



*International Civil Aviation Organization*

**Regional Aviation Safety Group - Middle East**

**Fifth Meeting (RASG-MID/5)**

*(Doha, Qatar, 22-24 May 2016)*

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**Agenda Item 3: Regional Performance Framework for Safety**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF MENA-RSOO**

*(Presented by the Secretariat)*

**SUMMARY**

Based on the results of the Study on the establishment of RSOO(s) for the ACAC and ICAO MID States, nine (9) States signed the Letter of Intent during the DGCA-MID/3 meeting and committed to the establishment process of an RSOO for Middle East and North African Group of States (MENA RSOO).

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

**REFERENCES**

- DGCA-MID/3 meeting Report
- RSC/4 Report

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The ACAC/ICAO Seminar/Workshop, which was held in Rabat in December 2012, developed a strategy for the establishment of an RSOO. The Strategy was endorsed by the ACAC Executive Council and the DGCA-MID/2 meeting in December 2012 and May 2013, respectively. The DGCA-MID/2 meeting also agreed that ICAO would support ACAC in the conduct of the RSOO Study.

1.2 Work begun on the Study in January 2015, upon the hiring of a Consultant. The Final Report of the Study was consolidated taking into consideration the outcome of the Workshop on the Initial Results of the Study on the Establishment of Regional Safety Oversight Organization(s), held in Rabat, Morocco, 23-24 March 2015.

1.3 The Final Report of the Study was circulated by ACAC to the 13 States (Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, UAE and Yemen) that participated in the Study on 21 April 2015.

**2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 Based on the results of the Study, the DGCA-MID/3 meeting supported the establishment of an RSOO for the Middle East and North African Group of States (MENA RSOO), with a primary objective of the RSOO should be to assist member States to develop and implement SSP (core service). The RSOO should also assist States to resolve safety oversight deficiencies, and thereby achieve compliance with international requirements.

2.2 Nine States (Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Sudan) signed the Letter of Intent and committed to the process of establishing the MENA RSOO. Accordingly, in accordance with the Future Activities and Work Plan proposed by the Study, the next step is the establishment of the Steering Committee (June 2015), which should be composed of the Directors General of the States that signed the Letter of Intent.

2.3 The DGAC-MID/3 meeting noted with appreciation Saudi Arabia's offer to host the MENA RSOO. However, it was highlighted that the decision related to the location of the RSOO should be left to the MENA RSOO Steering Committee, taking into consideration the criteria included in the Report of the Study.

2.4 The signed Letter of Intent was handed to the Director General of ACAC during the DGCA-MID/3 meeting for presentation to the ACAC Executive Council, Rabat, Morocco, 5-7 May 2015 and necessary follow-up action with concerned States and ICAO. The next step was that ACAC to proceed with the Future Activities and Work Plan recommended by the Study in coordination with ICAO, including the organization of the meeting of MENA RSOO Steering Committee, which should be composed of the Directors General of the States that signed the Letter of Intent.

2.5 Although the first meeting of MENA RSOO Steering Committee was supposed to be held in June 2015 according to timelines provided in the Study, ACAC called for a meeting, which was initially intended to be the First meeting of the MENA RSOO Steering Committee (Rabat, 16-17 March 2016). However, due to the low level of attendance and the absence of the DGs or delegated Officials, the meeting was considered as preparatory meeting for the Steering Committee Meeting attended by Morocco, Saudi Arabia, ACAC and ICAO. The main outcomes of this meeting are:

- a) ACAC to call for the First meeting of the MENA RSOO Steering Committee to be held before the ACAC Executive Council, which is planned to be held in Saudi Arabia in May 2016;
- b) the MENA RSOO Steering Committee should coordinate with the concerned States to designate members of the High Level Task Force;
- c) ACAC should effectively and continuously coordinate with ICAO MID Office the progress of the project; and
- d) ICAO Doc 9734 Part B (The Establishment and Management of a Regional Safety Oversight Organization) should be followed during the establishment process of the MENA RSOO including the identification/clarification of each entity/organization, which should be decided by the Steering Committee.

### **3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to agree on the next course of actions related to establishment process of MENA RSOO.

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