

# Performance Review Body Monitoring Report

Slovakia - 2021

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	OVE	RVIEW 3			
	1.1	Contextual information • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			
	1.2	Traffic (En route traffic zone) ••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••			
	1.3	Safety (Main ANSP) 4			
	1.4	Environment (Member State) • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			
	1.5	Capacity (Member State) • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			
	1.6	Cost-efficiency (En route/Terminal charging zone(s)) · · · · · · · · · · · · · · 5			
2 SAFETY - SLOVAKIA					
	2.1	PRB monitoring · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
	2.2	Effectiveness of Safety Management (EoSM) (KPI#1) ••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••			
	2.3	Occurrences - Rate of runway incursions (RIs) (PI#1) & Rate of separation minima infringe-			
		<i>ments (SMIs) (PI#2)</i> · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
3	ENVIRONMENT - SLOVAKIA				
	3.1	PRB monitoring · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
	3.2	En route performance · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
	3.3	Civil-Military dimension • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			
4	CAPACITY - SLOVAKIA				
	4.1	PRB monitoring · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
	4.2	En route performance · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
5	COS	T-EFFIENCY - SLOVAKIA 11			
	5.1	PRB monitoring      11			
	5.2	En route charging zone · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			

### **1 OVERVIEW**

### 1.1 Contextual information

National performance plan adopted following Commission Decision (EU) 2022/768 of 13 April 2022

List of ACCs 1 Bratislava ACC No of airports in the scope of the performance plan:	Exchange rate (1 EUR=) 2017: 1 EUR 2021: 1 EUR Share of Union-wide:	Main ANSP • LPS SR Other ANSPs -
• ≥80′K 0 • <80′K 0	• traffic (TSUs) 2021 0.9% • en route costs 2021 0.7% Share en route / terminal costs 2021 100% / 0%	MET Providers • SHMU
	En route charging zone(s) Slovakia Terminal charging zone(s)	

### 1.2 Traffic (En route traffic zone)





• Actual 2021 IFR movements were +4.5% above the plan (259K).

• Actual 2021 IFR movements represent 48% of the actual 2019 level (562K).



- Slovakia recorded 612K actual en route service units in 2021, +29% compared to 2020 (475K).
- Actual 2021 service units were +0.5% above the plan (609K).
- Actual 2021 service units represent 47% of the actual 2019 level (1,292K).

### 1.3 Safety (Main ANSP)



systems for runway incursions.

### 1.4 Environment (Member State)



• LPS SR successfully improved in the area of policy and objectives, promotion and culture management objectives achieving the targets in advance of the plan.

• Slovakia recorded stable performance with respect to safety occurrences, with no occurrences recorded for runway incursions and increase in separation minima infringements relative to 2020. The NSA closely monitors the separation minima infringements throughout the year and has established acceptable and tolerable levels of safety.

• LPS SR should improve its safety management by implementing automated safety data recording

• Slovakia achieved a KEA performance of 2.29% compared to its target of 2.15% and did not contribute positively towards achieving the Unionwide target. KEA worsened by 0.07 p.p. compared to 2020.

• The NSA states that, despite FRA operations above FL245, there has not been a significant improvement of KEA. The NSA suggests a lack of airspace user capability or willingness to make use of FRA within the South East and Central European region.

• However, cross border FRA in 2021 only enabled cross border operations with one out of five of Slovakia's neighbours and airspace restric-

tions/reservations may also have impeded performance.

- Both KEP and SCR improved in 2021 and are at their lowest values in five years.
- Slovakia has no airports that are regulated under the RP3 performance and charging scheme.

### 1.5 Capacity (Member State)





• Slovakia registered near zero minutes of average en route ATFM delay per flight during 2021, thus meeting the local breakdown value of 0.05.

• En route ATFM delays in Slovakia were also zero on average during the past years.

• Traffic is expected to grow, with 2019 levels likely being reached in 2024 in the high growth scenario but not in the base growth scenarios. A slight increase in the number of ATCOs in OPS is planned at Bratislava ACC during RP3.

• The yearly total of sector opening hours in Bratislava ACC was 18,790, showing a 10.5% in-

crease compared to 2020. Sector opening hours are 23.4% below 2019 levels.

• Bratislava ACC registered 14.00 IFR movements per one sector opening hour in 2021, being 37.1% below 2019 levels.

#### DUC/AUC - En route determined/actual unit costs (DUC/AUC) 80 En route unit costs (€<sub>2017</sub>) 60 80.51 73.90 40 68.51 59.12 51.88 20 0 2020-2021 2022 2024 2023 Determined unit cost Actual unit cost

1.6 Cost-efficiency (En route/Terminal charging zone(s))

• The en route 2020/2021 actual unit cost of Slovakia was 73.90 €2017, -8.2% lower than the determined unit cost (80.51 €2017). Slovakia does not have a terminal charging zone.

• The en route 2021 actual service units (612K) were in line with the determined service units (609K).

• In 2021, Slovakia decreased total costs by -6.9 M€2017 (-16%) compared to determined costs. Slovakia decreased costs in all cost categories, except for depreciation costs. The decrease in total costs was mainly driven by a significant decrease

in staff costs (-6.5 M€2017, or -24%) due to the non-payment of the variable salaries, a COVID-19 measure taken in 2020 (for cashflow reasons). The NSA should provide an analysis of the impact on future performance caused by the significantly lower than determined staff costs.

• The discrepancies regarding total costs are significant, especially as the performance plan has been submitted at the end of 2021. The PRB invites the NSA to analyse the discrepancies and identify their reasons, including potential inaccurate planning and possi-ble misusing of the regulatory framework to finance the liquidity.

• LPS SR spent 7.1 M€2017 in 2021 related to costs of investments, +22% more than determined (5.8 M€2017), due to higher depreciation costs (+1.3 M€2017, or +31%). The NSA explains that the increase is due to the fact that determined costs of investments have been lowered in the plan by the amount underspent in RP2.

• The en route actual unit cost incurred by users in 2020/2021 was 80.67€.

### 2 SAFETY - SLOVAKIA

### 2.1 PRB monitoring

• LPS SR successfully improved in the area of policy and objectives, promotion and culture management objectives achieving the targets in advance of the plan.

• Slovakia recorded stable performance with respect to safety occurrences, with no occurrences recorded for runway incursions and increase in separation minima infringements relative to 2020. The NSA closely monitors the separation minima infringements throughout the year and has established acceptable and tolerable levels of safety.

• LPS SR should improve its safety management by implementing automated safety data recording systems for runway incursions.



### 2.2 Effectiveness of Safety Management (EoSM) (KPI#1)

EoSM - LPS SR

### **Focus on EoSM**

Improvements in maturity levels have been observed with respect 2020, reaching already the 2024 targets in all components.

### 2.3 Occurrences - Rate of runway incursions (RIs) (PI#1) & Rate of separation minima infringements (SMIs) (PI#2)



### **3 ENVIRONMENT - SLOVAKIA**

### 3.1 PRB monitoring

• Slovakia achieved a KEA performance of 2.29% compared to its target of 2.15% and did not contribute positively towards achieving the Union-wide target. KEA worsened by 0.07 p.p. compared to 2020.

• The NSA states that, despite FRA operations above FL245, there has not been a significant improvement of KEA. The NSA suggests a lack of airspace user capability or willingness to make use of FRA within the South East and Central European region.

• However, cross border FRA in 2021 only enabled cross border operations with one out of five of Slovakia's neighbours and airspace restrictions/reservations may also have impeded performance.

- Both KEP and SCR improved in 2021 and are at their lowest values in five years.
- Slovakia has no airports that are regulated under the RP3 performance and charging scheme.

### 3.2 En route performance



3.2.1 Horizontal flight efficiency of the actual trajectory (KEA) (KPI#1), of the last filed flight plan (KEP) (PI#1) & shortest constrained route (SCR) (PI#2)



### 3.3 Civil-Military dimension



RAI & RAU via available conditional routes (PIs#7 & 8)





### Focus on Civil-Military dimension

### Update on Military dimension of the plan

No impact on either environment or capacity.

### Military - related measures implemented or planned to improve capacity

No data available

### Initiatives implemented or planned to improve PI#6

PRISMIL CURA - on-line civil-military performance measurements system was implemented and tested in 2021 in order to improve FUA performance monitoring. Agreement between EUROCONTROL and LPS SR relating to the provision by EUROCONTROL of the PRISMIL Service was signed at beginng of 2022.

### Initiatives implemented or planned to improve PI#7

The above requested data will be available for 2022 and later. PRISMIL CURA - on-line civil-military performance measurements system was implemented and tested in 2021 in order to improve FUA performance monitoring. Agreement between EUROCONTROL and LPS SR relating to the provision by EUROCONTROL of the PRISMIL Service was signed at beginng of 2022.

### Initiatives implemented or planned to improve PI#8

The above requested data will be available for 2022 and later. PRISMIL CURA - on-line civil-military performance measurements system was implemented and tested in 2021 in order to improve FUA performance monitoring. Agreement between EUROCONTROL and LPS SR relating to the provision by EUROCONTROL of the PRISMIL Service was signed at beginng of 2022.

### 4 CAPACITY - SLOVAKIA

### 4.1 PRB monitoring

• Slovakia registered near zero minutes of average en route ATFM delay per flight during 2021, thus meeting the local breakdown value of 0.05.

• En route ATFM delays in Slovakia were also zero on average during the past years.

• Traffic is expected to grow, with 2019 levels likely being reached in 2024 in the high growth scenario but not in the base growth scenarios. A slight increase in the number of ATCOs in OPS is planned at Bratislava ACC during RP3.

• The yearly total of sector opening hours in Bratislava ACC was 18,790, showing a 10.5% increase compared to 2020. Sector opening hours are 23.4% below 2019 levels.

• Bratislava ACC registered 14.00 IFR movements per one sector opening hour in 2021, being 37.1% below 2019 levels.

### 4.2 En route performance

### 4.2.1 En route ATFM delay (KPI#1)



### Average en route ATFM delay per flight by delay groups

#### Monthly distribution of en route ATFM delay by delay groups - 2021 1.00 ATFM delay (min/flight) 0.80 0.60 0.40 0.20 0 0.00 Sep Jan Feb Jun Jul Aug Dec Mar Apr ٧ay Oct V0V Capacity Staffing Disruptions Weather Other non-ATC



### Focus on en route ATFM delay

### Summary of capacity performance

Slovakia experienced an increase in traffic from 201k flights in 2020 to 271k flights in 2021, with practically zero ATFM delay. However, traffic levels were still substantially below the 562k flights in 2019.

### NSA's assessment of capacity performance

There were no delay due to still low traffic caused by the COVID-19

### Monitoring process for capacity performance

Annual monitoring of capacity performance has been implemented as from y2020.

### **Capacity planning**

Capacity of ACC is sufficient with respect to expected demand in a period till y2024.

### Application of Corrective Measures for Capacity (if applicable)

No data available

### 4.2.2 Other indicators



### Sector opening hours - LPS SR



### Focus on ATCOs in operations

1 ATCO - Loss of Medical Certificate in 2021
 2 ATCOs became Managers in 2021
 Corrected data for 2020:
 Number of additional ATCOs in OPS who have started working in the OPS room (FTEs): 5
 Number of ATCOs in OPS who have stopped working in the OPS room (FTEs): 1
 Number of ATCOs in OPS operational at year-end (FTEs): 62

### **5 COST-EFFIENCY - SLOVAKIA**

### 5.1 PRB monitoring

• The en route 2020/2021 actual unit cost of Slovakia was 73.90 €2017, -8.2% lower than the determined unit cost (80.51 €2017). Slovakia does not have a terminal charging zone.

• The en route 2021 actual service units (612K) were in line with the determined service units (609K).

• In 2021, Slovakia decreased total costs by -6.9 M€2017 (-16%) compared to determined costs. Slovakia decreased costs in all cost categories, except for depreciation costs. The decrease in total costs was mainly driven by a significant decrease in staff costs (-6.5 M€2017, or -24%) due to the non-payment of the variable salaries, a COVID-19 measure taken in 2020 (for cashflow reasons). The NSA should provide an analysis of the impact on future performance caused by the significantly lower than determined staff costs.

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• The en route actual unit cost incurred by users in 2020/2021 was 80.67€.

### 5.2 En route charging zone

### 5.2.1 Unit cost (KPI#1)



















### Focus on unit cost

### AUC vs. DUC

In the combined year 2020-2021, the en route AUC (73.90  $\leq$ 2017) was lower by -8.2% (or -6.61  $\leq$ 2017) compared with the DUC (80.51  $\leq$ 2017). This was mainly the effect of the lower than planned en route costs in real terms (-7.9%, -6.9 M $\leq$ 2017).

### En route service units

The difference between actual and planned TSU (+0.3%) is within the ±2% dead-band, which results in additional revenues kept by the ANSPs.

### En route costs by entity

Actual en route costs are -7.9% lower than planned (-6.9 M€2017), which is mainly driven by the lower costs for LPS (-8.3%, or -6.2 M€2017). Actual 2020-2021 costs for METSP and NSA/EUROCONTROL were also lower, by -11.7% (or -0.4 M€2017) and -3.9% (-0.4 M€2017) respectively.

### En route costs for the main ANSP at charging zone level

The lower than planned en route costs in real terms for LPS (-8.3%, or -6.2 M€2017) result from:

- lower than planned, by -13.5% (or -6.5 M€2017) en route staff costs reasulted from freezing of variable wage components in 2020 and continuation of this measure in 2021;

- lower, by -6.8% (or -0.9 M€2017) en-route other operating costs due to continuation of the cost containment measures such as limited travel expenses, trainings and consumption of materials, etc.

- higher, by +14.2% (or +1.3 M€2017) depreciation, however, as explained by LPS, the depreciation was in line with the investment plan and the difference came from the deduction in 2021 of the carry-overs of unrealized investments in RP2; and,

- lower costs of capital by -0.7% (or -0.03 M€2017).

### 5.2.2 Actual unit cost incurred by the users (AUCU) (PI#1)



Components of the AUCU in 2020-2021	€/SU
DUC	85.37
Inflation adjustment	0.52

AUCU components (€/SU) - 2020-2021

סווכ	85.37
Inflation adjustment	0.52
Cost exempt from cost-sharing	-0.36
Traffic rick charing adjustment	-0.30
	0.00
Traffic adj. (costs not TRS)	-0.04
Finantial incentives	0.00
Modulation of charges	0.00
Cross-financing	0.00
Other revenues	-4.82
Application of lower unit rate	0.00
Total adjustments	-4.70
AUCU	80.67
AUCU vs. DUC	-5.5%



Cost exempt from cost sharing

Cost exempt from cost sharing by item - 2020-2021	€'000	€/SU
New and existing investments	0.0	0.00
Competent authorities and qualified	-141.8	-0.13
entities costs		
Eurocontrol costs	-251.9	-0.23
Pension costs	0.0	0.00
Interest on loans	0.0	0.00
Changes in law	0.0	0.00
Total cost exempt from cost risk sharing	-393.7	-0.36

### 5.2.3 Regulatory result (RR)



### Focus on regulatory result

### LPS net gain on activity in the en route charging zone in the combined year 2020-2021

LPS's net gain amounts to +7.2 M€, mainly due to a gain of +6.9 M€ from the cost sharing mechanism and a gain of +0.2 M€ from the traffic risk sharing mechanism.

### LPS overall regulatory results (RR) for the en route activity

Ex-post, the overall RR taking into account the net gain from the en route activity mentioned above (+7.2  $M \in$ ) and the actual RoE (+3.8  $M \in$ ) amounts to +11.0  $M \in$  (13.8% of the en route revenues). The resulting ex-post rate of return on equity is 13.1% which is higher than the 4.6% planned in the PP.