

MEETING OF THE VATSIM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
QUARTER 4 2012
SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY 2013 2000Z
LOCATION: ONLINE (TEAMSPEAK)

PRESENT:

- Apostolos Damkalis (AD) – RD VATSIM Europe
- Alfred Tang (AT) – RD VATSIM Asia
- Daniel Abellá (DA) – RD VATSIM South America
- Thomas Mathieu (TM) – Acting RD VATSIM Africa Middle East
- Nicola Felini (NF) – RD VATSIM North America
- Mark Richards (MR, Chair) – RD VATSIM Oceania
- Anastasios Stefapoulos (AS) – DRD VATSIM Asia
- Peter Nielsen (PN) – Vice President Regions
- Thomas George (TG) – Vice President Web Services

1. WELCOME

Meeting Opened at 20:08 hours.

MR welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially to Nicola who was attending his first meeting in his new role as Regional Director for VATSIM North America and to Apostolos Damkalis as the new RD for VATSIM Europe.

The meeting also acknowledged the work of Ilan Jonas who had stood down this month as VATSIM's longest serving Regional Director.

2. APOLOGIES

None received.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion: Minutes from the previous meeting be taken as read and accepted.

Moved: AT. Seconded: MR. Motion Carried.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

a. *VAP UPDATE (DA)*

DA has taken over the VAP from Ilan Jonas. DA briefed the new members of the EC about the VAP so that they were fully briefed. There has not been much movement on this. DA to send Ilan's PowerPoint presentation to the EC Mailing List.

b. *LANGUAGES ON DIVISION WEBSITES (PN)*

PN noted that there has been some improvement in the number of Division Websites that are now

in English. AT advised that VATSIM Korea had updated their Website to have an English version within two weeks. VATSIM Mexico is the only division in North America that doesn't have an English version of their Website. There are a couple of vACCs in Europe that will need to update and add an English version. *c/f. Review at next meeting*

c. DATA SERVICES UPDATE (TG)

MR invited TG to give the meeting an update on Web Services since he took over the role in January.

The biggest note was the introduction of member self-reactivations with 961 users reactivating their membership using the Self-reactivation tool. The meeting acknowledged the excellent work that TG did to get this implemented so quickly.

Supervisor Web Pages are in the process of being updated and the EC should see these soon.

Development is underway to create a VATSIM Administration Interface that will cover the following, and more:

- Replacement of CERT with new tools and better tracking
- More management systems for all areas of VATSIM
- Bringing a number of admin systems into one application
- Will store data better and therefore quicker to retrieve
- Database cleaner
- Greater ability for Regions to create stats for their Region and Divisions

TG and his team are working on new front end Website for VATSIM – more intelligent than previous, including displaying things based on the location of the user's IP address so that they can tailor what information is displayed to be of more use to the user.

Some of the other details will see improved stats and recording of flight an ATC data, which will tie into VAP.

PN called on the EC members to provide details of anything they feel that is needed to improve VATSIM to be forwarded through MR.

d. NETWORK DEVELOPMENT (MR)

MR had no information. TG advised that there was still work being done on the Open Source Pilot Client but no timeframe could be given.

e. GRP UPDATE ON PROCEDURAL TOWERS

MR outlined VATPAC's view on Procedural Towers. EuroScope plugins such as TAAATSmod used in Australia reflects only traffic that would be seen in the real world because it emulates radar control heads and ADS-B stations so effectively operate a procedural tower correctly without use of the scope.

DA advises that they are now using APP for Procedural Towers in South America instead of TWR.

The general feeling of the meeting was that the current GRP are placing restrictions for endorsement on the Tower controllers and putting up a barrier for these users.

ACTION: MR to rewrite the GRP section on Procedural Towers to be passed by email vote in the EC email list

5. BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPORT (PN)

Florian Harms has stood down as VP Marketing and Strategic Planning and are currently looking for a replacement. The meeting acknowledged Flo's commitment to the role and the BoG over a long time. The BoG is very pleased in the way that the EC is working and the work that is being done.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

a. *COMBINED EC/BOG MEETING (PN)*

PN outlined that while he and SC were keen for a combined meeting between the BoG and EC, he advised that some members of the BoG weren't comfortable. All RDs present expressed their enthusiasm for a combined meeting so PN will take this back to make arrangements for one over the next quarter.

b. *FORMAL RATIFICATION OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING BUSINESS*

Following a Special General Meeting via email closing on 22 February 2013, the EC voted to amend section 4.5 of the Global Ratings Policy to allow for solo validations for users training to be Enroute Controllers.

In addition, the EC voted to remove CWOY and CYBQ from the list of Major Airports in Appendix B.

Motion: To formally ratify the votes conducted by email to amend Section 4.5 of the Global Ratings Policy and to remove CWOY and CYQB as Major Airports.

Moved: MR. Seconded: NF. All FOR. Motion carried.

c. *EC POLICIES ON THE VATSIM WEBSITE*

MR flagged that the current VATSIM policies are scattered in different places across the VATSIM website making it difficult for users to locate them. Unfortunately, MR only has access to the EC Policies section of the Website so can't update to the library.

If the EC have a suggestion on how to change things, let TG know.

d. *OTHER BUSINESS (ALL)*

e. *INACTIVE DIVISIONS:*

Motion: To move into Executive Session.

Moved: NF. Seconded: MR. All FOR. Motion carried.

Motion: To move out of Executive Session.

Moved: MR. Seconded: NF. All FOR. Motion carried.

The EC offered support to NF to in his efforts to re-establish an active Division in Mexico and AT in South East Asia.

f. *VATSIM PRC*

AT advised that VATSIM PRC (People's Republic of China) is looking for a web developer for the Division Website. AT looking at the Divisions in Asia to look to amalgamate resources given that many of his Divisions are struggling to maintain membership and motivation. The EC offered its support to Alfred.

g. CLOSING REAL WORLD CONTROL TOWERS

NF flagged that VATUSA is looking into how to best handle the FAA's decision to close a significant number of real world airports in the USA. NF is working with the Division Director of VATUSA, Don Defose, to handle this at a Division level.

h. OVERLAND FSS IN AFRICA

TM noted that the overland trial for Africa had been going on for months with no resolution. IJ or TM to speak to Luca to establish if there are any issues with the Network.

Action: TM to brief incoming VATAM RD to write proposed amendment to GRP for Africa Overland FSS.

Motion to close the meeting.

Moved: MR. Seconded: NF. 2154Z.