



International Civil Aviation Organization

MIDANPIRG Air Traffic Management Sub-Group

**Eighth Meeting (ATM SG/8)**  
(Amman, Jordan, 7 – 10 November 2022)

**Agenda Item 4: Planning and Implementation subject related to ATM/SAR**

**BASIC ATS ROUTE DESIGNATOR MANAGEMENT IN THE MID REGION**

*(Presented by Egypt/NANSC)*

<b>SUMMARY</b>	
<p>This paper presents the initiatives taken by National Air Navigation Services Company (NANSC) under the regulatory guidance of the Egyptian Civil Aviation Authority (ECAA) readiness to implement basic Routes Designator management in Cairo FIR as a pilot in the MID region.</p> <p>Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3</p>	
<b>REFERENCE(S)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EGYPT AIP</li> <li>- ICAO ANNEX 11</li> <li>- ICAO Doc. 9613</li> <li>- ICAO MID Doc 007</li> <li>- MID ANP, VOLUME II PART IV</li> </ul>	

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 According to ICAO Annex 11, The basic ATS routes designator shall consist of one letter of the alphabet followed by a number from 1 to 999.

1.2 The Selection of the letter shall be made from the following table:

ATS route designator letters	A, B, G, R				L, M, N, P				H, J, V, W				Q, T, Y, Z			
	PR	NPR	R	N-R	PR	NPR	R	N-R	PR	NPR	R	N-R	PR	NPR	R	N-R
Usage	X			X	X		X			X		X		X	X	

PR: Part of Regional network  
 NPR: Not part of regional network  
 R: RNAV route  
 N-R: Not RNAV route

1.3 Based on ICAO SARPs in Annex 11, basic ATS route designators shall be assigned in accordance with the following principles.

- The same basic designator shall be assigned to a main trunk route throughout its entire length, irrespective of terminal control areas, States or regions traversed.
- Where two or more trunk routes have a common segment, the segment in question shall be assigned each of the designators of the routes concerned, except where this would present difficulties in the provision of air traffic service, in which case, by common agreement, one designator only shall be assigned.
- A basic designator assigned to one route shall not be assigned to any other route.
- States' requirements for designators shall be notified to the ICAO-MID for coordination.

## 2. DISCUSSION

2.1 There is no clear distinction in all ICAO guidance materials between the regional ATS route and the non-regional ATS route (Domestic route) in terms of the definition of each of them and their specifications, if any.

2.2 In light of the above, NANSC, proposing the Following definition:

An ATS route shall be considered as the MID regional ATS route network provided that:

- a) Cross-bordered (at least initiate/terminate from FIR boundary);
- b) Route designator shall be assigned in accordance with Annex 11, Appendix 1 and the ICAO Codes and Routes Database (ICARD) requirement; and
- c) Published in ICAO Air Navigation Plan (ANP)- Middle East Region (Doc 9708), Volume II, Table ATM II-MID-1 MID Region ATS Route Network.

2.3 Extension of many non-compliant ATS routes designators through the FIRs in MID region and/or intra regions.

2.4 The MID regional agreement in ATS routes designators will allow more available designators for the region and reduce the lack of availability of new one in addition, reduce the ATC workload, as well as reducing the cockpit workload during enroute phase of flight with avoiding hazard that may caused by multiple ATS routes designator within specific FIR or during overflight across the different FIRs in the region.

2.5 ATS routes designator is considered an important and effective stride towards MID region airspace optimisation.

2.6 Cairo FIR has 57 ATS routes (56 of them are RNAV5). Study of Cairo FIR ATS routes designator reached the followings:

- 26 (46%) ATS routes are consonant with ATS routes designator (annex 11).
- 6 (10%) ATS routes are partially consonant with ATS routes designator (annex 11).
- 25 (44%) ATS routes are not consonant with ATS routes designator (annex 11).

2.7 Based on the above, a new project started to complete the rest 31 (54%) ATS routes in Cairo FIR as a pilot in the MID region to be consonant with ATS routes designator requirement in annex 11 to reach 100% with ICAO MID office support through regional and interregional coordination with adjacent FIRs.

**3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate; and
- c) agree on paragraph 2.7 in line with all principles and requirements in annex 11 in Cairo FIR and provide required report to ATM SG/9.

- END -