



International Civil Aviation Organization

RASG-MID Steering Committee

Fifth Meeting (RSC/5)

(Amman, Jordan, 23-25 January 2017)

Agenda Item 4: Coordination between RASG-MID and MIDANPIRG

REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (RPAS)

(Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents an update on the developments related to Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS).

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

REFERENCES

– RASG-MID/5 Report

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The meeting may wish to recall that ICAO initiated work on unmanned aircraft systems in 2007 when the ANC decided during its 175th Session in April 2007 to establish the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Study Group (UASSG). The UASSG served as the ICAO focal point for all Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) related issues until it was superseded by the Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems Panel (RPASP) in 2014.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The meeting may wish to recall that the RASG-MID/5 meeting (Doha, Qatar, 22-24 May 2016) was apprised of the latest developments related to RPAS. The meeting noted that the ANC during its 196th Session in May 2014 established the RPAS Panel to replace the Unmanned Aircraft Systems Study Group (UASSG).

2.2 The main objective of the RPAS Panel is to develop SARPs, procedures and guidance to facilitate safe, secure an efficient integration of Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) into non-segregated airspace and aerodromes, maintaining the existing level of safety for manned aviation, with priority to Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) operations in controlled airspace. The RASG-MID/5 meeting noted that the personnel licensing provisions related to RPAS will be adopted in 2018.

2.3 The RASG-MID/5 meeting encouraged States to use the guidance material related to RPAS provided in the ICAO Doc 10019 and the information available on the RPAS webpage: <https://www4.icao.int/uastoolkit/home/about>.

2.4 The RASG-MID/5 meeting encouraged States to consider the developments related to RPAS, and take necessary measures for the amendment of the relevant civil aviation regulations and procedures in a timely manner, in order to ensure safe integration of the RPA into the non-segregated airspace.

2.5 The meeting agreed that the RASG-MID should address the RPAS safety-related issues. The meeting agreed to the following Conclusion:

*CONCLUSION 5/18: REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (RPAS)
OCCURRENCES*

That, States be urged to report any safety occurrence related to RPA operations to the ICAO MID Regional Office on regular basis, for review and analysis by the Accident and Incident Analysis Working Group (AIA WG).

2.6 As a follow-up action to Conclusion 5/18, the ICAO MID Regional Office issued State Letter Ref.: ME 4 – 16/215 dated 16 August 2016 and a reminder for reporting of RPAS occurrences through State Letter Ref.: ME 4 – 16/291 dated 20 October 2016. Only Iraq provided reports for years 2015 and 2016 occurrences.

2.7 The meeting may wish to note that ICAO, with a view to support RPAS developments, has been conducting global and regional symposiums/workshops across the ICAO Regions. In this respect, an RPAS Workshop is planned to be organized in the MID Region from 11 to 13 December 2017, the venue (host State) to be agreed upon in due course.

2.8 It is to be highlighted that the ICAO MID Regional Office is working closely with the ICAO Asia Pacific Regional Office on the development of recommendations/guidance on the use of the unmanned aircraft for Search and Rescue services, which would enhance the efficiency in rendering the services.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) urge States to implement the provisions of RASG-MID Conclusion 15/8; and
- b) encouraged States to:
 - i. use the guidance material related to RPAS provided in the ICAO Doc 10019 and the information available on the RPAS webpage: <https://www4.icao.int/uastoolkit/home/about>;
 - ii. share experience related to RPAS, in particular for the developments of the required regulations and framework for RPA operations; and
 - iii. participate in the ICAO RPAS Workshop planned to be organized in the MID Region from 11 to 13 December 2017.