



International Civil Aviation Organization

Runway and Ground Safety Working Group

Third Meeting (RGS WG/3)
(Cairo, Egypt, 19-22 September 2016)

Agenda Item 3: Implementation of Aerodrome Safety Priorities and Objectives in the MID Region

OUTCOMES OF THE ICAO HELIPORT SEMINAR (IHS)

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the outcomes of the ICAO Regional Heliports Seminar (IHS) held in Dubai, UAE from 8 to 10 December 2015.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

REFERENCES

- Annex 14 Vol. II
- IHS Summary of Discussions

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Although Heliports design and operation constitute a complete part of ICAO Annex 14 (Volume II), the focus was mainly on the fixed wings aerodromes which are addressed under (Volume I). Therefore, there is a needs continuous effort to improve heliports operation and safety.

1.2 The increase in helicopter operations and the need for heliports all over the world, and in the MID Region in particular, requires continuous efforts to improve heliports operation and safety.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 ICAO MID Regional Office has successfully conducted the ICAO Heliport Seminar (IHS) which was graciously hosted by UAE in Dubai from 8 to 10 December 2015.

2.2 The IHS was attended by almost one hundred (100) participants from ten (10) States, four (4) of them were from the MID Region. Concurrently with the IHS, the GCAA hosted the Heliport Design Working Group (HDWG) in Dubai. This was an opportunity for the HDWG members to participate and share experience with the MID States.

2.3 The Seminar was conducted with objectives to provide an overview on ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) related to heliports with a focus on design and operation requirements. The Seminar highlighted the need for Heliport regulations and safety oversight, and provided an overview on the operator's perspectives.

2.4 It was highlighted that the General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), UAE, in partnership with the aviation industry; has adopted a proactive approach to the formulation and introduction of UAE national regulation applicable to heliports. This approach has gained the support of stakeholders, which has been an essential element in the process, particularly in a Region where aviation growth continues at a rapid rate.

2.5 The IHS work programme and outcomes are available at the ICAO MID Regional Office website: <http://www.icao.int/MID>. The outcomes included the following recommendations:

- 1) encourage States to implement ICAO provisions related to Heliports (Annex 14 Volume II) through national Regulations and Safety Oversight. This should include implementation of adequate SMS;
- 2) encourage States to establish and maintain database for Heliports. This should include monitoring new Heliports construction;
- 3) invite ICAO to consider inclusion of core training elements (CAA inspectors & Heliport operator) as part of the Heliport Design and services Manual; and
- 4) report the outcome of this Seminar to RASG-MID and share with the other RASG's.

2.6 The Fifth meeting of the MIDANPIRG Steering Group (MSG/5, Cairo, Egypt, 18 - 20 April 2016) noted the IHS outcomes and agreed to the following Draft Conclusion:

DRAFT CONCLUSION 5/2: ESTABLISHMENT OF HELIPORTS DATABASE

That, States be urged to establish and maintain a database for Heliports with information about location and type of use, as a minimum.

2.7 The RASG-MID/5 meeting supported the above mentioned Draft Conclusion and urged States to implement the IHS recommendations.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to encourage States implement the IHS recommendations.