



*International Civil Aviation Organization*

**MID ATS Messaging Management Centre Steering Group**

**Seventh Meeting (MIDAMC STG/7)**  
*(Muscat, Oman, 15-16 May 2022)*

---

**Agenda Item 4: Update on MID IP Network Project**

**UPDATE ON MID IP NETWORK PROJECT**

*(Presented by the Secretariat)*

<b>SUMMARY</b>
This paper provides update on the establishment of the MID IP Project Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.
<b>REFERENCES</b>
- MIDANPIRG/19 Meeting Report

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The ICAO Middle East Region recognised the need to create cost-effective, robust and secured network for all ground to ground ATM Application and capable to respond to future Air Traffic requirements in a timely manner. A common Regional IP backbone can facilitate data sharing in a secured way and create a shared Network for all ATM stakeholders.

1.2 The Implementation of the MID IP Network will be an enabler for the successful implementation of many ASBU Threads, for example FICE, SWIM, DATM, COMI,...etc.

**2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 The meeting may wish to recall, that in spite of several coordination meetings with the CRV service provider (PCCW), the running cost of the CRV Project is very high and does not meet the objective of the project in having cost-effective solution. Therefore, the MIDANPIRG/18 agreed, through Conclusion 18/37, that the ICAO MID Office, with the support of concerned Sates, initiate discussions with EUROCONTROL, in order to explore the possibility of joining the PENS project as an alternative solution for establishing a MID IP Network.

*MIDANPIRG CONCLUSION 18/37: ALTERNATIVE SOLUTION TO ESTABLISH  
MID IP NETWORK*

*That, the ICAO MID Office, with the support of concerned Sates, initiate discussions with EUROCONTROL, in order to explore the possibility of joining the PENS project as an alternative solution for establishing a MID IP Network.*

2.2 As a follow-up to the MIDANPIRG Conclusion 18/37, ICAO MID Regional Office initiated discussions with EUROCONTROL through correspondences and virtual meeting with support of the CNS SG & MIDAMC STG Chairmen. It was agreed that as a first step, a list of interested States to join the New PENS would be sent to the Service Provider (British Telecom) to check the technical possibility of providing connectivity service and discuss our request with the New PENS governance body.

2.3 ICAO MID Office issued a State Letter (ME 3/2.2.1 – 21/084) dated 2 June 2021 requesting MID States to confirm their interest to join the EUROCONTROL IP Network Project (New PENS) and provide letter of intent/agreement in principle subject to further consultation with concerned parties. In this regards, Eight (8) States (Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and UAE) confirmed their interest to join the EUROCONTROL IP Network Project (New PENS).

2.4 EUROCONTROL and ICAO MID Office agreed on the need to organise awareness session to inform MID States about the technical and institutional frameworks of the IP Network Project (NEW PENS) and provide an overview of the New PENS Project operating model, architecture, governance and key concept.

2.5 A New PENS Webinar was organised on 10 November 2021. The Webinar's documentations are available at <https://www.icao.int/MID/Pages/2021/New%20Pens.aspx>.

2.6 The coordinates of National IP points of interested States have been provided to EUROCONTROL so that the Service provider (British Telecom) study the technical possibility of extending the service to the MID Region. However, the approval of the EUROCONTROL Member States to expand the NewPENS service is a pre-requisite. Currently, EUROCONTROL is reviewing the expressions of interest by some MID States to join NewPENS, and is considering the integration within the NewPENS institutional and contractual framework.

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

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the progress in establishing the MID IP Network; and
- b) invite States have not confirmed their interest to do so.

-END-