

MEETING OF THE VATSIM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
QUARTER 1 – 2014
SATURDAY 12TH APRIL 2014 20:00Z
LOCATION: ONLINE (TEAMSPEAK)

PRESENT:

- Amir Paz (AP) – RD VATSIM Africa Middle East
- Anastasios Stefopoulos (AS) – RD VATSIM Asia
- Stephan Reitingner (AD) – DRD VATSIM Europe
- Nicola Felini (NF) – RD VATSIM North America
- Mark Richards (MR, Chair) – RD VATSIM Oceania
- Federico Navarro (FN) – RD VATSIM South America

1. WELCOME

Meeting Opened at 20:05 hours. Special welcome to FN to his first EC meeting and to AS whose appointment as RD Asia had been announced a few hours before the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Peter Nielsen (PN) – Vice President Regions
Apostolos Damkalis (AD) – RD VATSIM Europe

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

Moved: MR. Seconded: NF. MOTION CARRIED.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

a. TRANSFER & VISITING CONTROLLER POLICY

- i. This is to be held over while a complete review of VATSIM CoR 1.01A is reviewed and distributed by the BoG, as there has to be a flow over into the T&VC policy.
- ii. There has been no update on these changes so this is still a work in progress.

b. SOLO VALIDATION COMPLIANCE

- i. All RDs have reminded the divisions about the need to upload the Solo Validations to main list.
- ii. Regions to continue monitor this.
- iii. MR to send out the details to the EC Email list on how to create the lists to have them appear in the VATSIM 'official' Solo Validation list (http://www.vatsim.net/atc_solo)
- iv. SR advised the meeting that a group of VFR enthusiasts in Germany had questioned about extending Solo validations for them to open the tower for a number of small General Aviation airports in Germany. The GRP allows for S1 controllers to open up to and including

Tower positions so it was agreed that this was the best way for Germany to progress this without the requirement for amendments to the GRP.

- c. UPDATE ON AFRICA DIVISIONS
 - i. There has been no update on combining the Africa divisions and AP is still working with the Divisions to achieve this.
- d. POLITICAL SITUATION IN AFRICA/MIDDLE EAST
 - i. AP circulated a document to the EC regarding aircraft flying into the Gaza airport (which no longer exists in real world)
 - ii. This will be published as a Region policy
 - iii. AD and SR are similarly monitoring the situation in Ukraine.
- e. SOUTH EAST ASIA DIVISION DIRECTOR UPDATE
 - i. AS updated the meeting on VATSEA. All members of the Division staff resigned. Alfred Tang had been acting Division Director while he was RD and AS has now taken this over until new staff can be appointed.
 - ii. VATSEA have moved to ATSIM for their ATC training, which is working well so far.
 - iii. Callum Strawbridge is Acting Training Director looking after ATC and Pilot training. Callum gathering all theory material for each rating into one webpage. Planning in the near future to build the INS Academy of VATSEA.
 - iv. Events are being planned to attract more members.
 - v. Considering use of the VATSIM Hit Squad to assist in increasing ATC coverage
 - vi. Open Skies is working very well in VATSEA.
- f. UPDATE ON VATSIM EUROPE STAFF POSITIONS
 - i. SR updated the meeting to confirm that new appointments have been made and AD and he are working to improve their skills and enhance the output they have.

5. BOARD OF GOVERNORS REPORT

As no one from the BoG was able to be present, no report was received.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

a. *GRP REVIEW*

MR was pleased with the discussion that had taken place in the EC Email list regarding a review of the GRP.

It was agreed that at this time a full review of the GRP was not needed but that the all Regional Directors needed to monitor compliance by all Divisions.

NF highlighted an issue in the Solo Validation section in that it related to an Approach Solo Validated controller only being able to control one airfield, where often an Approach facility may in fact provide control services for more than one airport and that pilots would expect the same service irrespective of whether the Controller was rated or under a solo validation.

Motion: That Section 4.5(a)(1) of the VATSIM Global Ratings Policy be amended to read - "Be limited to one training approach facility (i.e. TRACON/TMA), and"

Moved: NF. Seconded: MR. MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: MR to amend and publish a revised GRP.

b. *VATSIM AFRICA/MIDDLE EAST*

Thomas Mathieu is stepping down as DRD in two weeks so AP is looking for a new DRD.

Mahmoud Fadli stepping down as Middle East Division Director due to work commitments so AP will be looking for a replacement.

Jordanian vACC have an arrangement with a local fixed based 737 simulator and they get free use of the simulator to enhance their skills at a weekly meeting to share their skills and this is really helping to bring local members together. AP has confirmed that there are no commercial conflicts between this venture and VATSIM.

c. *REGION PILOT RATING ATO*

NF is looking to establish a Region Pilot Rating ATO as all ATOs in the North America Region require VA membership and a number of members do not have the time to commit to a Virtual Airline.

d. *SOUTH AMERICA*

New Region website and new logo have been published and FN has updated the VATSIM Website.

DD of VATSUR Pablo Maciel has stepped down. The new DD of VATSUR is Fernando Bueno. There is no DD at VATCA so looking to merge the two divisions into one Division.

New Guyanas FIR opened for the first time.

FN noted that Colombia was spelled wrong in the VATSIM Code of Regulations. **ACTION: FN to email PN with the correction so that the BoG can make the amendments.**

FN questioned with there should be better definition of the requirements for a C3 and I3 rating in the GRP. MR outlined the history to this and that they were intentionally not added to the GRP to provide some autonomy for Regions to handle these ratings in the way they see fit. Most other Regions are using them to signify substantial commitment and ability as a Controller or Instructor over time and are not issuing too many.

e. *DEVELOPING DIVISIONS MENTORS*

NF has suggested that we investigate the concept of 'mentors' or a 'hit squad' of experienced members to assist newly appointed staff or Divisions trying to re-establish to provide support and ideas or to assist when a Division is unable to staff a role.

NF to provide some more to the Email list but there was overwhelming support from all present for this to eventuate.

f. *VP SUPERVISORS*

The meeting noted that Jeff Turner had announced his retirement as VP Supervisors in the VATSIM Forums and that Thomas Mathieu is also stepping down as assistant to the VP Supervisors.

The EC acknowledged the work that both Jeff and Thomas had provided to the Network and the Supervisor group in their time in the role.

Meeting closed at 21:45z.