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Subject:	<i>Council meeting (<u>Transport, Telecommunications and Energy</u>) on 3 December 2014</i> Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the implementation of the Single European Sky (recast) - General approach

I. INTRODUCTION

On 12 June 2013, the Commission transmitted to the Council and to the European Parliament the above-mentioned proposal. The purpose of this proposal is to improve the competitiveness of the European air transport system and in particular to further develop the Single European Sky (SES) initiative by means of a recast of the existing SES legislative package and some amendments to the EASA Regulation, adopted in 2009. More explicitly, the Single European Sky recast (known under the abbreviation of SES 2+) aims to introduce improvements in the oversight of rules, the performance scheme, the Functional Airspace Blocks (FABs), the customer focus of the service providers and in overall performance.

Moreover, the SES 2+ package will simplify the legislation by eliminating certain overlaps in the current legislation. The key problems addressed by the proposal are the insufficient efficiency of the air navigation services and the fragmentation of the Air Traffic Management (ATM) system.

II. WORK WITHIN THE COUNCIL BODIES

The Commission presented this proposal and its impact assessment to the Aviation Working Party (hereinafter referred to as the "Working Party") on 2 September 2013, during the Lithuanian Presidency, followed by an exchange of views. This first presentation of the proposal was a stepping stone for the informal meeting of the EU Transport Ministers 'Single European Sky - Delivering the Future: Vision 20XX' (Vilnius, 15-16 September 2013). The exchange of views continued under the Greek Presidency at the Working Party on 20 June 2014.

This proposal is closely linked to the other proposal of the above-mentioned legislative package, the Regulation establishing the European Aviation Safety Agency (hereinafter the 'EASA Regulation'). For the EASA Regulation, the Presidency's approach has been to examine only those articles which are directly linked to the SES 2+ recast proposal. This solution has been chosen by taking into account that fact that the Commission is expected to submit a separate proposal on the overall revision of the EASA Regulation in its entirety in the course of 2015.

The article-by-article examination of the SES 2+ recast proposal by the Working Party began under the Italian Presidency on 4 July and continued intensively through the months of September, October and November 2014.

On 26 November 2014, the draft general approach was submitted to the Permanent Representatives Committee (Coreper). During this meeting, several delegations expressed, in general, their support for the Presidency compromise text, while others reiterated their concerns on some issues and presented new drafting suggestions. The Presidency took note of the delegations' concerns and, in order to solve some outstanding issues and to facilitate reaching a general approach, accepted some of the proposals tabled by the delegations.

The only remaining issue which still needs to be discussed concerns the application of the SES 2+ recast proposal to the Gibraltar airport.

The changes in the Annex to this report compared to the Annex to the report to Coreper are indicated in **bold** and ~~striketrough~~. All delegations have a scrutiny reservation on the new changes introduced following the Coreper meeting.

Furthermore, the Commission fully reserves its position on the entire compromise proposal, pending the negotiations with the European Parliament. Other concerns and reservations expressed by the Commission appear in the footnotes in the Annex to this report.

UK has a parliamentary scrutiny reservation.

III. WORK WITHIN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The European Parliament's Committee on Transport and Tourism appointed Marian-Jean MARINESCU (EPP, RO) as rapporteur on this file. The European Parliament voted on this proposal at first reading on 12 March 2014.

IV. CONCLUSION

In the light of the above, at its meeting on 3 December 2014, the Council is invited to examine the text as set out in the Annex to this report, to resolve the last outstanding issues and to adopt a general approach.

2013/0186 (COD)

Proposal for a

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

on the implementation of the Single European Sky¹

(recast)

(Text with EEA relevance)

**CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Subject matter and scope

Article 1

1. This Regulation lays down rules for the creation and effective functioning of the Single European Sky in order to ensure current air traffic safety standards, to contribute to the sustainable development of the air transport system and to improve the overall performance of air traffic management and air navigation services (ATM/ANS) for general air traffic in Europe, with a view to meeting the requirements of all airspace users. The Single European Sky shall comprise a coherent pan-European network of routes, a progressively more integrated airspace², network management and air traffic management systems based on safety, efficiency and interoperability, for the benefit of all airspace users.

¹ For the OJ: *'This Regulation shall be published together with the EASA Regulation (EC) [No XXXXX.] This will ensure that both regulations enter into force at the same time.'*

² The Presidency proposes to explain the concept of integrated airspace in a recital as follows: *"While in the European airspace the air traffic services are provided by more than one provider, designated by one or more Member States to operate on an exclusive basis, each one retaining its own responsibility for its services, these services should be provided to the maximum extent possible on the basis of the same concept of operation, the same operational and support procedures."*

2. The application of this Regulation shall be without prejudice to Member States' sovereignty over their airspace and to the requirements of the Member States relating to public order, public security and defence matters, as set out in Article 35. This Regulation does not cover military operations and training.
3. The application of this Regulation shall be without prejudice to the rights and duties of Member States under the 1944 Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation (the Chicago Convention). In this context, this Regulation seeks to assist, in the fields it covers, Member States in fulfilling their obligations under the Chicago Convention, by providing a basis for a common interpretation and uniform implementation of its provisions, and by ensuring that these provisions are duly taken into account in this Regulation and in the rules drawn up for its implementation.
4. This Regulation shall apply to the airspace within the ICAO EUR³ region where Member States are responsible for the provision of air traffic services. Member States may also apply this Regulation to airspace under their responsibility within other ICAO regions, on condition that they inform the Commission and the other Member States thereof.
5. ~~The application of this Regulation to the airport of Gibraltar is understood to be without prejudice to the respective legal positions of the Kingdom of Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland with regard to the dispute over sovereignty over the territory in which the airport is situated.~~^{4 5}

³ Commission opposes the deletion of the reference to the NAT region.

⁴ UK cannot accept the addition of the text proposed by Spain in footnote 5 as the TFEU is clear that EU aviation legislation applies to Gibraltar. Gibraltar is already included in the existing SES legislation and there is no reason for Gibraltar to be excluded from continuing participation in these measures.

⁵ ES opposes the deletion of paragraph 5 and proposes the addition of the following paragraph: "*The application of this Regulation to Gibraltar airport shall be suspended until the arrangements in the Joint Declaration made by the Foreign Ministers of the Kingdom of Spain and the United Kingdom on 2 December 1987 enter into operation. The Governments of Spain and the United Kingdom will inform the Council of such date of entry into operation.*"

Article 2

Definitions

For the purpose of this Regulation, the following definitions shall apply:

1. 'air traffic control (ATC) service' means a service provided for the purpose of:
 - (a) preventing collisions:
 - between aircraft, and
 - in the manoeuvring area between aircraft and obstructions; and
 - (b) expediting and maintaining an orderly flow of air traffic;
2. 'aerodrome control service' means an ATC service for aerodrome traffic;
3. 'aeronautical information service' means a service established within the defined area of coverage responsible for the provision of aeronautical information and data necessary for the safety, regularity, and efficiency of air navigation;
4. 'air navigation services (ANS)' means air traffic services; communication, navigation and surveillance services (CNS); meteorological services for air navigation (MET); and aeronautical information services (AIS);
5. 'air navigation service providers' means any public or private entity providing air navigation services for general air traffic;

6. 'airspace block' means an airspace of defined dimensions, in space and time, within which air navigation services are provided;
7. 'airspace management' means a planning function or service with the primary objective of maximising the utilisation of available airspace by dynamic time-sharing and, at times, the segregation of airspace among various categories of airspace users on the basis of short-term needs;
8. 'airspace users' means operators of aircraft operated as general air traffic;
9. 'air traffic flow management' means a function or service established with the objective of contributing to a safe, orderly and expeditious flow of air traffic by ensuring that ATC capacity is utilised to the maximum extent possible, and that the traffic volume is compatible with the capacities declared by the appropriate air traffic service providers;
10. 'air traffic management (ATM)' means the aggregation of the airborne and ground-based functions or services (air traffic services, airspace management and air traffic flow management) required to ensure the safe and efficient movement of aircraft during all phases of operations;
11. 'air traffic services' means the various flight information services, alerting services, air traffic advisory services and ATC services (area, approach and aerodrome control services);
12. 'area control service' means an ATC service for controlled flights in control areas;
- 12a. 'control area' means a controlled airspace extending upwards from a specified limit above the earth;

13. ‘approach control service’ means an ATC service for arriving or departing controlled flights;
14. ‘ATM Master Plan’ means the plan endorsed by Council Decision 2009/320/EC⁶, in accordance with Article 1(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 219/2007 of 27 February 2007 on the establishment of a Joint Undertaking to develop the new generation European air traffic management system (SESAR)⁷;
15. ‘network crisis’ means a state of inability to provide ATM/ANS at required level resulting in a major loss of network capacity, or a major imbalance between network capacity and demand, or a major failure in the information flow in one or several parts of the network following an unusual and unforeseen situation;
16. ‘bundle of services’ means two or more air navigation services;
17. ‘certificate’ means a document issued by the European Agency for Aviation (EEA) or by a national supervisory authority in any form complying with applicable law, which confirms that an ATM/ANS service provider meets the requirements for providing a specific service;
18. ‘communication services’ means aeronautical fixed and mobile services to enable ground-to-ground, air-to-ground and air-to-air communications for ATC purposes;
- 18a. ‘European air traffic management network’ (EATMN) means the collection of systems listed in Annex V b of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 February 2008 ... enabling air navigation services in the Union to be provided, including the interfaces at boundaries with third countries;

⁶ OJ L 95, 9.4.2009, p. 41.

⁷ OJ L 64, 2.3.2007, p. 1., as amended by Council Regulations (EC) No 1361/2008 and No 219/2014 (OJ L 352, 31.12.2008 and OJ L 192, 1.7.2014).

19. 'constituents' means tangible objects such as hardware and intangible objects such as software upon which the interoperability of the European Air Traffic management Network (EATMN) depends;
20. 'declaration' means, for purposes of ATM/ANS, declaration as defined in Article 3(ea) of Regulation (EC) 216/2008;
- 20a. 'Eurocontrol' is the European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation set up by the International Convention of 13 December 1960 relating to Cooperation for the Safety of Air Navigation;
21. 'flexible use of airspace' means an airspace management concept based on the fundamental principle that airspace should not be designated as either pure civil or military airspace, but rather be considered as a continuum in which all user requirements have to be accommodated to the extent possible;
22. 'flight information service' means a service provided for the purpose of giving advice and information useful for the safe and efficient conduct of flights;
23. 'alerting service' means a service provided to notify relevant organisations regarding aircraft in need of search and rescue aid, and to assist such organisations as required;
24. 'functional airspace block' means an airspace block based on operational requirements and established regardless of State boundaries, where the provision of ATM/ANS and related functions are performance-driven and optimised with a view to introducing, in each functional airspace block, enhanced cooperation among ATM/ANS providers or, where appropriate, an integrated provider;

25. 'general air traffic' means all movements of civil aircraft, as well as all movements of State aircraft (including military, customs and police aircraft) when these movements are carried out in conformity with the procedures of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), as established by the 1944 Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation;
26. 'interoperability' means a set of functional, technical and operational properties required of the systems and constituents of the EATMN and of the procedures for its operation, in order to enable its safe, seamless and efficient operation. Interoperability is achieved by making the systems and constituents compliant with the essential requirements;
27. 'meteorological services' means those facilities and services that provide aircraft with meteorological forecasts, warnings, briefings and observations as well as any other meteorological information and data provided by States for aeronautical use;
28. 'navigation services' means those facilities and services that provide aircraft with positioning and timing information;
29. 'operational data' means information concerning all phases of flight that are required to take operational decisions by air navigation service providers, airspace users, airport operators and other actors involved;
30. 'putting into service' means the first operational use after the initial installation or an upgrade of a system;
31. 'route network' means a network of specified routes for channelling the flow of general air traffic as necessary for the provision of ATC services;
32. 'surveillance services' means those facilities and services used to determine the respective positions of aircraft to allow safe separation;

33. 'system' means the aggregation of airborne and ground-based constituents, as well as space-based equipment, that provides support for air navigation services for all phases of flight;
34. 'upgrade' means any modification that changes the operational characteristics of a system;
35. 'cross-border services' means any situation where air navigation services are provided in one Member State by a service provider certified in another Member State. ;
36. 'national supervisory authority' means the national body or bodies entrusted by a Member State with the tasks under this Regulation and in accordance with Articles 8b and 8c of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008;
37. 'support services' means CNS (communication, navigation and surveillance), MET (meteorological)⁸ and AIS (aeronautical information) services.
- 37a. 'performance plan' means the various plans established at national, functional airspace blocks or network level to improve the performance of ATM/ANS providers.
38. 'local performance targets' means performance targets adopted by the Member States at local level, namely at functional airspace block, national, charging zone or airport level.

⁸ Presidency proposes the following clarification in a recital: "*In cases where MET service providers are designated by Member States in accordance with Article 9bis, MET services should be excluded from the support services to be provided centrally referred to in Article 10(5).*"

CHAPTER II

NATIONAL AUTHORITIES

Article 3

National Supervisory Authorities

1. Member States shall, jointly or individually, either nominate or establish a body or bodies as their national supervisory authority in order to assume the tasks assigned to such authority under this Regulation.
- 1a. The national supervisory authorities shall exercise their powers impartially, independently and transparently. In particular, they shall be organised, staffed, managed and financed so as to allow them to exercise their powers in that manner. (*moved from para. 5*)
2. The national supervisory authorities shall be independent, in particular in organisational, hierarchical and decision-making terms, from any air navigation service providers. This independence shall not prevent those entities from exercising their tasks within a common civil service framework.

- 2a. The national supervisory authorities shall be either legally or functionally distinct from the air navigation service providers.^{9 10}
- 2b. In the case where the national supervisory authorities are not legally distinct from the air navigation service providers, the Member States concerned shall inform the Commission on the measures they have taken to ensure that they meet the requirements of paragraph 2 and shall document how this separation is achieved, showing the effectiveness of the authorities' independence. To this end, where the national supervisory authority and the air navigation service provider are part of the same administration, the national supervisory authority shall not seek nor take instructions from a hierarchical¹¹ level of that administration having authority over the air navigation service providers, as far as their tasks referred to in Article 4 and related decisions are concerned. In addition, the air navigation service provider shall have no decision-making power over the allocation of the budget of the national supervisory authority.

⁹ PCY proposes to explain the interpretation of this provision in recital 10: "*To ensure the consistent and sound oversight of service provision across Europe, the national supervisory authorities should be guaranteed sufficient independence and resources. Notwithstanding the overall political control by the relevant ministry, this independence should be achieved, inter alia, through a separation in the ~~direct~~ hierarchical structures of the NSAs and ANSPs. To this end, these entities should carry out their tasks without interference in each other's functions and decision-making processes.*"

¹⁰ PCY proposes the following new recital to explain the concept of separation for those NSAs which are not legally distinct from ANSPs: "*It is essential that national supervisory authorities apply this Regulation in a uniform manner, including when they are not legally distinct bodies. Member States should ensure that national supervisory authorities are able to perform the tasks entrusted to them as functionally distinct bodies, that is with appropriate independence and autonomy, in particular vis-à-vis the air navigation service providers, so as to avoid any conflicts of interest. To that end, the NSAs and the staff under their control should carry out their work in a manner ensuring their autonomy and independence with regard to the air navigation service providers through an appropriate, tangible and effective division.*"

¹¹ PCY proposes the following new recital: "*Specific conditions should be set to ensure independence in hierarchical terms between the national supervisory authority and the air navigation service provider, which means that the tasks referred to in Article 4 and related decisions of the national supervisory authority are not influenced by any person holding hierarchical authority over the concerned air navigation service provider.*"

3. Without prejudice to paragraph 2, the national supervisory authorities may be joined in organisational terms with other regulatory bodies and/or safety authorities.
4. [..]
5. [..]
6. Staff of the national supervisory authorities shall:
 - (a) be recruited under clear and transparent processes which ensure their independence;
 - (b) be selected on the basis of their specific qualifications, including appropriate competence and relevant experience or subject to an appropriate training;
 - (c) act independently, in particular by avoiding conflicts of interest between air navigation service provision and the execution of their tasks;
- 6a. ¹²Persons in charge of strategic decisions shall refrain from any direct or indirect interest that may be considered prejudicial to their independence and which may influence the performance of their functions. To that effect, they shall make an annual declaration of commitment and declaration of interests indicating any direct or indirect interests.
7. Member States shall ensure that national supervisory authorities have the necessary resources and capabilities to carry out the tasks assigned to them under this Regulation in an efficient and timely manner. The national supervisory authorities shall manage their staff based on their own appropriations to be set in proportion to the tasks to be fulfilled by the authority in accordance with Article 4.

¹² Presidency proposes to add the following recital, to clarify the concept of persons in charge of strategic decisions: "*It is understood that the concept of persons in charge of strategic decisions applies only to a very limited number of high-ranking employees, in their capacity as top executives.*"

8. Member States shall notify the Commission of the names and addresses of the national supervisory authorities, as well as changes thereto, and of the measures taken to ensure compliance with this Article.
9. *[Deleted. Concept reflected in the reference to best practices in Article 5(1)]*

Article 4

Tasks of the national supervisory authorities

1. The national supervisory authorities referred to in Article 3 shall in particular:
 - (a) ensure the supervision of the application of this Regulation, in particular with regard to the safe and efficient operation of air navigation service providers which provide services relating to the airspace falling under the responsibility of the Member State which nominated or established the relevant authority;
 - (b) grant certificates to air navigation services providers in accordance with Article 8b of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 and oversee the application of the conditions under which they have been granted;
 - (c) issue licenses, ratings, endorsements and certificates for air traffic controllers in accordance with Article 8c of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 and oversee the application of the conditions under which they have been issued;
 - (d) draw up performance plans and monitor their implementation in accordance with Article 11;
 - (e) monitor the implementation of the charging scheme in accordance with Articles 12 and 13;

- (f) approve the conditions of access to operational data in accordance with Article 22, as may be required; and
 - (g) supervise declarations and the putting into service of systems.
 - (h) oversee the application of the conditions under which compliance is declared and oversee the continued compliance with the applicable requirements.
2. Each national supervisory authority shall organise proper inspections and surveys to verify compliance with the requirements of this Regulation. The air navigation service provider concerned shall facilitate such work.

Article 5

Co-operation between national supervisory authorities

1. The national supervisory authorities shall exchange, **as appropriate**, information about their work and decision-making principles, best practices and procedures as well as with regard to the application of this Regulation. To this end, the national supervisory authorities may participate and work together in a network that convenes at regular intervals. The Commission and the European Aviation Safety Agency (hereafter "EASA") shall participate, coordinate and support the work of the network and make recommendations to the network, as appropriate.

Subject to the rules on data protection provided for in Article 22 of this Regulation and in Regulation (EC) No 45/2001, the Commission and EASA shall support the exchange of the information referred to in the first subparagraph of this paragraph among the members of the network, possibly through electronic tools, respecting the confidentiality of commercially sensitive information of air navigation service providers.

2. The national supervisory authorities shall cooperate, where appropriate through working arrangements, for the purposes of mutual assistance in their monitoring tasks and handling of investigations and surveys. To this end, the national supervisory authorities may contribute to a pool of experts to be set up by EASA with a view to exchange and provide expertise in accordance with Article 17(2)(f) of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008.

3. In respect of functional airspace blocks that extend across the airspace falling under the responsibility of more than one Member State, the Member States concerned shall conclude an agreement on the supervision provided for in this Article with regard to the air navigation service providers providing services relating to those blocks. The national supervisory authorities concerned may establish a plan specifying the implementation of their co-operation with a view to giving effect to that agreement.
4. National supervisory authorities shall cooperate closely to ensure adequate supervision of air navigation service providers holding a valid certificate from one Member State that also provide services relating to the airspace falling under the responsibility of another Member State. Such cooperation shall include arrangements for the handling of cases involving non-compliance with this Regulation and with the applicable common requirements adopted in accordance with Article 8b(1) of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008.
5. In the case of provision of air navigation services in an airspace falling under the responsibility of another Member State, the arrangements referred to in paragraphs 2 and 4 shall include an agreement on the mutual recognition of the supervisory tasks set out in Article 4(1) and (2) and of the results of these tasks. This mutual recognition shall apply also where arrangements for recognition between national supervisory authorities are made for the certification process of service providers.
6. If permitted by national law and with a view to regional cooperation, national supervisory authorities may also conclude agreements regarding the division of responsibilities regarding supervisory tasks.

Article 6

Qualified entities

1. National supervisory authorities may decide to delegate in full or in part the inspections and surveys referred to in Article 4 (2) to qualified entities that fulfil the requirements set out in Annex V of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008. In addition they may allocate to qualified entities a specific certification or oversight task in accordance with Article 13 of that Regulation.
2. Such a delegation granted by a national supervisory authority shall be valid within the Union for a renewable period of three years. National supervisory authorities may instruct any of the qualified entities located in the Union to undertake these inspections and surveys.
3. Member States shall notify the Commission, EASA and the other Member States of the qualified entities to which tasks have been delegated in accordance with paragraph 1 indicating each entity's area of responsibility and its identification number and of any changes in this respect. The Commission shall publish in the *Official Journal of the European Union* the list of qualified entities, their identification numbers and areas of responsibility, and shall keep the list updated.
4. Member States shall ensure that the delegation of a qualified entity which no longer meets the requirements set out in Annex V of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 is withdrawn. They shall forthwith inform the Commission, EASA and the other Member States thereof.
5. Bodies nominated before the entry into force of this Regulation as notified bodies in accordance with Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 552/2004, shall be considered to be qualified entities for the purposes of this Article.

Article 7

Consultation of stakeholders

1. Member States and national supervisory authorities shall establish consultation mechanisms for appropriate involvement of stakeholders, in the implementation of the Single European Sky, in particular for the exercise of the national supervisory authorities' tasks as referred to in Article 4(1)(d).
2. The stakeholders may include:
 - air navigation service providers or relevant groups representing them,
 - airport operators or relevant groups representing them,
 - airspace users or relevant groups representing them,
 - the military,
 - the manufacturing industry,
 - professional staff representative bodies, and
 - national airport coordinators.

CHAPTER III SERVICE PROVISION

Article 8

Certification of air navigation service providers

1. The provision of all air navigation services within the Union shall be subject to certification by national supervisory authorities or EASA in accordance with Article 8b of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008.
2. The certification process shall also ensure that the applicants can demonstrate sufficient financial strength and have obtained appropriate liability and insurance cover, where this is not guaranteed by the Member State concerned.
3. The certificate shall provide for non-discriminatory access to services for airspace users, with particular regard to safety. Certification shall be subject to the conditions set out in Annex II.
4. The issue of certificates shall confer on air navigation service providers the possibility of offering their services to Member States, other air navigation service providers, airspace users and airports within the Union.

5. ¹³Notwithstanding paragraph 1, Member States may allow the provision of air navigation services in all or part of the airspace under their responsibility without certification in cases where the provider of such services offers them primarily to aircraft movements other than general air traffic. In those cases, the Member State concerned shall inform the Commission and the other Member States of its decision and of the measures taken to ensure maximum compliance with the common requirements and to offer, as far as practicable, a level of safety that is at least as effective as that required by the essential requirements as defined in Annexes Va and Vb of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008.
6. This Article shall be without prejudice to the possibility of declaration in accordance with Article 8b of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008.

Article 9

Designation of air traffic service providers

1. Member States shall ensure the provision of air traffic services on an exclusive basis within specific airspace blocks in respect of the airspace under their responsibility. For this purpose, Member States shall designate an air traffic service provider holding a valid certificate or declaration in the Union.

¹³ The old recitals 15, 16 of Regulation 550/2004, recitals 6, 14, 16, 17 of Regulation 551/2004, as well as recitals 7 and 22 of Regulation 549/2004 will be reinstated. The following modification to recital 17 will be added: "*Military operations and training should be safeguarded whenever the application of common principles and criteria is detrimental to their safe and efficient performance. In these cases they should not be considered as a source of inefficiency, provided that the flexible use of airspace concept is efficiently applied.*"

2. For the provision of cross-border services, Member States shall ensure that compliance with this Article and Article 18(3) is not prevented by their national legal system requiring that air traffic service providers providing services in the airspace under the responsibility of that Member State fulfil one of the following conditions :
 - (a) be owned directly or through a majority holding by that Member State or its nationals;
 - (b) have their principal place of operation or registered office in the territory of that Member State
 - (c) use only facilities in that Member State.
3. Member States shall define the rights and obligations to be met by the designated air traffic service providers. The obligations may include conditions for the timely supply of relevant information enabling all aircraft movements in the airspace under their responsibility to be identified. In case of the provision of cross-border services **under joint designation**, Member States shall agree on the rights and obligations to be met by the designated service provider, as well as on the relevant liability aspects and supervision.
4. Member States shall have discretionary powers in choosing an air traffic service provider, on condition that the latter is certified or declared in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 .

5. In respect of functional airspace blocks established in accordance with Article 16 that extend across the airspace under the responsibility of more than one Member State, the Member States concerned shall jointly designate, in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article, one or more air traffic service providers, at least one month before implementation of the airspace block. Joint designations shall enable air traffic service providers to provide cross-border services within the functional airspace block. *(moved from art. 16.6)*
6. Member States shall inform the Commission and other Member States immediately of any decision within the framework of this Article regarding the designation of air traffic service providers within specific airspace blocks in respect of the airspace under their responsibility.

Article 9bis

Designation of providers of meteorological services¹⁴

1. Member States may designate a provider of meteorological services to supply all or part of meteorological data on an exclusive basis in all or part of the airspace under their responsibility, taking into account safety considerations.
2. Member States shall inform the Commission and other Member States without delay of any decision within the framework of this Article regarding the designation of a provider of meteorological services.

¹⁴ Presidency proposes to reinstate Recital 15 of Regulation 550/2004: *"On the basis of their analysis of safety considerations, Member States should be able to designate one or more providers of meteorological services in respect of all or part of the airspace under their responsibility, without the need to organise a call for tenders."*

Provision of support services

1. Member States may apply a competitive approach to the provision of one or more support services, in particular on the basis of a fair competitive tendering procedure and in accordance with Union law.

1a. Without prejudice to the possibility for air navigation service providers to operate a bundle of services, those Member States which have applied a competitive approach in accordance with paragraph 1, shall take all necessary measures to ensure that there are no statutory or regulatory impediments to providers of support services that prevent their ability to compete on an equitable, and non-discriminatory basis.

1b. [...] ¹⁵(former last sentence of para.1)

2. ¹⁶

3. [...].

4. [...]

5 (a) The Commission shall conduct an independent study assessing the feasibility of providing support services centrally, when they relate to the operations of the EATMN. The study shall

¹⁵ PCY proposes to add the following recital: *"Member States may decide to organise the provision of one or more support services under market conditions. In such case, national rules should continue to apply, including the possibility and modalities of limitation of the access to the market, in accordance with the relevant principles of Union law."*

¹⁶ The PCY proposes to replace this paragraph with the following recital: *"Any consideration of possible harmonisation of competitive provision of support services, should be based on a cost-benefit analysis covering at least the following: the impact of competition on service provision, the cost efficiency and quality of service provision, the safety of service provision, Member States' ability to meet their ICAO obligations and governance and social aspects."*

cover the overall estimated costs and benefits of the provision of a specific support service or part thereof, in consultation with Member States and operational stakeholders¹⁷, in particular the air navigation service providers concerned, and inform the Committee thereof. It shall also include governance aspects, impact on asset management, including investments, security and defence requirements, and the added value for the ATM network performance and for the air navigation services provided at national level.

¹⁷ Presidency proposes to insert in Article 2 the following definition of operational stakeholders taken from Regulation (EU) 677/2011: “*operational stakeholders means the civil and military airspace users, civil and military air navigation service providers, airport operators, airport slot coordinators and operating organisations and any additional stakeholder groups considered relevant for the individual functions and services*”.

(b) In case of a positive outcome of the study and without prejudice to arrangements to provide common support services within the framework of Article 16a, the Commission may decide, in accordance with Article 27(3), that one or more support services or parts thereof related to the operations of EATMN, may be provided centrally by the Network Manager, or by a group of air navigation service providers, acting for the benefit of operational stakeholders, in particular the air navigation service providers concerned¹⁸. Those support services or parts thereof shall not cover meteorological services when their providers are designated according to Article 9bis. The provision of support services centrally shall not imply any obligation for Member States to apply a competitive approach to the provision of those services, nor shall it imply the termination of the provision of those services at local and national level. This case shall not result in double charging for the airspace users. The Commission shall consult the operational stakeholders, in particular the air navigation service providers concerned, and ~~take~~ **base** its decision, as far as possible, ~~based~~ on their mutual agreement, and in respect of security and defence requirements. The Commission shall also specify the modalities for the operation of the services and for the selection of the providers, based on their ability to provide services in an impartial, **non-discriminatory** and cost-effective manner **ensuring equal access to the services for all operational stakeholders**, and shall appoint those providers. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with Article 27(3).

¹⁸ PCY suggests to add a recital as follows: "*The provision of support services by a group of air navigation service providers in a centralised manner should aim at a balanced geographical involvement of such providers.*"

Article 11

Performance scheme

1. To improve the performance of air navigation services and network functions and services in the Single European Sky, a performance scheme for air navigation services and network functions and services shall be set up. It shall include:
 - (a) Union-wide performance targets on the key performance areas of safety, the environment, capacity and cost-efficiency;
 - (b) performance plans, including performance targets, ensuring adequate contribution to the Union-wide performance targets; and
 - (c) periodic review, monitoring and benchmarking of the performance of air navigation services and network functions and services.

2. In accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 27(3), the Commission shall designate an independent, impartial and competent body to act as a ‘performance review body’, and select and appoint the chair and the members thereof. The role of the performance review body shall be to assist the Commission, in coordination with the national supervisory authorities, and to assist the national supervisory authorities on request in the implementation of the performance scheme referred to in paragraph 1 and the charging scheme referred to in Article 13. Technical assistance to the performance review body may be provided by EASA, Eurocontrol or another competent entity.

- 2a. The Commission shall establish the necessary competences, experience and independence requirements of the performance review body. It shall also establish the terms of reference and rules of procedure under which the performance review body shall conduct its activities in accordance with this Article. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 27(3).
3. The Commission shall establish Union-wide performance targets for the air traffic management network. In case that, during the reference period referred to in paragraph 7(j), the Commission finds that the initial data and assumptions, on the basis of which the Union-wide performance targets had been established, are no longer valid, due to triggering of alert thresholds, or to the introduction of centrally provided support services as referred to in Article 10(5) where appropriate, the Commission may decide to revise those targets. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 27(3).
 - 3a. Union-wide performance targets shall be defined on the basis of an analysis made by the performance review body taking into account the relevant inputs from Member States and national supervisory authorities at national or functional airspace blocks level.
 - 3aa. [...] (*moved to para.3*)
 - 3b. Prior to the establishment of Union-wide performance targets, the performance review body shall make available to the national supervisory authorities, the methodology and process for the evaluation of the performance plans. (*moved from para 4*).
 - 3c. The performance plans referred to in paragraph 1 shall be drawn up by national supervisory authorities and adopted by the Member State(s). These plans shall include binding local performance targets and incentive schemes as adopted by the Member State(s). The draft plans shall be subject to consultation with air navigation service providers, airspace users' representatives, and, where relevant, professional staff representatives, military authorities, airport operators and airport coordinators.

- 3d. Where a national or functional airspace block plan is jointly supported by the representatives of air navigation service providers, airspace users and, where relevant, aerodrome operators and airport coordinators concerned, the Commission shall take into account the written confirmation of such support in its assessment of the performance plans.
4. The contribution of the local performance targets to the Union-wide performance targets shall be assessed by the Commission, assisted by the performance review body. To this end, the performance review body shall share its preliminary findings with the national supervisory authorities before it submits its final recommendations to the Commission.
 - 4a. In the event that the Commission identifies that the performance plans or the local targets do not adequately contribute to the Union-wide targets , it may require the Member States concerned to take the necessary corrective measures. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 27(3).
5. The reference period for the performance scheme, referred to in paragraph 1, shall cover a minimum of three years and a maximum of five years.
6. The Commission shall carry out regular assessments of the achievement of the Union-wide and local performance targets and inform the Committee thereof.
7. The performance scheme referred to in paragraph 1 shall be based on:
 - (a) collection, validation, examination, evaluation and dissemination of relevant data related to the performance of air navigation services and network functions and services from all relevant parties, including ATM/ANS providers, airspace users, airport operators, national supervisory authorities, Member States, the Network Manager and Eurocontrol;

- (b) selection of appropriate key performance areas on the basis of ICAO Document No 9854 ‘Global air traffic management operational concept’, and consistent with those identified in the Performance Framework of the ATM Master Plan, including safety, the environment, capacity and cost-efficiency areas, adapted where necessary in order to take into account the Single European Sky objectives for these areas and definition of a limited set of key performance indicators for measuring performance;
- (c) establishment and revision of Union-wide and local performance targets;
- (d) criteria for the setting up by the national supervisory authorities of the performance plans. These criteria shall ensure that the performance plans:
 - (i) take into account the business plans of the air navigation service providers, as well as industrial partnerships and the operational plans referred to in Article 16(10), where available;
 - (ii) address all cost components of the national or functional airspace block cost base;
 - (iii) include binding local performance targets adequately contributing to the Union-wide performance targets;
 - (iv) include appropriate incentive schemes (*moved down from chapeau of subpara.*);
 - (v) consider the link between security and defence requirements and the use of airspace,
 - (vi) take into account the impact, in particular at local or national level, of the services provided centrally, where applicable.
- (e) assessment and, where appropriate, revision of the local performance targets, on the basis of the performance plan;
- (f) monitoring of the implementation of performance plans, including appropriate alert mechanisms;

- (g) criteria to assess whether local performance targets adequately contribute to the Union-wide performance targets during the reference period and to support alert mechanisms;
- (h) general principles for the setting up by Member States of the incentive scheme;
- (i) [...];
- (j) appropriate reference periods and intervals for the assessment of the achievement of performance targets and the setting of new targets;
- (k) the necessary related timetables;

The Commission shall lay down detailed rules for the proper functioning of the performance scheme in accordance with the points listed in this paragraph. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 27(3).¹⁹

8. The establishment of the performance scheme shall take into account that en route services, terminal services and network functions and services are different and should be treated accordingly, if necessary also for performance-measuring purposes.
9. Within two years following the publication of this Regulation the Commission shall conduct a study on the impact of operations of stakeholders other than ATM/ANS providers on the efficient functioning of the European ATM network and publish its results. The study shall aim to identify any additional key performance area and/or indicator able to capture the effect of those operations for the next reference periods.

¹⁹ Commission opposes the deletion of delegated acts.

Article 12

General provisions for the charging scheme

In accordance with the requirements of Articles 13 and 14, the charging scheme for air navigation services shall contribute to greater transparency in the determination, imposition and enforcement of charges to airspace users and shall contribute to the cost efficiency of providing air navigation services and to efficiency of flights, while maintaining an optimum safety level. The scheme shall also be consistent with Article 15 of the 1944 Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation and with Eurocontrol's charging system for en-route charges.

Article 13

Principles for the charging scheme

1. The charging scheme shall be based on the account of costs for air navigation services incurred by service providers for the benefit of airspace users. The scheme shall allocate these costs among categories of users.
2. The principles set out in paragraphs 3 to 8 shall be applied when establishing the cost-base for charges.

3. The cost to be shared among airspace users shall be the determined cost of providing air navigation services, including appropriate amounts for interest on capital investment and depreciation of assets, as well as the costs of maintenance, operation, management and administration. Determined costs shall be the costs determined by the Member State at charging zone level or at national level or at the level of functional airspace blocks either at the beginning of the reference period for each calendar year of the reference period referred to in Article 11(5), or during the reference period, following appropriate adjustments applying the alert mechanisms set out in Article 11.
4. The costs to be taken into account in this context shall be those assessed in relation to the facilities and services provided for and implemented under the ICAO Regional Air Navigation Plan, European Region. In order to meet the requirements set out in Article 3(7), they shall also include costs or parts thereof incurred by national supervisory authorities and/or qualified entities, unless other financial resources are used to cover such costs or parts thereof. They may also include other costs incurred by the relevant Member State and service provider in relation to the provision of air navigation services. They shall not include the costs of penalties imposed by Member States referred to Article 33 nor the costs of any corrective measures referred to in Article 11 (4a).
5. In respect of the functional airspace blocks and as part of their respective framework agreements, Member States shall make reasonable efforts to agree on common principles for charging policy.

6. The cost of different air navigation services shall be identified separately, as provided for in Article 21(3).
7. Cross-subsidy shall not be allowed between en-route services and terminal services. Costs that pertain to both terminal services and en-route services shall be allocated in a proportional way between en-route services and terminal services on the basis of a transparent methodology. Cross-subsidy shall be allowed between different air navigation services in either one of those two categories only when justified for objective reasons, subject to clear identification. Cross-subsidy shall not be allowed between air navigation services and those support services which are provided on a competitive basis in accordance with Article 10.
8. Transparency of the cost-base for charges shall be guaranteed. Implementing rules for the provision of information by the service providers shall be adopted in order to permit reviews of the provider's forecasts, actual costs and revenues. Information shall be regularly exchanged between the national supervisory authorities, service providers, airspace users, the Commission and Eurocontrol.
9. Member States shall comply with the following principles when setting charges in accordance with paragraphs 3 to 8:
 - (a) charges shall be set for the availability of air navigation services under non-discriminatory conditions when imposing charges on different airspace users for the use of the same service, no distinction shall be made in relation to the nationality or category of the user;
 - (b) exemption of certain users, especially light aircraft and State aircraft, may be permitted, provided that the cost of such exemption is not passed on to other users;

- (c) charges shall be set per calendar year on the basis of the determined costs, or may be set for a whole reference period on the basis of the determined costs ensuring that the total revenues over the reference period concerned do not exceed the sum of the revenues in the case that the charges are set per calendar year during the same reference period;
 - (d) air navigation services may produce sufficient revenues to provide for a reasonable return on assets to contribute towards necessary capital improvements;
 - (e) charges shall reflect the cost of air navigation services and facilities made available to airspace users, taking into account the relative productive capacities of the different aircraft types concerned;
 - (f) charges shall encourage the safe, efficient, effective and sustainable provision of air navigation services with a view to achieving a high level of safety and cost-efficiency and meeting the performance targets and they shall stimulate integrated service provision, whilst reducing the environmental impact of aviation. For the purposes of point (f) and in relation to the national or functional airspace block performance plans, national supervisory authorities may set up mechanisms, including incentives consisting of financial advantages and disadvantages, to encourage air navigation service providers and/or airspace users to support improvements in the provision of air navigation services such as increased capacity, reduced delays and sustainable development, while maintaining an optimum safety level.
10. The Commission shall adopt measures setting out the details of the procedure to be followed for the application of paragraphs 1 to 9. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 27(3).

Article 14

Review of compliance with Articles 12 and 13

1. The Commission shall provide for the ongoing review of compliance with the principles and rules referred to in Articles 12 and 13, acting in cooperation with the Member States. The Commission shall endeavour to establish the necessary mechanisms for making use of Eurocontrol expertise and shall share the results of the review with the Member States, Eurocontrol and the airspace users' representatives.
2. At the request of one or more Member States that consider that the principles and rules referred to in Articles 12 and 13 have not been properly applied, or on its own initiative, the Commission shall carry out an investigation into any allegation of non-compliance or non-application of the principles and/or rules concerned. Without prejudice to Article 32(1), the Commission shall share the results of the investigation with the Member States, Eurocontrol and the airspace users' representatives. Within two months of receipt of a request, after having heard the Member State concerned, the Commission shall decide whether Articles 12 and 13 have been complied with and the measure may thus continue to be applied. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 27(2).

Article 15

Common projects

1. The implementation of the ATM Master Plan may be supported by common projects. These projects shall support the objectives of this Regulation to improve the performance of the European aviation system and ATM/ANS in key areas such as capacity, flight and cost efficiency as well as environmental sustainability, within the overriding safety objectives.
 - 1a. The Commission may set up common projects for implementing the essential operational changes identified in the ATM Master Plan having a network-wide impact. Common projects shall identify ATM functionalities that are mature for deployment, together with the timetable and geographical scope of the deployment and require to be deployed in a timely, coordinated and synchronised manner.
2. The Commission may also adopt measures establishing the governance of common projects and identifying incentives for their deployment. These measures shall not prejudice mechanisms for the deployment of the projects concerning functional airspace blocks as agreed upon by the parties of those blocks.
3. The common projects may be considered eligible for Union funding within the multiannual financial framework. To this end, and without prejudice to Member States' competence to decide on the use of their financial resources, the Commission shall carry out an independent cost-benefit analysis and appropriate consultations with Member States and with relevant stakeholders in accordance with Article 28, exploring all appropriate means for financing the deployment thereof. The eligible costs of deployment of common projects shall be recovered in accordance with the principles of transparency and non-discrimination.
 - 3a. The implementing acts referred to in paragraphs 1a and 2 shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 27(3).

Functional airspace blocks

1. Member States shall take all necessary measures in order to ensure the establishment and implementation of functional airspace blocks with a view to achieving the required capacity and efficiency of the air traffic management network within the Single European Sky and a progressively more integrated²⁰ provision of ATM/ANS, and maintaining a high level of safety and contributing to the overall performance of the air transport system and reduced environmental impact.
2. The functional airspace blocks shall be set-up based on agreements between Member States, and wherever beneficial, supported by industrial partnerships as specified in Article 16a.
3. Member States, National Supervisory Authorities, as well as ATM/ANS providers shall cooperate to the fullest extent possible with each other in order to ensure compliance with this Article. Where relevant, cooperation may also include National Supervisory Authorities and ATM/ANS providers from third countries taking part in functional airspace blocks.

²⁰ The following sentence will be added at the end of recital (25) to explain the progressive integration of ATM/ANS provision, including air space management. *"The progressive integration of the provision of ATM/ANS may be achieved, inter alia, through an integrated service provider, or through working arrangements between two or more air navigation service providers, where appropriate"*.

4. Functional airspace blocks shall, in particular:
- (a) be supported by a safety case;
 - (b) be designed to contribute to the achievement of the performance targets set in accordance with Article 11;
 - (c) [...]
 - (d) [...]
 - (e) be justified by their overall added value, including the most efficient use of technical and human resources²¹ on the basis of cost-benefit analyses;
 - (f) where applicable, ensure a smooth and flexible transfer of responsibility for air traffic control between air traffic service units;

²¹ PCY proposes the following recital as clarification: *"Member States should ensure that the FAB in which they participate has the potential to progressively deliver overall added value, including in the use of airspace, as well as technical and human resources. The most efficient use of technical and human resources in a functional airspace block could be achieved through, inter alia:*

- *joint training and training infrastructure of air navigation services personnel,*
- *synchronised life cycles of technical ATM systems,*
- *harmonised ATM systems and tools,*
- *rationalised capital expenditure which suitably addresses all developments needed for sustainable ATM in the long term,*
- *coordination of in ANSPs' investment plans,*
- *establishment of joint control centres whenever beneficial,*
- *common CNS infrastructure developments,*
- *cross-border service provision or cross-border delegation of ANS,*
- *coordinated AIS provision,*
- *convergence of supervisory structures involving NSAs,*
- *joint contingency arrangements."*

- (g) [...]
 - (h) comply with conditions stemming from regional agreements concluded within the ICAO;
 - (i) respect regional agreements in existence on the date of entry into force of this Regulation, in particular those involving European third countries.
- (4a) Functional airspace blocks shall also meet the following requirements in coordination with the Network Manager as specified in Article 17:
- enable flexible use of airspace in the most efficient manner that can be achieved, taking into account air traffic requirements of civilian and military airspace users;
 - enable the most efficient airspace design that can be achieved;
 - ensure consistency with the European route network established in accordance with Article 17;
 - ensure compatibility between the different airspace configurations.
5. The requirements set out in this Article may be met through participation of Member States, National Supervisory Authorities and ATM/ANS providers in one or more functional airspace blocks.
6. [...] (*moved to Article 9(5)*)

7. Member States shall notify to the Commission the establishment and any modification of functional airspace blocks notably the agreements between Member States and the decisions on joint designations. Before notifying the Commission of the establishment of a functional airspace block, the Member State(s) concerned shall provide the Commission, the other Member States and other interested parties with adequate information and give them an opportunity to submit their observations.
 - 7a. The agreement by which a functional airspace block is established shall contain the necessary provisions concerning the way in which the block can be modified and the way in which a Member State can withdraw from the block, including transitional arrangements.
8. Where difficulties arise between two or more Member States with regard to a functional airspace block that concerns airspace under their responsibility, the Member States concerned may jointly bring the matter to the Committee for an opinion. The opinion shall be addressed to the Member States concerned. Without prejudice to paragraph 6, the Member States shall take that opinion into account in order to find a solution.
9. After having received the notifications by Member States referred to in paragraph 7 the Commission shall assess the fulfilment by each functional airspace block of the requirements set out in paragraphs 4 and 4a and present the results to the Member States for discussion. If the Commission finds that one or more functional airspace blocks do not fulfil the requirements it shall engage in a dialogue with the Member States concerned with the aim of reaching a consensus on the measures necessary to rectify the situation.

10. The implementation of a functional airspace block may be based on an operational plan describing the actions to be taken by air navigation service providers, National Supervisory Authorities and other stakeholders concerned to meet the requirements of paragraph 4 and 4a. This operational plan shall be notified to the Commission, if it has been produced. Before the establishment of the operational plan, Member States taking part in a functional airspace block shall ensure that the interested parties are provided with adequate information and have the opportunity to submit observations.
11. The Commission may adopt measures regarding the information to be provided by the Member State(s) referred to in paragraph 7. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 27(3).
12. This Article shall be without prejudice to any agreement on functional airspace blocks between Member States existing on the date of entry into force of this Regulation.²²

Article 16a

Industrial partnerships

1. ATM/ANS providers shall strive to conclude industrial partnerships to support the implementation of the Single European Sky, and to improve the performance of the European ATM Network. Industrial partnerships may be concluded independently of, or within one or more functional airspace blocks or parts thereof.

²² Commission proposes to add: "*and compliant with the legislation in force at the time they were established.*"

2. Industrial partnerships are cooperative arrangements set up for the purpose of improving the performance in at least one of the key performance areas of the performance scheme referred to in Article 11. Industrial partnerships are set up by two or more partners giving their contribution to the provision of one or more air navigation services. Industrial partnerships may include other stakeholders in addition to air navigation service providers.
3. [...]
4. ATM/ANS providers which conclude industrial partnerships shall regularly inform of their activities the Member States responsible for their oversight.

Article 17

Network management and design

1. The air traffic management (ATM) network functions and services shall allow optimum use of airspace and ensure that airspace users can operate preferred trajectories, while allowing maximum access to airspace and air navigation services. These network functions and services shall be aimed at supporting initiatives at national level and at the level of functional airspace blocks and shall be executed in a manner which respects the separation of regulatory and operational tasks.²³
2. In order to achieve the objectives referred to in paragraph 1 and without prejudice to the responsibilities of the Member States with regard to national routes and airspace structures, the Commission shall ensure that the following tasks are carried out by the Network Manager :
 - (a) design of the European route network and support for the optimisation of airspace design through co-operation with the air navigation service providers, Member State authorities and functional airspace blocks referred to in Article 16;
 - (b) coordination of scarce resources within aviation frequency bands used by general air traffic, in particular radio frequencies as well as coordination of radar transponder codes;
 - (c) central air traffic flow management service;
 - (d) provision of an aeronautical information portal in accordance with Article 23;

²³ The Presidency suggests to include the following clarification in a recital: *"Network functions and services should aim at providing both performance benefits and cost savings to the EATMN, without overlapping, or duplicating the roles and responsibilities of ANSPs, the SESAR Joint Undertaking, the Deployment Manager or EASA."*

- (e) [...];
- (f) central function for coordination of network crisis
- (g) support service or services or parts thereof, subject to the requirements referred to in Article 10(5).

The tasks listed in this paragraph shall not involve the adoption of binding measures of a general scope or the exercise of political discretion. They shall take into account proposals established at national level and at the level of functional airspace blocks. They shall be performed in coordination with military authorities in accordance with agreed procedures concerning the flexible use of airspace.

The Commission, after consultation of the Committee and in conformity with the procedure referred to in paragraph 4, may appoint Eurocontrol, or another impartial and competent body, to carry out the tasks of the Network Manager . These tasks shall be executed in an impartial and cost-effective manner and performed on behalf of Member States and stakeholders. They shall be subject to appropriate governance, which recognises the separate accountabilities for service provision and regulation, taking into consideration the needs of the whole ATM network and with the full involvement of the airspace users and air navigation service providers and aerodrome operators.

3. With reference to the list set out in paragraph 2, the Commission may specify tasks, in particular related to support services, when they are centrally provided by the Network Manager in accordance with Article 10(5). Those implementing acts shall be adopted by the examination procedure referred to in Article 27(3).

4. The Commission shall adopt detailed rules concerning :
- (a) the coordination and harmonisation of processes and procedures to enhance the efficiency of aeronautical frequency management including the development of principles and criteria;
 - (b) the central function to coordinate the early identification and resolution of frequency needs in the bands allocated to European general air traffic to support the design and operation of European aviation network;
 - (c) additional network functions and services as defined in the ATM Master Plan;
 - (d) arrangements for cooperative decision-making between the Member States, the air navigation service providers and the Network Manager for the tasks referred to in paragraph 2;
 - (e) arrangements for the governance of the Network Manager to operate as an independent and cost-efficient body to provide network of functions and services involving all operational stakeholders concerned;
 - (f) arrangements for consultation of the relevant stakeholders in the decision-making process both at national and European levels; and

- (g) within the radio spectrum allocated to general air traffic by the International Telecommunication Union, a division of tasks and responsibilities between the Network Manager and national frequency managers, ensuring that the national frequency management functions continue to perform those frequency assignments that have no impact on the network. For those cases which do have an impact on the network, the national frequency managers shall cooperate with the Network Manager to optimise the use of frequencies.
- (h) within the support for the design of airspace, a division of tasks and responsibilities between the Network Manager, Member States and air traffic service providers; in particular:
 - (i) the Network Manager shall work in co-operation with Member States and air traffic service providers at national or functional airspace block level to identify and evaluate inefficiencies in the design of airspace and incompatibilities between the different airspace configurations;
 - (ii) Member States and air traffic service providers, in consultation with the Network Manager, shall develop corrective measures to address these identified inefficiencies in order to meet the needs of all airspace users and aerodrome operators to the maximum extent possible;
 - (iii) subject to the relevant decisions by the competent authorities at national or functional airspace blocks level, air traffic service providers shall implement those measures, either individually or jointly within functional airspace blocks, in coordination with the Network Manager.

Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 27(3).

5. Aspects of airspace design other than those referred to in paragraphs 2, 4 (c) and 4(h) shall be dealt with at national level or at the level of functional airspace blocks. This design process shall take into account air traffic demands, seasonality and complexity, performance plans and shall include full consultation of relevant airspace users or relevant groups representing airspace users and military authorities as appropriate.

Article 18

Relations between service providers

1. Air navigation service providers may avail themselves of the services of other service providers that have been certified or declared in the Union, as well as of the military service providers in consistency with Article 1(3) of Regulation (EC) 216/2008.
2. Air navigation service providers shall formalise their working relationships by means of written agreements or equivalent legal arrangements, setting out the specific duties and functions assumed by each provider and allowing for the exchange of operational data between all service providers in so far as general air traffic is concerned. Those arrangements shall be notified to the national supervisory authorities concerned.
3. In cases involving the provision of air traffic services, the approval of the Member States concerned shall be required. In cases involving the provision of meteorological services, the approval of the Member States concerned shall be required if they have designated a provider on an exclusive basis in accordance with Article 9(1).

Article 19

Relations with stakeholders

The air navigation service providers shall establish consultation mechanisms to consult the relevant groups of airspace users and aerodrome operators on all major issues related to services provided, including relevant changes to airspace configurations, or strategic investments which have a relevant impact on ATM/ANS provision and/or charges. The consultation shall be conducted in a manner proportionate to the scope of the services provided.

Article 20

Relations with military authorities

Member States shall, within the context of the common transport policy, take the necessary steps to ensure that written agreements between the competent civil and military authorities or equivalent legal arrangements are established or renewed in respect of the management of specific airspace blocks.

Article 21

Transparency of accounts

1. Air navigation service providers, whatever their system of ownership or legal form, shall draw up, submit to audit and publish their financial accounts. These accounts shall comply with the international accounting standards adopted by the Union. Where, owing to the legal status of the service provider, full compliance with the international accounting standards is not possible, the provider shall endeavour to achieve such compliance to the maximum possible extent.
2. In all cases, air navigation service providers shall publish an annual report and regularly undergo an independent audit.
3. When providing a bundle of services, air navigation service providers shall identify and disclose the costs and income deriving from air navigation services, broken down in accordance with the charging scheme for air navigation services referred to in Articles 12 and 13 and, where appropriate, shall keep consolidated accounts for other, non-air-navigation services, as they would be required to do if the services in question were provided by separate undertakings.
4. Member States shall designate the competent authorities that shall have a right of access to the accounts of service providers that provide services within the airspace under their responsibility.
5. Member States may apply the transitional provisions of Article 9 of Regulation (EC) No 1606/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 July 2002 on the application of international accounting standards²⁴ to air navigation service providers that fall within the scope of that regulation.

²⁴ OJ L 243, 11.9.2002, p. 1.

Article 22

Access to and protection of data

1. In so far as general air traffic is concerned, relevant operational data shall be exchanged in real-time between all air navigation service providers, airspace users and airports, to facilitate their operational needs. The data shall be used only for operational purposes.
2. Access to relevant operational data shall be granted to appropriate authorities, certified or declared air navigation service providers, airspace users and airports on a non-discriminatory basis, without prejudice to security or defence policy interests.
3. Certified or declared service providers, airspace users and airports shall establish standard conditions of access to their relevant operational data other than those referred to in paragraph 1. National supervisory authorities shall approve such standard conditions. The Commission may lay down measures concerning the procedures to be followed for data exchange and the type of data concerned in relation to these conditions of access and their approval. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 27(3).

CHAPTER IV AIRSPACE AND INTEROPERABILITY

Article 23

Electronic aeronautical information

1. Without prejudice to the publication by Member States of aeronautical information and in a manner consistent with that publication, the Commission, working in cooperation with the Network Manager, shall ensure the availability of electronic aeronautical information of high quality, presented in a harmonised way and serving the requirements of all relevant users in terms of data quality and timeliness.
2. For the purpose of paragraph 1, the Commission shall ensure the development of a Union - wide aeronautical information infrastructure in the form of an electronic integrated briefing portal with unrestricted access to interested stakeholders. That infrastructure shall integrate access to and provision of required data elements such as, but not limited to aeronautical information, air traffic services reporting office (ARO) information, meteorological information and flow management information.
3. The Commission shall adopt measures for the establishment and implementation of an electronic integrated briefing portal. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 27(3).

*Article 23a*²⁵

Flexible use of airspace

1. Taking into account the organisation of military aspects under their responsibility, Member States shall ensure the uniform application within the single European sky of the concept of the flexible use of airspace as described by the ICAO and as developed by Eurocontrol, in order to facilitate airspace management and air traffic management in the context of the common transport policy and in consistency with the ATM Master Plan.
2. Member States shall report annually to the Commission on the application, in the context of the common transport policy, of the concept of the flexible use of airspace in respect of the airspace under their responsibility.
3. Where, in particular following the reports submitted by Member States, it becomes necessary to reinforce and harmonise the application of the concept of the flexible use of airspace within the single European sky, the Commission shall adopt measures within the context of the common transport policy. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 27(3).

²⁵ Former Article 7 of Regulation 551/2004, aligned to the TFEU.

Technological development and interoperability of air traffic management

1. The Commission shall adopt detailed rules concerning the promotion of the technological development and interoperability of air traffic management related to the development and deployment of the ATM Master Plan. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 27(3), prior to the implementation of the ATM Master Plan.
2. In respect of the rules referred to in paragraph 1, Article 17(2)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 shall apply. Where appropriate, the Commission shall request EASA to include these rules in the annual work programme referred to in Article 56 of that Regulation.

CHAPTER V FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 25

Adaptation of the Annexes

The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 26 in order to amend²⁶ the conditions to be attached to certificates to be awarded to air navigation service providers listed in points 2 (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) of Annex II in order to take account of experience gained by national supervisory authorities in applying these requirements and conditions or of the evolution of air traffic management system in terms of interoperability and integrated provision of air navigation services.

²⁶ Annex I has now been merged with Annex V in Regulation (EC) No 216/2008.

Exercise of the delegation

1. The power to adopt delegated acts is conferred on the Commission subject to the conditions laid down in this Article.
2. The delegation of power referred to in Article 25 shall be conferred on the Commission for a period of five years from [*the date of the publication of this Regulation*]. The delegation of power shall be tacitly extended for periods of an identical duration, unless the European Parliament or the Council opposes such extension not later than three months before the end of each period.
3. The delegation of power referred to in Article 25 may be revoked at any time by the European Parliament or by the Council. A decision of revocation shall put an end to the delegation of the power specified in that decision. It shall take effect the day following the publication of the decision in the *Official Journal of the European Union* or at a later date specified therein. It shall not affect the validity of any delegated acts already in force.
4. It is of particular importance that the Commission follow its usual practice and carry out consultations with experts, including Member States' experts, before adopting those delegated acts. As soon as it adopts a delegated act, the Commission shall notify it simultaneously to the European Parliament and to the Council.

²⁷ CION has a reservation on Articles 26 and 27, and in particular Article 26(4).

5. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Article 25 shall enter into force only if no objection has been expressed either by the European Parliament or the Council within a period of 2 months of notification of that act to the European Parliament and the Council or if, before the expiry of that period, the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission that they will not object. That period shall be extended by 2 months at the initiative of the European Parliament or the Council.

Article 27

Committee procedure

1. The Commission shall be assisted by the Single Sky Committee, hereinafter referred to as ‘the Committee’, composed of two representatives of each Member State and chaired by the Commission. The Committee shall ensure an appropriate consideration of the interests of all categories of users. The Committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.
2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.
3. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.
4. Where the committee delivers no opinion, the Commission shall not adopt the draft implementing act and the third subparagraph of Article 5(4) of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.

Article 28

Consultation of stakeholders by the Commission

1. The Commission shall establish a mechanism at Union level to consult on matters related to the implementation of this Regulation where appropriate . The specific Sectoral Dialogue Committee set up under Commission Decision 98/500/EC shall be involved in the consultation.
2. The stakeholders may include:
 - air navigation service providers or relevant groups representing them,
 - the Network Manager,
 - airport operators or relevant groups representing them,
 - airspace users or relevant groups representing them,
 - the military,
 - the manufacturing industry,
 - professional staff representative bodies, and
 - national airport coordinators.
3. The Commission shall make available to the Member States the result of the consultation.

Article 29

Industry consultation body

Without prejudice to the role of the Committee and of Eurocontrol, the Commission shall establish an ‘industry consultation body’, to which air navigation service providers, associations of airspace users, airport operators, the manufacturing industry and professional staff representative bodies shall belong. The role of this body shall solely be to advise the Commission on the implementation of the Single European Sky.

Article 30

Relations with third countries

The Union and its Member States shall aim at and support the extension of the Single European Sky to countries which are not members of the European Union. To that end, they shall endeavour, in the framework of agreements concluded with neighbouring third countries, to extend the Single European Sky to those countries. In addition, they shall endeavour to cooperate with those countries either in the context of functional airspace blocks, or of agreements on network functions, or in the framework of the Agreement between the European Union and Eurocontrol providing a general framework for enhanced cooperation.

Article 31

Support by other bodies

The Commission may request support from other bodies for the fulfilment of its tasks under this Regulation, including from Eurocontrol in the framework of the EU-Eurocontrol Agreement.

Article 32

Confidentiality

1. Neither the national supervisory authorities, acting in accordance with their national legislation, nor the Commission, the Network Manager or the performance review body shall disclose information of a confidential nature, in particular information about air navigation service providers, their business relations or their cost components.
2. Paragraph 1 shall be without prejudice to the right of disclosure by national supervisory authorities or the Commission where this is essential for the fulfilment of their duties, in which case such disclosure shall be proportionate and shall have regard to the legitimate interests of air navigation service providers, airspace users, airports or other relevant stakeholders in the protection of their commercially sensitive information.
3. Information and data provided pursuant to the charging scheme referred to in Article 12 shall be publicly disclosed.

Article 33

Penalties

Member States shall lay down rules on penalties applicable to infringements of this Regulation, in particular by airspace users and service providers. The penalties provided for shall be effective, proportionate and dissuasive.

Article 34

Review and methods of impact assessment

1. The Commission shall periodically review the application of this Regulation shall report to the European Parliament and to the Council at the end of each reference period referred to in Article 11(5)(d). When justified for this purpose, the Commission may request from the Member States information relevant to the application of this Regulation.
2. The reports shall contain an evaluation of the results achieved by the actions taken pursuant to this Regulation including appropriate information about developments in the sector, in particular concerning economic, social, environmental, employment and technological aspects, as well as about quality of service, in the light of the original objectives and with a view to future needs.

Article 35

Safeguards

This Regulation shall not prevent the application of measures by a Member State to the extent that these are needed to safeguard essential security or defence policy interests. Such measures are in particular those which are imperative:

- (a) for the surveillance of airspace that is under its responsibility in accordance with ICAO Regional Air Navigation agreements, including the capability to detect, identify and evaluate all aircraft using such airspace, with a view to seeking to safeguard safety of flights and to take action to ensure security and defence needs,
- (b) in the event of serious internal disturbances affecting the maintenance of law and order,
- (c) in the event of war or serious international tension constituting a threat of war,
- (d) for the fulfilment of a Member State's international obligations in relation to the maintenance of peace and international security,
- (e) in order to conduct military operations and training, including the necessary possibilities for exercises.

Article 36

[...]

Article 37

Repeal

Regulations (EC) Nos 549/2004, 550/2004 and 551/2004 are repealed.

Regulation (EC) 552/2004 is repealed except for

- Articles 5 and 6 and Annexes III and IV of that Regulation, which shall continue to apply for the purposes of declarations until the entry into force of the relevant implementing measures referred to in Article 8b(6) of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008;
- Articles 4 and 7 of that Regulation, which shall continue to apply until the entry into force of the relevant implementing measures referred to in Article 24 and in Article 8b of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008.

References to the repealed Regulations shall be construed as references to this Regulation and shall be read in accordance with the correlation table in Annex III.

Article 38

Entry into force and application

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Article 3 shall apply 18 months after the entry into force of this Regulation, except for those Member States that notify to the Commission within 6 months of the entry into force of this Regulation of their decision to establish a national supervisory authorities as legally distinct bodies, in which case Article 3 shall apply 48 months after the entry into force of this Regulation.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Strasbourg,

For the European Parliament

For the Council

The President The President

[deleted and incorporated into Annex V of the EASA Regulation (cf. doc. 15472/14)]

CONDITIONS TO BE ATTACHED TO CERTIFICATES

1. Certificates shall specify:
 - (a) the national supervisory authority issuing the certificate;
 - (b) the applicant (name and address);
 - (c) the services and, where appropriate functions, for which the provider is certified;
 - (d) a statement of the applicant's conformity with the common requirements, as defined in Article 8b of Regulation (EC) No 216/2008 ;
 - (e) the date of issue and the period of validity of the certificate.

2. Additional conditions attached to certificates may, as appropriate, be related to:
 - (a) non-discriminatory access to air navigation services for airspace users and the required level of performance of such services, including safety and interoperability levels;
 - (b) the operational specifications for the particular services;
 - (c) the time by which the services should be provided;
 - (d) the various operating equipment to be used within the particular services;
 - (e) ring-fencing or restriction of operations of services other than those related to the provision of air navigation services;
 - (f) contracts, agreements or other arrangements between the service provider and a third party and which concern the service(s);

- (g) provision of information reasonably required for the verification of compliance of the services with the common requirements, including plans, financial and operational data, and major changes in the type and/or scope of air navigation services provided;
- (h) any other legal conditions which are not specific to air navigation services, such as conditions relating to the suspension or revocation of the certificate.
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CORRELATION TABLE

Regulation 549/2004	Regulation 550/2004	Regulation 551/2004	Regulation 552/2004	This Regulation
Article 1(1) to (3)				Article 1(1) to (3)
		Article 1(3)		Article 1(4)
Article 1(4)				Article 1(5)
	Article 1			-----
		Article 1(1), (2) and (4)		-----
			Article 1	-----
Article 2 Nos (1) to (35)				Article 2 Nos (1) to (35)
				Article 2 Nos (36) to (38)
Article 2 Nos 17, 18, 23, 24, 32, 35, 36				-----
Article 3				-----
Article 4(1) and (2)				Article 3(1) and (2)

				Article 3(3) and (4)
Article 4(3)				Article 3(5)
				Article 3(6)
Article 3(4) to (5)				Article 3(7) and (8)
				Article 3(9)
	Article 2(1)			Article 4(1a)
				Article 4(1b) to (1g)
	Article 2(2)			Article 4(2)
				Article 5(1) and (2)
	Article 2(3) to (6)			Article 5(3) to (6)
	Article 3(1) and (2)			Article 6(1) and (2)
			Article 8(1) and (3)	Article 6(3) and (4)
				Article 6(5)

			Article 8(2) and (4)	-----
	Article 6			-----
Article 10(1)				Article 7(1)
				Article 7(2)
	Article 7(1)			Article 8(1)
				Article 8(2)
	Article 7(4) and (6)			Article 8(3) and (4)
	Article 7(2), (3), (5), (7) to (9)			-----
	Article 8			Article 9
				Article 10
	Article 9			-----
Article 11				Article 11
	Article 14			Article 12
	Article 15			Article 13
	Article 16			Article 14

	Article 15a			Article 15
	Article 9a(1)			Article 16(1) and (3)
				Article 16(2)
	Article 9a(2) point (i)			-----
	Article 9a(2)			Article 16(4)
				Article 16(5)
	Article 9a(3) to (9)			Article 16(6) to (12)
	Article 9b			-----
		Article 6(1) to (2b)		Article 17(1) and (2b)
				Article 17(2c) to (2e)
		Article 6(3) – (4d)		Article 17(3) to (4d)
				Article 17(4e)
		Article 6(4e) to (4f)		Article 17(4f) and (4g)

		Article 6(5) and (7)		Article 17(5) and (6)
		Article 6(8) and (9)		-----
	Article 10			Article 18
				Article 19
	Article 11			Article 20
	Article 12			Article 21
	Article 13			Article 22
		Article 3		-----
		Article 3a		Article 23
		Article 4		-----
		Article 7		-----
		Article 8		-----
			Article 3	Article 24(1) and (2)
			Article 3(3)	-----
			Article 2 to 3(2)	-----
			Article 3(4) 4 to 7	-----
	Article 17(1)			Article 25

				Article 26
Article 5(1) to (3)				Article 27(1) to (3)
Article 5(4) and (5)				-----
Article 10(2) and (3)				Article 28(1) and (2)
Article 6				Article 29
Article 7				Article 30
Article 8				Article 31
	Article 4			-----
			Article 9	-----
	Article 18			Article 32
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Article 12(2) to (4)				Article 34(1) to (3)
Article 12(1)				-----
	Article 18a			-----
		Article 10		-----
Article 13				Article 35
Article 13a				Article 36

			Article 10	-----
			Article 11	Article 37
	Article 19(1)			Article 38
	Article 19(2)			-----
	Annex I		Annex V	Annex I
			Annex I	-----
	Annex II			Annex II
			Annex II	-----
				Annex III
			Annex III	-----
			Annex IV	-----
