Bilateral agreements relating to air navigation charges

Non-Member States and their air navigation service providers can avail of EUROCONTROL's expertise in the calculation, billing, collection and accounting of air navigation charges. These services are offered on the basis of a bilateral agreement related to air navigation charges or part of a comprehensive agreement.

Which services are offered?

- **Billing of en-route and (optionally) terminal charges,** i.e.:
  - Calculation of charges on a per flight basis;
  - Preparation and dispatch of billing documents including e-billing services;
  - Processing of airlines'/airspace users' claims;
  - Provision of information on tariffs and charges to airlines/airspace users.
- **Monitoring of payments** made by airlines/ airspace users;
- **Accounting services;**
- **Reporting on accounting, billing and debt recovery;**
- **Treasury management and advisory services, i.e.:**
  - Low-risk short term investment of funds collected;
  - Disbursement of funds collected. We can send funds to third parties, such as financial institutions;
- **Collection of charges** (excluding enforced recovery);
- **Provision of information** in view of enforced recovery actions to be taken by the air navigation service provider.

EUROCONTROL collects the air navigation charges and takes all necessary measures to ensure that the charges are collected within the due time as stated on the invoice.

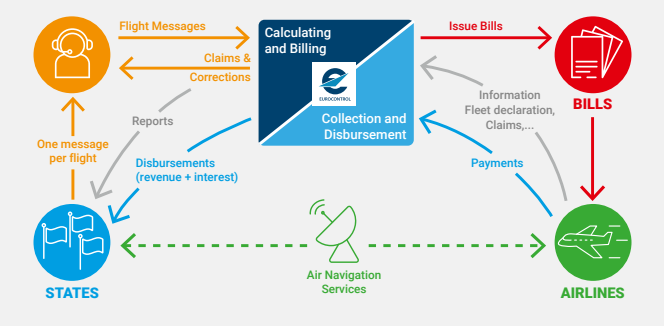
Where a user defaults and the normal collection measures have been exhausted, the matter may be referred to the State/air navigation service provider. Enforcement measures will be the sole responsibility of the State/air navigation service provider.

Billing and collection services can rapidly become operational with minimal procedural and technical arrangements.

Collection costs mainly depend on the number of users billed. They are recovered by means of an administrative unit rate to be added to the national unit rate of charge and are therefore borne by the airspace users.

What are the advantages?

- **Extensive experience and expertise** made available for the provision of billing and collection services;
- **Use of the advanced database** on aircraft and operators that EUROCONTROL maintains for the Multilateral Route Charges System;
- **Comprehensive, clear and regular reporting** on finance, billing and debt recovery;
- **High recovery rate, typically 99%+**, thereby securing a stable cash flow in euros;
- **Low collection costs, typically less than 1% of the amounts billed**, as a result of economies of scale and high productivity.



CONSORTIUM COORDINATOR sesar DEPLOYMENT MANAGER
FOUNDING MEMBER sesar JOINT UNDERTAKING
NETWORK MANAGER

High recovery rate resulting from:

- **Compliance with ICAO's policies** on charges;
- **High-quality billing** that meets airspace users' needs:
  - Correctness of charges;
  - Clarity of billing documents - EUROCONTROL standards;
  - Swift transmission of billing documents via online portal or regular and express mail;
  - Provision of updated statements of accounts to airspace users;
  - Swift treatment of claims received from airlines/ airspace users;
  - Information on tariffs and charges easily accessible by airspace users via Internet.
- **Permanent monitoring of payments** made by airlines/ airspace users and efficient collection measures;
- **Billing of interest** on late payment.

Low collection costs resulting from:

- Services that are supported by the **infrastructure and facilities** available at EUROCONTROL Headquarters, as well as the **data used to operate the Multilateral System** - 41 States in 2025 -, EUR 10.0 billion route charges billed in 2024.
- **Professional experienced staff** that is multilingual, with a broad skill base covering all aspects of ATM operations, aircraft and user data, IT, debt recovery, accounting, treasury and finance;
- **Fully integrated operations** for the maintenance of user data, e-billing, information to users, debt monitoring, IT and administrative support;
- Standard EUROCONTROL **processes and principles**;
- **High productivity.**

Current agreements in operation:

Three bilateral agreements relating to air navigation services are currently in operation in 2025: **Egypt, Uzbekistan and Morocco (Comprehensive Agreement).**

The total amount billed in respect of such agreements in 2024 was EUR 375 million, corresponding to 1.7 million flights.

Steps towards entry into operation

Four steps are conducted in parallel:

- **Conclusion of a bilateral agreement** with EUROCONTROL.
- **Establishment of the air navigation service provider's cost-base(s) and tariff(s) in accordance with ICAO policies, following consultation with airspace users.**
  - This is a State/air navigation service provider's responsibility for which EUROCONTROL provides assistance on request.
- **Setting-up of flight data collection and transmission.**
  - EUROCONTROL provides assistance on request. The collection and transmission of flight data to EUROCONTROL via Internet is the responsibility of the State/air navigation service provider.
- **Adoption of new/amended regulations providing a legal basis for the billing and collection of air navigation charges** by EUROCONTROL.
  - EUROCONTROL provides assistance on request. New/ amended regulations must be in force at the date of entry into operation of the bilateral agreement.

© EUROCONTROL - August 2025

This document is published by EUROCONTROL for information purposes. It may be copied in whole or in part, provided that EUROCONTROL is mentioned as the source and it is not used for commercial purposes (i.e. for financial gain). The information in this document may not be modified without prior written permission from EUROCONTROL.

www.eurocontrol.int