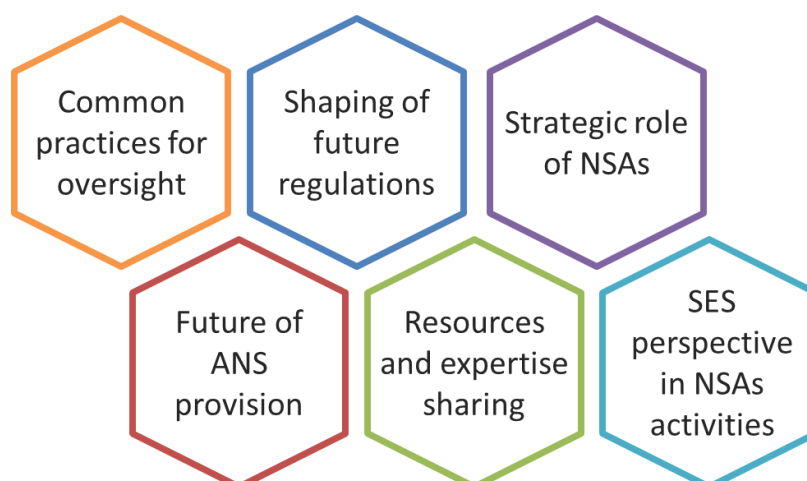


Figure 2: NCP themes

4.1 Common practices for oversight

The processes employed by NSAs to oversee compliance with regulatory requirements may vary across Europe depending on their interpretation of each regulation. This may be due to several

factors such as different organisational arrangements, variations in resources or differences in the way regulations are interpreted.

There is therefore a need for NCP members to share experiences and common practices on how to best perform oversight activities. Topics of interest identified as part of this theme are provided hereafter.

The ticks (‘✓’) in the tables indicate which WGs have an interest in each topic.

Priority	Topics	PLEN	FAB	IOP	PERF	SO	SESAR
High	Risk-based oversight common practices ¹					✓	
High	Application and oversight of Regulation 2017/373 - Common Requirements			✓		✓	
High	Performance and financial oversight in RP3 ²				✓	✓	
High	Implications of the update to the EASA Basic Regulation	✓		✓		✓	
High	Implications of emerging technologies ³				✓	✓	✓
Low	Interpretation and application of interoperability IRs	✓		✓			
Low	Target setting and monitoring of safety KPI(s) ^{4 5}				✓	✓	
Low	Production of guidelines for certification and oversight of ANSP’s financial strength, and liability and insurance cover requirements, as defined in 2017/373 ⁶				✓	✓	
Low	Implementation of administrative procedures related to aerodromes (Regulation No 139/2014)	✓					
Low	Evidence to select and train NSA auditors					✓	
Low	ATFM regulation oversight (No 255/2010, amended by No 2016/1006)				✓	✓	

Table 1: Common practices for oversight topics

¹ Included in SO WG Work Plan (‘Risk-based Oversight by NSAs’)

² Included in PERF WG Work Plan (‘Implementing RP3’)

³ Included in SESAR WG Work Plan (‘Impact of the PCP revision and CP2 proposal on NSAs’)

⁴ Topic on hold until [EASA RMT.0723](#) releases its Notice of Proposed Amendment (NPA)

⁵ Included in SO WG Work Plan (‘Oversight of Safety Performance’)

⁶ The lead WG for this item will be clarified at NCP/14. However, it is expected that the PERF WG and/or SO WG could be involved in some fashion.

Outputs, timescales and leads for each high priority topic are described below:

Topics	Expected outputs	Timescales	Lead
Risk-based oversight best practices	Inclusion of examples of RBO implementation in 'Guidelines for RBO by NSAs' v1.0	Q4 2018	SO
	Sharing of experiences on risk-based oversight methods and processes currently in place within NSAs	Q2 2019	SO
Application and oversight of Regulation 2017/373 - Common Requirements	Assessment of the impact of the Common Requirements regulation on NSAs' roles and responsibilities (including feedback to EASA)	Q4 2019	SO
	Sharing experiences of changes implemented by NSAs as a result of the Common Requirements Regulation	Q4 2019	SO
Performance and financial oversight in RP3	Analysis of the changes to the Performance and Charging Schemes introduced by RP3 and their impact on NSAs' work	Q4 2018	PERF
	Review of NSAs' relationship, working arrangements and communication with the PRB	Q4 2018	PERF
	Production of guidelines to support NSAs' oversight of RP3, including relationship with EASA AMC/GM	Q2 2019	PERF
	Production of guidelines to support financial oversight within the framework of the Charging Scheme, in coordination with the PRB/EC, if relevant	Q4 2019	PERF
	Identification of NSA processes for target setting and performance plan production for RP3	Q2 2019	PERF
	Identification of NSA processes for monitoring of RP3 performance (excluding safety) targets	Q4 2020	PERF
	Identification of NSA processes for monitoring of RP3 safety performance targets	Q4 2020	SO
Implications of the update to the EASA Basic Regulation	Review of the impact of changes introduced by the updated EASA Basic Regulation on NSAs	Q4 2018	IOP
	Sharing of experiences on the implementation of the updated EASA Basic Regulation	Q2 2019	IOP
Implications of emerging technologies	Assessment of the impact of the updated PCP regulation and the CP2 regulation on NSAs' role in SESAR Deployment and oversight activities	Q4 2018	SESAR
	Sharing of experiences of changes introduced by NSAs as a result of the updated PCP regulation and the CP2 regulation	Q2 2019	SESAR

Table 2: Common practices for oversight outputs, timescales and leads

4.2 Shaping future regulations

NSAs have a wealth of experience on the practical implementation of regulations. This experience could be used to inform the drafting of new regulations to facilitate their application at local level. Practically, this could be achieved by providing consolidated NSA views to relevant parties, for example to EASA Technical Bodies (TeBs). As such, NSAs have an important role in helping to define future regulation.

Priority	Topics	PLEN	FAB	IOP	PERF	SO	SESAR
High	Define the role of the NCP in EASA RMTs	✓					
High	NSAs' role in European Airspace Architecture	✓					

Table 3: Shaping future regulation topics

Outputs, timescales and leads for each high priority topic are described below:

Topics	Expected outputs	Timescales	Lead
Define the role of the NCP in EASA RMTs	Review the need and potential processes for providing an NCP view to relevant EASA RMTs	Q4 2018	PLEN
NSAs' role in European Airspace Architecture	Identification of potential impacts of the introduction of an EUIR on the work of NSAs	Q2 2020	PLEN

Table 4: Shaping future regulations outputs, timescales and leads

4.3 Future of ANS provision

New technologies and business models are taking ANS provision away from traditional setups and towards more flexible operations and competitive environments. Regulators have an important role to play in supporting these new developments while ensuring providers fully comply with existing regulations.

Priority	Topics	PLEN	FAB	IOP	PERF	SO	SESAR
High	Approval and oversight of remote towers ⁷			✓		✓	
High	Competition within ANS	✓			✓		
High	Impact of drones on the work of NSAs					✓	✓
Low	Delegated service provision in the context of the Performance Scheme				✓		

Table 5: Future of ANS provision topics

⁷ Included in SO WG Work Plan ('Presentation on oversight practices for Remote towers')

Outputs, timescales and leads for each high priority topic are described below:

Topics	Expected outputs	Timescales	Lead
Approval and oversight of remote towers	Sharing of experience from NSAs currently involved in the approval and oversight of Remote Towers	Q2 2019	SO
	Coordination with the IOP WG on interoperability issues (if any identified)	Q2 2019	SO
	Identification of lessons learnt and common practices	Q2 2019	SO
Competition within ANS	Identification of challenges posed by introducing competition in ANS from a regulatory perspective	Q3 2018	PLEN
	Sharing of experiences on the implications on NSAs of introducing competition in ANS	Q3 2018	PLEN
Impact of drones on the work of NSAs	Identification of potential impacts of the introduction of drones on the work of NSAs	Q3 2019	SESAR
	Sharing of experiences from NSAs on challenges faced due to the introduction of drones and their impact on ATM	Q2 2020	SESAR
	Identification of common practices for addressing the impact of drones on ATM	Q2 2021	SESAR

Table 6: Future of ANS provision outputs, timescales and leads

4.4 Resources and expertise sharing

Greater commonality in systems and working practices may offer opportunities for NSAs to implement more efficient oversight processes. Synergies might be generated by sharing certain activities, pooling resources or sharing expert support. As such arrangements are relatively new, the NCP would benefit from discussing how they can best be implemented.

Priority	Topics	PLEN	FAB	IOP	PERF	SO	SESAR
High	Safety and interoperability oversight of common systems ⁸	✓		✓		✓	
High	Coordinated oversight of multi- entity / cross border ANS provision ⁹		✓	✓		✓	✓
High	Harmonised AIS models to support FRA ¹⁰		✓	✓			
High	Streamlining reporting mechanisms ¹¹				✓	✓	✓
Low	Models for sharing and managing ATM information			✓			

Table 7: Resources and expertise sharing topics

⁸ Already included in IOP WG Work Plan ('IOP oversight of PCP elements (eg SWIM/AF5) and interconnectivity of ATM systems')

⁹ Included in FAB WG Work Plan ('Cross Border Services implementation and oversight')

¹⁰ Included in FAB WG Work Plan ('Free Route Airspace implementation and oversight - Identify the need (or otherwise) for FABs to implement enablers (eg common AIS)')

¹¹ Included in SESAR WG Work Plan ('Streamlining reporting mechanisms in SESAR Deployment')

Outputs, timescales and leads for each high priority topic are described below:

Topics	Expected outputs	Timescales	Lead
Safety and interoperability oversight of common systems	Identification of challenges to provide oversight of common systems	Q4 2018	IOP
	Production of a summary of best practices	Q4 2018	IOP
Coordinated oversight of multi-entity / cross border ANS provision	Identification of existing initiatives and processes implemented at FAB-level to enable coordinated oversight	Q4 2019	FAB
	Production of a summary of good practices	Q4 2019	FAB
Harmonised AIS models to support FRA	Identification of existing initiatives and processes to implement harmonised AIPs	Q3 2018	FAB
	Production of a summary of good practices	Q2 2019	FAB
Streamlining reporting mechanisms	Identify potential ways in which to streamline reporting mechanisms, in cooperation with the Commission and all relevant stakeholders	Q4 2018	SESAR
	Cooperate with the Commission and all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of updated and/or new reporting mechanism	Q4 2019	SESAR

Table 8: Resources and expertise sharing outputs, timescales and leads

4.5 Strategic roles of NSAs

The European aviation landscape is evolving. New approaches and developments in concepts of operations, technologies and business models are stretching the remit of NSAs. Cyber-security is becoming a priority for all ATM stakeholders. The NCP is a platform to discuss these changes and ensure NSAs are, and remain, well-equipped to oversee this changing environment.

Priority	Topics	PLEN	FAB	IOP	PERF	SO	SESAR
High	The role of NSAs in cyber-security ¹²	✓		✓		✓	✓
High	Strategy for future of NSAs (from FABs to regional concepts)	✓					
Low	Regulating pan-European / regional services	✓					

Table 9: Strategic roles of NSAs topics

¹² Included in the SESAR WG Work Plan ('NSAs' role in cyber-security')

Outputs, timescales and leads for each high priority topic are described below:

Topics	Expected outputs	Timescales	Lead
The role of NSAs in cyber-security	Share NSAs' experience related to cyber-security activities and exercises	Q4 2019	SESAR
	Discuss the impact of new regulations related to cyber-security on the role of NSAs	Q2 2020	SESAR
Strategy for future of NSAs (from FABs to regional concepts)	Review of current NSA strengths and weaknesses in the context of SES	Q3 2018	PLEN
	Identification of future opportunities and challenges	Q3 2018	PLEN
	Production of a strategy for NSAs to adapt to emerging and future challenges, aligned with the evolution of SES	Q2 2019	PLEN

Table 10: Strategic roles of NSAs outputs, timescales and leads

4.6 SES perspective in NSAs activities

The SES regulatory framework is essential to NSAs work. For this reason, NSAs should have clear visibility of and easy access to SES-related information.

Priority	Topics	PLEN	FAB	IOP	PERF	SO	SESAR
High	Access to and dissemination of SES-related information	✓					
Low	Further consideration of SES and network dimension in national processes	✓					
Low	Quality of the interface with SES-related bodies	✓					

Table 11: SES perspective in NSAs activities topics

Outputs, timescales and leads for each high priority topic are described below:

Topics	Expected outputs	Timescales	Lead
Access to and dissemination of SES-related information	Raise awareness within the NCP of existing provisions for accessing SES-related information	Q3 2018	PLEN

Table 12: SES perspective in NSAs activities outputs, timescales and leads

5 Summary of topics per Working Group

Table 13 summarises the high-priority topics to be discussed in the NCP, organised by lead Working Group.

Group	Topics
PLEN	Competition within ANS
	Define the role of the NCP in EASA RMTs
	NSAs' role in European Airspace Architecture
	Strategy for future of NSAs (from FABs to regional concepts)
FAB	Access to and dissemination of SES-related information
	Coordinated oversight of multi-entity / cross border ANS provision
IOP	Harmonised AIS models to support FRA
	Implications of the update to the EASA Basic Regulation
PERF	Safety and interoperability oversight of common systems
	Performance and financial oversight in RP3
SO	Risk-based oversight common practices
	Application and oversight of Regulation 2017/373 - Common Requirements
	Approval and oversight of remote towers
SESAR	Streamlining reporting mechanisms
	The role of NSAs in cyber-security
	Implications of emerging technologies
	Impact of drones on the work of NSAs

Table 13: Summary of topics per WG

6 Summary of timescales

The tables hereafter list the high priority topics mentioned above according to their expected completion date.

6.1 Plenary

Topic	Expected output	Timescales
Access to and dissemination of SES-related information	Raise awareness within the NCP of existing provisions for accessing SES-related information	Q3 2018
Competition within ANS	Identification of challenges posed by introducing competition in ANS from a regulatory perspective	Q3 2018
Competition within ANS	Sharing of experiences on the implications for NSAs of introducing competition in ANS	Q3 2018
Strategy for future of NSAs (from FABs to regional concepts)	Review of current NSAs' strengths and weaknesses in the context of SES	Q3 2018
Strategy for future of NSAs (from FABs to regional concepts)	Identification of future opportunities and challenges	Q3 2018
Define the role of the NCP in EASA RMTs	Review the need and potential processes for providing an NCP view to relevant EASA RMTs	Q4 2018
Strategy for future of NSAs (from FABs to regional concepts)	Production of a strategy for NSAs to adapt to emerging and future challenges, aligned with the evolution of SES	Q2 2019
NSAs' role in European Airspace Architecture	Identification of potential impacts of the introduction of an EUIR on the work of NSAs	Q2 2020

Table 14: Timescales for topics to be discussed in the Plenary

6.2 FAB WG

Topic	Expected output	Timescales
Harmonised AIS models to support FRA	Identification of existing initiatives and processes to implement harmonised AIPs	Q3 2018
Harmonised AIS models to support FRA	Production of a summary of good practices	Q2 2019
Coordinated oversight of multi-entirety / cross border ANS provision	Identification of existing initiatives and processes implemented at FAB-level to enable coordinated oversight	Q4 2019
Coordinated oversight of multi-entirety / cross border ANS provision	Production of a summary of good practices	Q4 2019

Table 15: Timescales for topics to be discussed in the FAB WG

6.3 IOP WG

Topic	Expected output	Timescales
Safety and interoperability oversight of common systems	Identification of challenges to provide oversight of common systems	Q4 2018
Safety and interoperability oversight of common systems	Production a summary of best practices	Q4 2018
Implications of the update to the EASA Basic Regulation	Review of the impact of changes introduced by the updated EASA Basic Regulation on NSAs	Q4 2018
Implications of the update to the EASA Basic Regulation	Sharing of experiences on the implementation of the updated EASA Basic Regulation	Q2 2019

Table 16: Timescales for topics to be discussed in the IOP WG

6.4 PERF WG

Topic	Expected output	Timescales
Performance and financial oversight in RP3	Analysis of the changes to the Performance and Charging Schemes introduced by RP3 and their impact on NSAs' work	Q4 2018
Performance and financial oversight in RP3	Review of NSAs' relationship, working arrangements and communication with the PRB	Q4 2018
Performance and financial oversight in RP3	Production of guidelines to support NSAs' oversight of RP3, including relationship with EASA AMC/GM	Q2 2019
Performance and financial oversight in RP3	Production of guidelines to support financial oversight within the framework of the Charging Scheme, in coordination with the PRB/EC, if relevant	Q4 2019
Performance and financial oversight in RP3	Identification of NSA processes for target setting and performance plan production for RP3	Q2 2019
Performance and financial oversight in RP3	Identification of NSA processes for monitoring of RP3 performance targets	Q4 2020

Table 17: Timescales for topics to be discussed in the PERF WG

6.5 SO WG

Topic	Expected output	Timescales
Risk-based oversight best practices	Inclusion of examples of RBO implementation in 'Guidelines for RBO by NSAs' v1.0	Q4 2018
Risk-based oversight best practices	Sharing of experiences on risk-based oversight methods and processes currently in place within NSAs	Q2 2019
Approval and oversight of remote towers	Sharing of experience from NSAs currently involved in the approval and oversight of Remote Towers	Q2 2019
Approval and oversight of remote towers	Coordination with the IOP WG on interoperability issues (if any identified)	Q2 2019
Approval and oversight of remote towers	Identification of lessons learnt and common practices	Q2 2019
Application and oversight of Regulation 2017/373 - Common Requirements ¹³	Assessment of the impact of the Common Requirements regulation on NSAs' roles and responsibilities (including feedback to EASA)	Q4 2019
Application and oversight of Regulation 2017/373 - Common Requirements ¹³	Sharing experiences of changes implemented by NSAs as a result of the Common Requirements Regulation	Q4 2019
Performance and financial oversight in RP3	Identification of NSA processes for monitoring of RP3 safety performance targets	Q4 2020

Table 18: Timescales for topics to be discussed in the SO WG

¹³ Topic previously led by the IOP WG

6.6 SESAR WG

Topic	Expected output	Timescales
Implications of emerging technologies	Assessment of the impact of the updated PCP regulation and the CP2 regulation on NSAs' role in SESAR Deployment and oversight activities.	Q4 2018
Streamlining reporting mechanisms	Identify potential ways in which to streamline reporting mechanisms, in cooperation with the Commission and all relevant stakeholders	Q4 2018
Implications of emerging technologies	Sharing of experiences of changes introduced by NSAs as a result of the updated PCP regulation and the CP2 regulation	Q2 2019
Impact of drones on the work of NSAs	Identification of potential impacts of the introduction of drones on the work of NSAs	Q3 2019
Streamlining reporting mechanisms	Cooperate with the Commission and all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of updated and/or new reporting mechanism	Q4 2019
The role of NSAs in cyber-security	Share NSAs' work and experience related to cyber-security activities and exercises	Q4 2019
The role of NSAs in cyber-security	Discuss the impact of new regulations related to cyber-security on the role of NSAs	Q2 2020
Impact of drones on the work of NSAs	Sharing of experiences from NSAs on challenges faced due to the introduction of drones and their impact on ATM	Q2 2020
Impact of drones on the work of NSAs	Identification of common practices for addressing the impact of drones on ATM	Q2 2021

Table 19: Timescales for topics to be discussed in the SESAR WG