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Welcome to the eighth issue of the SESAR e-news. This regular electronic newsletter aims at giving an overview of the latest developments at SESAR, Europe's ambitious ATM modernisation programme.

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## Europe / US agree to cooperate on SESAR and NextGen



On 18 June, the European Commission (EC) and the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) officially concluded negotiations of a Memorandum of cooperation in civil aviation research and development. The Memorandum and a first technical Annex promotes interoperability between NextGen and SESAR.

"The Memorandum will enable the EU and the US to jointly pursue their common objective to develop and deploy greener and more efficient air transport systems through a legally binding cooperation framework", the EC said in a statement.

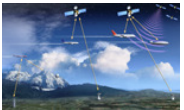
Other research and development issues in civil aviation covered by the Memorandum are safety, security, environment, performance, alternative fuels, aircraft design, Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), sub-orbital airplanes, satellite-based communication and related ATM applications. The text is now presented to the Council and the European Parliament for approval to enter into force in early 2011. [-More information>](#)

## SJU meets CEOs and COOs of major airlines



Patrick Ky, Executive Director of the SESAR Joint Undertaking met in May and June with the CEOs and COOs of several European airlines (Lufthansa, British Airways, Air France-KLM, Brussels Airlines, and Iberia) to discuss the current state of the SESAR programme as well as the impact of SESAR on the airlines. "SESAR is the only way forward to positively respond to the new challenges in aviation. The implementation of SESAR will ask for large investment. But SESAR is committed to overcome this challenge and to build a strong business case in partnership with the airlines", said Patrick Ky. The airlines reacted positively on the explanations and showed interest in supporting the execution of the ATM Master Plan by getting involved in the technical and economic work.

## Update on IRIS



More than 100 representatives of the Air Traffic Management community as well as from the European telecommunication & space industry attended an information event on the Iris Programme on 26 and 27 May 2010 in Prague, the Czech Republic. Iris, a programme of the European Space Agency (ESA), aims to develop a new satellite-based Air-Ground Communication system for Air Traffic Management and Airline Operation Communications. This system is

planned to be in operation by 2020 providing digital datalinks in continental and oceanic airspace. At the event, Philippe Renaud, SESAR Joint Undertaking Manager for work packages 9 and 15, presented SESAR's objectives and its structure. Mr Renaud stressed the need for multiple links, including a satellite based segment, to guarantee the availability of communications between the aircraft and the ground.

[-Access the presentations>](#) held during the event by representatives from ESA, the European Commission, the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), Eurocontrol et al.

## Indian delegation at SJU



On 15 June, the SJU welcomed a high-level delegation of Indian civil aviation decision-makers at its premises. Shri M. Madhavan Nambiar, Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Dr. Nasim Zaidi, Director General for Civil Aviation and Mr. V. P. Agrawal, Chairman, Airport Authority of India were, amongst others, part of the Indian Delegation meeting high-level European representatives from the European Commission, Eurocontrol, EASA and the SESAR JU. The SESAR JU presented the structure and set-up of the SESAR

programme, the progress so far and the main areas of technological modernisation expected through SESAR. This is the second in-depth meeting on ATM between Indian and European representatives after the successful India-EU symposium on the same topic in November last year. On-going contacts are established and both parties have set interoperability as their top priority.

## SESAR JU at Clean Sky conference exhibition



Roughly 300 aviation professionals attended the first public Clean Sky conference "The aviation industry goes green" on 18 June in Brussels. Aim of the conference was to give stakeholders an update on the latest developments of the [Clean Sky programme](#), highlighting the major technical steps to take in the near future.

"Clean Sky is itself a demonstrator! As a Joint Technology Initiative, it brings together the private and the public, the big and the small, the industry and the academics, in one programme", Eric Dauriat, Executive Director of the Clean Sky Joint Undertaking said during his opening speech. The conference was accompanied by an exhibition displaying information on the six Clean Sky Integrated Technology Demonstrators, the Technology Evaluator as well as related European Commission, SESAR and ACARE activities. The SESAR JU stand at the exhibition attracted many questions on the set-up and the environmental dimension of the SESAR work programme.