



International Civil Aviation Organization

MIDANPIRG/20 & RASG-MID/10

(Muscat, Oman, 14 – 17 May 2023)

Agenda Item 6.5: ATM/SAR

COP 28 AND IMPACT ON AIR TRAFFIC IN THE UAE FIR

(Presented by the United Arab Emirates)

SUMMARY

The paper presents the UAE's Air Traffic Management (ATM) preparations for the United Nations Framework Conference on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties 28 (COP 28) and its expected impact on air traffic movements in the UAE Airspace.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 COP28 is the 28th session of the Conference of Parties (COP) which is the apex decision-making body of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). It will be held from November 30th until December 12th, 2023 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. It will strive to build consensus amongst parties to drive climate action.

1.2 The event attracted between 22,000 and 35,000 attendees in the past years, including Heads of States and other dignitaries. It is expected that COP 28 may bring up to 60,000 attendees in a very short timeframe.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The UAE's Air Traffic daily average is 2473 movements as per 2023 first quarter figures exceeding the daily average of 2019 which was 2275 movements a day. This is an increase of 8.7% compared to 2019 figures.

2.2 Given the nature of the COP events where a large number of VVIP, VIP, State and Special handling movements are expected in addition to the constantly growing daily traffic, proper Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM) preparations for the event is required as during high traffic density events, air traffic flow management measures such as ground delay programs, metering programs, and airborne holding may be implemented to manage air traffic.

2.3 As part of the preparations, UAE GCAA is intending to establish an ATFM Cell within the Emirates ACC to ensure the safe and efficient flow of air traffic. The Emirates ACC will use an array of automation tools to monitor, handle and implement ATFM measures when required.

2.4 The UAE ATFM Cell will utilise collaborative decision making (CDM) efforts that allows all Air Traffic Service Units (ATSUs) to participate in ATM decisions that affect them.

2.5 UAE GCAA ANS will coordinate closely with the Aviation stakeholders both Nationally and Internationally and planned measures and procedures will be communicated to all relevant parties by multiple means including the publication of an AIC in the UAE AIP.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) take note of the information provided in this Working Paper; and
- b) encourage States to support the UAE ATFM Cell and its activities in order to ensure the safe and efficient traffic movement into and out of the UAE as well as through the MID region.