



VATSIM Sub-Sahara Africa

VATSSA Staff Team

Staff Team meeting minutes

27th February 2026, Friday, 1800Z

Meeting Overview

27th February, Friday, 1800Z	
Meeting lead by	Luke Van Zyl
Minutes	Josh Martin
Attendees	Miguel Albano (MA) - Division Director Luke Van Zyl (LV) - ATC Chief Instructor Shaun Megit (SM) - RVA Manager Wiliam Clarke (WC) - Deputy Events Manager Josh Martin (JM) - Deputy Membership Manager Clark King (CK) - Deputy ATC Instructor
Absent	Wian Saptouw (WS) - Deputy Division Director Tyron Ross (TR) - Events Manager George Daniel Schoonraad (GD) - Team Operations Liam Saacks (LS) - Team Operations Jonathan Hanekom (JH) - Team Operations Connor Dyr (CD) - Team Operations

Meeting Summary

- Previous meeting recap
- Operations
- ATC Training
- Marketing



LV opens the meeting by welcoming the Attendees.

LV begins by asking **JM** to recap the previous meeting. **JM** discusses Moderation, Policy Development and Sector Chiefs.

Item 1: Deputy Director's Notes

Deputy Director's Notes were read on behalf of **WS** by **JM**. **WS** begins by thanking the team for their attendance and apologises for not being able to attend the meeting. **WS** thanks the staff for their incredible work recently. **WS** acknowledges the incredible growth VATSSA has seen.

Action Plan

- Staff are pleased to see the incredible growth that VATSSA has seen.
- Staff agrees that the best place for questions that are aimed at Staff members is through membership tickets.

Item 2: Research making countries TCs

LV and **CK** talk about their thoughts on it. **CK** is for it. **CK** says having just one airport is less productive. **LV** is happy to split. **LV** suggests students choose what TC. **CK** and **LV** will discuss with **MA** when CC finishes development.

Action Plan

- Staff agrees that we need to review training centres around regions and not cities to provide more diversity of training, where possible.
- Control Centre will allow this to progress further

Item 3: S1 Towers

LV and **CK** discuss it briefly. They are still in the research phase.

Action Plan

- Staff agrees (in principle) on having S1 Tower Endorsements but subject to review as per GCAP.

Item 4: VATSSA Discord Tag

The VATSSA Discord Server does not currently have enough server boosts to unlock this perk.

Action Plan

- Staff like the idea of a VATSSA Discord Tag. This would require further Server Boosting.



Item 5: eAIP

CK and **JM** speak about progress. Since the last meeting a contributing section has been set up in the eAIP. **JM** and **CK** agree that eAIP V1 is ready to be shut down. **MA** will evaluate this before the end of Q1. **LV** asks about linking eAIP in Controller Information. **CK** speaks about the lack of utilization of the eAIP. A recent change in FAOR departure procedures is spoken about. Staff agree that we are unable to immediately implement this. **LV** adds that controllers hop between a lot of places and clearances and phraseology is difficult to remember. **LV** and **CK** will do a trial run with a pilot so see how the new FAOR procedures work. **JM** discusses the onboarding of a new contributor to the eAIP.

Action Plan

- Staff will evaluate the current eAIP and a date will be decided to decommission the old eAIP.
- Staff agrees that more contributors are needed for the eAIP.

Item 6: Control Centre Progress Update

MA discusses one error he keeps coming up against. He says he will begin to trouble shoot this soon.

Action Plan

- No further action decisions at this time.

Item 7: Global Route Database

JM provides an update about GRD. GRD rejects a lot of routes, particularly some taken straight from the ATNS 2602 Matrix. **CK** talks about flight planning. **CK** says that flight planning may not always be able to match the real world. Routes just need to work. **LV** suggests we continue to trial this for another month.

Action Plan

- Staff agrees that GRD needs more testing. GRD will continue to be explored over the next month.
- Staff agrees Simbrief Suggested Routes are helpful and informative. This will continue to be updated each AIRAC.



Item 8: Mentors in checkouts

SM proposes mentors being involved in the checkout. Mentors would portray aircraft allowing examiners to focus on the student. **CK** is in favour of having this happen. **LV** is in favour of having 2 examiners or a mentor acting as the sweatbox. **CK** discusses simulating a real session with a station above them. **LV** decides the mentor will work the sweatbox and the aircraft. The examiner can remain focused on the student.

CK and **LV** will evaluate and look to implement this across the policies and discuss with the mentors.

Action Plan

- Staff agree that mentors in checkouts would focus the examiner's attention on the student rather than hosting the Sweatbox.

Item 9: CTP

MA talks about CTP. **WC** says GOBD had been submitted. **MA** says CTP was told they need to invest south of the equator. It originated in VATUK and partnered with VATUSA. Europe has many routes across the pond. Africa has much less.

Action Plan

- No further action decisions at this time.

The meeting concluded at 1927Z

