

FABEC States

New chairman for the FABEC Council

Paris, 29 January; - With effect from 1 January, Patrick Gandil, Director General of Civil Aviation in France, took over the chair of the FABEC Council. Previously, Patrick Vanheyste, Director General a.i. of the Belgian Supervisory Authority for Air Navigation Services, had held this position. Patrick Gandil has been a key figure at FABEC since its foundation and, as chair of the FABEC Council at that time, played a major role in developing the FABEC Treaty and adopting the first FABEC Performance Plan. He chairs the FABEC Council for the second time. His current term of office will focus on the preparation of the upcoming reference period of the European performance scheme and the future strategic orientation of FABEC, encouraging initiatives enabling to increase performance and cooperation in various areas: operations, safety, technical and SESAR.

Patrick Gandil: The French presidency is convinced that the continuously growing collaboration in FABEC and the FABEC Performance Plan are central pillars of the implementation of the Single European Sky and the European Aviation Strategy. Therefore, we are aiming to further improve the way of collaboration both within FABEC and with our external stakeholders.

The airspace of the six FABEC States of Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Switzerland is one of the busiest and most complex in the world. The majority of major European airports, major civil airways and military training areas are located in this area. FABEC airspace covers 1.7 million km² and handles about 5.8 million flights per year – 55% of European air traffic.

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