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DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT

Directorate E - Aviation and international transport affairs
E.2 - Single European sky

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Mr Massimo Garbini
Managing Director
SESAR Deployment Alliance
100, avenue de Cortenbergh

B-1000 Brussels

Subject: SESAR Deployment Manager as Data-Link Services (DLS) implementation project manager within the SESAR Deployment Framework

Dear Mr Garbini,

I am pleased to inform you that we approve the final version of the DLS recovery plan submitted on 17 October as part of the SESAR Deployment Manager's *DLS Implementation Strategy towards Initial Trajectory Information Sharing*.

As already indicated in Mr Rahuoja's letter of 25 February 2015, and subject to your acceptance, the SESAR Deployment Manager should now assume the role of DLS implementation project manager responsible for organizing, implementing and monitoring the activities identified in the recovery plan as necessary for the implementation of the DLS transitional solution and the preparatory actions for the full achievement of the European target solution, Model D, in order to achieve the implementation of AF6 in accordance with the deadlines defined in the PCP Regulation.

This role shall include managing the overall set-up, steering and coordination of the technical approach through:

- Identification of homogeneous service area starting from thorough analysis of the current situation in EU Member States;
- Definition of the target ground architecture per service area in cooperation with the local stakeholders;
- Interconnection of sub-networks within each service area to achieve a European distributed network and a European common approach;
- Updated CBA and expected contribution to SES performance objectives.

These "architect" tasks shall be performed in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, in particular the SESAR Joint Undertaking, the Network Manager, the European Aviation Safety Agency and the European Defense Agency.

Please note the DLS recovery plan is also referred to in the 2016 CEF call for proposals, published on 13 October 2016, serving as reference for applications addressing DLS implementation, which has been identified as a priority topic under the SESAR common projects category of the call.

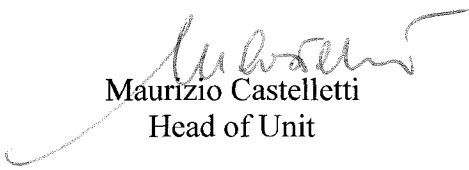
Therefore, the Deployment Manager's role as DLS implementation project manager shall also be to facilitate a proactive and direct involvement of all the relevant stakeholders to ensure a coordinated submission of all required DLS implementation projects and related activities to the CEF Transport Calls for proposals, also enabling projects to stimulate the establishment of a single European DLS governance.

Please note that the applications for implementation projects submitted under the CEF calls for proposals will be evaluated and awarded in accordance with the usual CEF processes and procedures.

You shall perform this role, if you choose to accept it, in the framework of the third Specific Grant Agreement between the DG MOVE and the SDM under the Framework Partnership agreement No. MOVE/E2-2014-717/SESAR FPA.

I would like to ask you to confirm your agreement to accept the proposed role as quickly as possible in order to start the necessary activities without delay.

Yours sincerely,



Maurizio Castelletti
Head of Unit

Annex: Data Link Services (DLS) Recovery plan.