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Head of Safety Intelligence & Performance
Department

Mr Stephan Berndsen,
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NETHERLANDS

MCO/SSH/SM1.2
Cologne, Germany

Subject: Safety recommendation related to the Report on “Safe flight routes - Responses to escalating conflicts”

Dear Mr Berndsen,

Please find enclosed the European Union Aviation Safety Agency’s response with reference to the Safety Recommendation addressed to the Agency following the event mentioned above.

Yours sincerely,



Erick Ferrandez

Copy: Executive Director
Certification Director
Flight Standards Director
Strategy & Safety Management Director



Subject: Report on “Safe flight routes - Responses to escalating conflicts”

Reply to Safety Recommendation NETH-2021-001 received on 23 June 2021

<p>Safety Recommendation:</p>	<p>European: effectiveness of European guidance Further develop the European Information Sharing and Cooperation Platform on Conflict Zones by expanding the available information without losing rapidity, including analysis and recommendations to member states, airlines and other stakeholders.</p>
<p>Response:</p>	<p>The European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) further developed the European Information Sharing and Cooperation Platform on Conflict Zones, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On 25 February 2021 the Agency launched a trial version of the European Information Sharing and Cooperation Platform on Conflict Zones (the Platform). The trial version of the Platform was implemented in order to fine tune its scope and to design the required IT functionalities in partnership with the Members of the Platform. The overall purpose of the Platform was to support the existing EU Conflict Zone Alerting System and particularly the ‘Integrated EU Aviation Security Risk Assessment Group’. • The Platform provides access to relevant, credible and accurate information for aviation operators and states to complement their own risk assessments and is a means of exchanging timely information and alerts between EU Institutions, EASA Member States and air carriers. • Between 10 and 21 May 2021, the Agency conducted an assessment of the Platform through a survey addressed to the Members of the Platform (EU air carriers, EASA Member States and EU institutions). The outcome confirmed the usefulness of the mechanism to improve the risk assessments conducted by States and operators (over 96% of respondents indicated that they were either satisfied or extremely satisfied with the Platform). Furthermore, the members requested that EASA ensure the continuity of the Platform given its relevance for information sharing and risk assessments. • A virtual Conflict Zone Platform Evaluation workshop was held on 17 June 2021 to give the members an additional opportunity to express their expectations and to discuss possible ways forward regarding the future of the Platform, taking into consideration the operational interests of the various aviation stakeholders. • Considering the positive feedback and the interest of the European aviation community in the services provided by the Platform, the

	<p>Agency launched a procurement procedure aimed at implementing the European Information Sharing and Cooperation Platform on Conflict Zones as a long-term solution, following completion of the trial period. The contract for the Conflict Zones Platform has since been awarded for a period of four years, and is expected to commence in February 2022, paving the way for the implementation of a long-term solution. In the meantime, the trial version of the Platform will continue to operate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Agency is committed to ensuring a smooth transition between the trial phase and the long-term solution, as well as to further streamlining information sharing and cooperation, so that the relevant information on conflict zone developments potentially affecting the safety of flights can be shared without delay among the Platform members.
EASA Status:	Closed – Agreement