



International Civil Aviation Organization

MID ATS Messaging Management Centre Steering Group

Fourth Meeting (MIDAMC STG/4)
(Cairo, Egypt, 18 – 19 March 2019)

Agenda Item 3: AFS Issues

SITA INTEGRATION IN THE MID REGION

(Presented by Egypt)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the progress toward SITA integration in Cairo AFTN/AMHS COM Cerner

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 4.

REFERENCES

- Coordination Meeting on SITA Integration 18 November 2018
Cairo, Egypt

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Integrating SITA AMHS PRMD to be routed by Cairo AFTN/AMHS COM Centre is facing some concerns, As NANSC used to deal with SITA as for-profit company, and there are current financial issues with SITA as There's outstanding payment since 2014 should be paid by SITA to NANSC. In addition, there was a concern relating to operational impacts on the routing of traffic.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 A coordination meeting was held in Cairo, Egypt on 18 November 2018, at ICAO MID Office where the Egypt's concerns regarding SITA integration in the MID Region discussed. The meeting attended by participants from ECAA, NANSC, ICAO, EUROCONTROL, and SITA.

3. OUTCOMES OF THE MEETING

3.1 EUR/NAT Transition Manager explained the rationale behind SITA Integration into the AFS Network, the new SITA connections and the benefits for the AFS users. Moreover, it was highlighted that with the new SITA Type X connections, SITA traffic will not be move between Regions, which will cause better load balancing of Global SITA messages via dedicated Gateway COM Centers to SITA installed in each ICAO Region.

3.2 It was mentioned that SITA Integration is a pre-requisite to any inter-regional AMHS connection in order to avoid message looping, message loss, NDRs throughout the global AMHS network, which can affect the ATC services worldwide.

3.3 Egypt raised a concern about using Egyptians Addresses by unknown SITA users outside Egypt to communicate with the AFS Network. The EUR/NAT Transition manager clarified that SITA Integration can solve this issue, as each State can validate the User Addresses Table and define authorized SITA users.

3.4 During the meeting, the following issues have been clarified:

- a) SITA will route messages via AMHS to the regional SITA AMHS-Type X Gateway connections only.
- b) The SITA AMHS-Type X Gateway cannot overtake the role of a main communication centres by relaying AFS traffic between ICAO Regions.
- c) The SITA AMHS-Type X Gateway allows authorized SITA users only to communicate with the AFS Network.

3.5 The meeting agreed that SITA will do the following actions in order the facilitate SITA Integration in the MID Region:

- a) provide NANSC with the list of all its users exchanging messages with the MID Region, and update the list every three months;
- b) Inform all SITA users exchanging messages with the MID Region about class B messages charging rules in Egypt with pointing to the Egypt AIP part, and invite the airlines to contact NANSC to establish a contract to enable the relay of Class B messages go through the Cairo COM centre, to avoid rejection of Class B messages.
- c) Commit to route all traffic to the MID Region (15 States as per ICAO MID office accreditation area) through the regional SITA AMHS-Type X Gateway connections defined by ICAO MIDANPIRG.

3.6 A Follow up meeting held in NANSC on 27/2/2019, and agreed that SITA should provide an explanation to NANSC regarding to the status of the outstanding payment after receiving a copy of the invoices previously settled by SITA.

4. ACTION BY THE MEETING

4.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the progress toward SITA integration in Cairo AFTN/AMHS Communication Center; and
- b) urge SITA to expedite settling financial issues with NANSC.