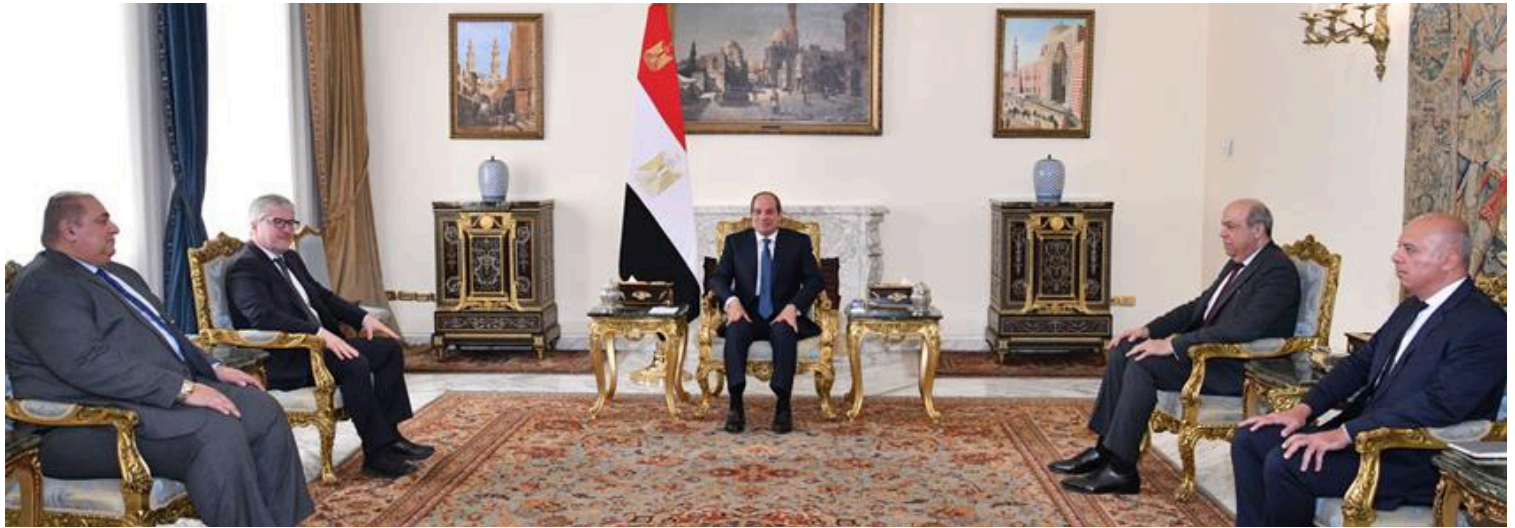


# MID REPORT

## GENERAL INFORMATION



## President of Egypt Meets ICAO Secretary General as Egypt Renews Hosting of ICAO MID Regional Office

H.E. President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi met with Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar, Secretary General of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), during his official visit to Cairo, which also marked the renewal of Egypt's hosting agreement for the ICAO Middle East (MID) Regional Office.

The meeting was attended by H.E. Dr. Sameh El-Hefny, Minister of Civil Aviation of Egypt, and Mr. Mohamed Rahma, Officer-in-Charge of the ICAO MID Regional Office.

President El-Sisi welcomed the Secretary General and expressed Egypt's appreciation for ICAO's vital role as the global authority guiding the development of international civil aviation, particularly in advancing safety, efficiency, and operational performance worldwide. He highlighted the strong and longstanding cooperation between Egypt and ICAO at both bilateral and regional levels, notably through Cairo's role as host of the ICAO MID Regional Office.

The President reaffirmed Egypt's commitment to the continuous development of its civil aviation sector as a key driver of economic growth, emphasizing ongoing efforts to modernize infrastructure, enhance service quality, improve operational efficiency, strengthen technical and human capacities, and expand airport capacity to meet growing air traffic demand.

## Renewal of ICAO MID Regional Office Hosting Agreement Reinforces Egypt's Strategic Role in Civil Aviation

During the visit, Egypt and ICAO signed an agreement to renew the hosting of the ICAO MID Regional Office in Cairo. The agreement was signed by H.E. Dr. Sameh El-Hefny, Minister of Civil Aviation of Egypt and Mr. Juan Carlos Salazar, Secretary General of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), in the presence of senior officials from both sides.



This renewal underscores ICAO's continued confidence in Egypt's institutional capabilities and advanced aviation infrastructure, as well as the country's longstanding contribution to the development of civil aviation at both regional and global levels.

Mr. Salazar commended Egypt's leadership role and its active, strategic partnership with ICAO. He also acknowledged the significant efforts undertaken by Egypt's civil aviation sector in managing a high volume of emergency and rerouted flights during recent regional airspace disruptions, ensuring the safe and orderly continuity of air traffic.

He further emphasized the important role of the ICAO MID Regional Office in Cairo in supporting the implementation of ICAO programmes, enhancing aviation safety oversight, improving operational performance, and advancing environmental sustainability initiatives across the region.



Following the signing, both parties visited the ICAO MID Regional Office to review ongoing programmes and technical initiatives supporting ICAO Member States in the Middle East. Egypt has hosted the ICAO MID Regional Office since 1953 and it plays a key role in delivering technical assistance, training, and capacity-building activities, contributing to a more integrated, efficient, and sustainable air transport system.

# MID OFFICE STRENGTHENS PARTNERSHIPS THROUGH HIGH-LEVEL VISITS

- The ICAO Middle East Regional Office received on 21 April 2026 a visit by H.E. Mohsen Haidara Al-Amri, Minister of Transport of the Republic of Yemen, accompanied by H.E. Capt. Saleh Saleem Bin Nuhaid, Director General of the Civil Aviation and Meteorology Authority (CAMA). The delegation was welcomed by Mr. Mohamed Rahma, and senior ICAO MID officials. The visit provided an opportunity to review ongoing cooperation and discuss priority areas for support, including safety oversight, air navigation, airport development, and capacity-building, with both sides reaffirming their commitment to continued collaboration in line with the ICAO No Country Left Behind Initiative.

- As part of ongoing engagement with ICAO Council Representatives, the ICAO Middle East Regional Office received a visit by Ms. Reem Ouraby, Egypt's Alternate Representative to the ICAO Council on 20 April 2026. Ms. Ouraby was welcomed by Mr. Mohamed Rahma and held a meeting with all ICAO MID Office staff.

- The visit provided an opportunity to exchange views on ongoing regional activities and priorities, as well as to discuss ways to further enhance coordination between the ICAO Council and the Regional Office in support of ICAO programmes and initiatives across the MID Region.



- The Chairman of the National Air Navigation Services Company (NANSC) of Egypt paid a visit to the ICAO Middle East Regional Office on 20 April 2026, during which he was received by Mr. Mohamed Rahma. The visit featured an exchange of perspectives on current and future developments in air navigation services, as well as regional challenges and opportunities, including the management of contingency situation during the prevailing MID Region tension. Discussions also emphasized the value of continued collaboration between national air navigation service providers and ICAO in advancing safe, efficient, and harmonized air navigation systems across the MID Region.



## MID RO GENERAL ACTIVITIES AND INTERACTIONS WITH STATES AND STAKEHOLDERS

- Mr. Rahma, Officer In Charge of the MID Regional Office and Mr. Smaoui, Deputy Regional Director represented the MID Office in the GISS-2026, which serves as a platform to promote sustainable aviation in line with ICAO's No Country Left Behind initiative, providing opportunities to connect with peers and explore ways to strengthen aviation implementation efforts worldwide. The Symposium, inter-alia, provided an opportunity to meet with high-level Executives from different States and International Organizations and Industry partners, including:
  - Minister of Transport of Libya and DG Libya CAA
  - Minister of Transport of Yemen and DG CAMA
  - DG Türkiye DGCA
  - Vice President Oman CAA
  - Executive Vice President of ICCAIA
  - Representatives to ICAO Council
  - ANC Commissioners



- Further to a request by Oman, a coordination meeting between the ICAO MID Office and Oman CAA was held virtually on 30 April 2026. The meeting was attended by H.E Eng. Naif Ali Al Abri, President of Oman CAA accompanied by Eng. Saleh Abdullah Al Harthy, Director General Air Navigation; and from ICAO, Mr. Mohamed Rahma, Officer In Charge ICAO MID Office accompanied by the DRD and the ATM and AIM Regional Officers represented the MID Office and Mr. Elie El Khoury represented ICAO HQ. The main discussions were related to the challenges faced by Oman with regard to the management and coordination of traffic in the interface area with the APAC Region, in particular with India.
- Coordination with Egypt (Host State) continued as well as technical Secretariat work initiated for a smooth conduct of the MIDANPIRG/23 & RASG-MID/13 meetings (Cairo, 14-18 June 2026).

## IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

### ICAO MID conducted a Technical Assistance Mission (TAM) for the benefit of the Libyan Civil Aviation Authority (LYCAA) in Tripoli, Libya, from 12 to 16 April 2026.

- The mission supported Libya in establishing an evidence-based baseline of its civil aviation system through an ICAO gap analysis and assessment. It covered the main safety and security oversight areas, including LEG, ORG, PEL, OPS, AIR, AIG, ANS, AGA, SSP, and AVSEC/FAL.
- The mission is expected to contribute to an improved common understanding between Libya and ICAO of the needs and priorities of the Libyan civil aviation system. It will also support Libya's efforts to restore and progressively strengthen compliance with the Convention on International Civil Aviation, ICAO provisions and applicable global and regional aviation requirements.



- In addition, the mission is expected to assist Libya in re-establishing and reinforcing effective State safety and security oversight systems, modernizing its legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks, enhancing national technical competencies, and facilitating Libya's full and active participation in the international civil aviation community. The outcomes of the mission will serve as a basis for defining the strategic framework, priorities, governance arrangements, financial parameters, partners and support requirements under Libya's future implementation Support Action Plan (iSAP).
- The mission's observations are expected to support the development of Libya's iSAP, to be prepared by LYCAA in coordination with the ICAO MID Office and relevant stakeholders.

## IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

### Action Plan to Support the Recovery of Civil Aviation in the Syrian Arab Republic

- ICAO MID has initiated the ICAO Action Plan for the Syrian Arab Republic, marking an important step toward the recovery and sustainable development of the country's civil aviation sector. From 5 to 9 April 2026, ICAO MID and the Syrian General Authority of Civil Aviation and Air Transport (GACA) carried out initial activities under Phase I – Baseline Assessment. These activities were conducted through a hybrid approach, combining virtual engagement with preparations for future on-site missions. This initial phase aims to establish a high-level understanding of the current status of Syria's civil aviation system and identify priority areas for support.

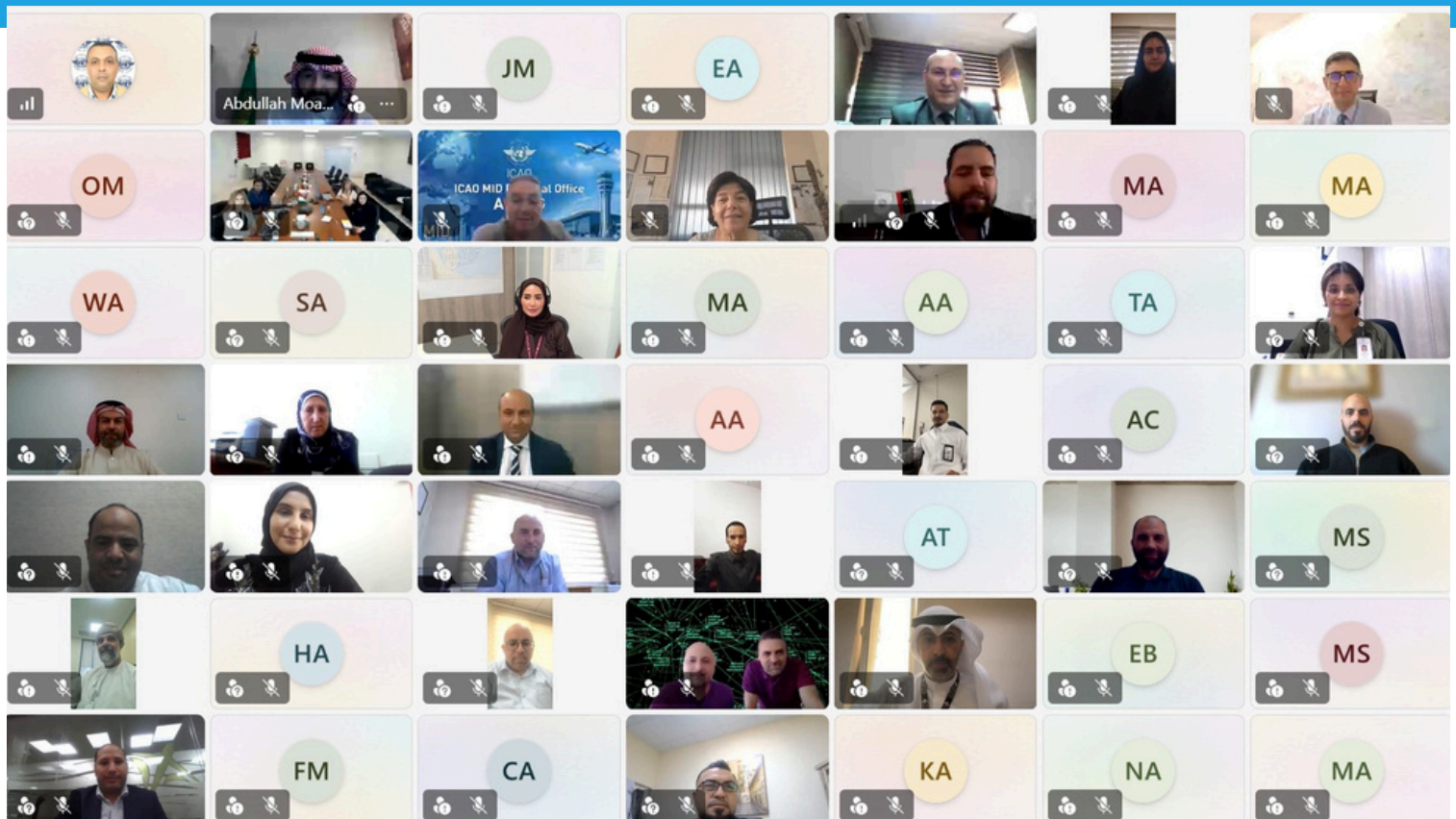
- The invitation Letter for the **MID FPP SC/9 meeting** (Virtual, 25 May 2026) was issued. The main objective of the meeting will be to review and discuss the future legal and institutional framework of the MID FPP.



**AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES**

**MID Region Contingency Recovery Coordination**

- A virtual meeting was held on 27 April 2026 between ICAO Headquarters, the ICAO MID Regional Office, and Libya to discuss matters related to Communication, Navigation, and Surveillance (CNS). The meeting provided an opportunity to receive updates from Libya on the current status of CNS implementation, and to discuss planning and implementation of global and regional priorities, including challenges and potential solutions.
- The Fourth Regional Air Navigation Plan and National Air Navigation Plan Task Force (RANP/NANP TF/4) was conducted on 27-28 April 2026 in virtual mode. During this meeting, the new MID Air Navigation Plan Volume III, as well as the preliminary Air Navigation Report 2025, were reviewed in preparation for their submission to MIDANPIRG/23 for further review and endorsement.



## AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES



- The MID Office continued the support provided to the MID Political Tension Contingency Coordination Team (MID CCT), amid the armed conflict, which started in the Middle East Region on 28 February 2026. Following the ceasefire on 8 April 2026, ICAO conducted several one-to-one and follow-up meetings with the States concerned to ensure that appropriate safety assessments are carried out prior to the resumption of operations over the affected FIRs. In addition, ICAO developed a contingency recovery plan and a NOTAM Template to facilitate the necessary harmonization for the safe and coordinated resumption of operations at the regional level. Despite that fact that all FIRs in the region have been reopened, the majority of traffic between the MID and EUR regions continues to utilize the airspaces of Saudi Arabia and Egypt.
- Some airlines operating to and from Northern and Eastern Europe have resumed flights over Syrian airspace. Furthermore, certain airlines operating between the Gulf area and Central Asia are currently using Iraqi airspace as an alternative to Afghanistan airspace. Operations over the high seas, particularly between Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, and the UAE, have resumed; however, traffic levels have not yet returned to their previous level. Additionally, some States, including Bahrain, Iran, and Qatar, have revoked previously granted permissions and now require airlines to submit new requests for permission. Despite the ceasefire the level of tension remains high. This continued instability poses challenges for State decision-makers in fully normalizing operations under the current conditions.

## AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES

### MID Region Advances Air Navigation Planning

- A preparatory meeting was held between ICAO EUR/NAT, ICAO MID, ICAO Headquarters, and Eurocontrol to advance planning for the Interregional EUR/NAT and MID Seminar on System-Wide Information Management (SWIM), to be held in Tbilisi, Georgia, from 23 to 25 June 2026. Participants agreed on the Seminar agenda, work programme, logistical arrangements, and the respective contributions of each organization, and identified key speakers and session structures. All parties reaffirmed their commitment to delivering a high-quality event supporting States from both regions in advancing SWIM implementation.
- The Second Meeting of the Aeronautical Information Management Digitalization and Planning Task Force (AIMDP TF/2) and the Twelfth Meeting of the MIDANPIRG AIM Sub-Group (AIM SG/12) were successfully conducted virtually on 21 and 22–23 April 2026, respectively. More than 60 participants from MID States, International Organizations, and industry stakeholders gathered to review progress on AIM digitalization initiatives, discuss regional implementation challenges, agree on priorities and work programme activities, and provide guidance on the way forward for advancing AIM modernization across the MID Region in line with ICAO standards and global plans.
- The ICAO MID Regional Office provided dedicated support to Syria, Oman, Libya, and Yemen through a series of individual virtual meetings aimed at assisting these States in developing and updating their Aeronautical Information Services (AIS) to Aeronautical Information Management (AIM) transition roadmaps. The virtual calls also focused on the development of corrective action plans to address and remove identified deficiencies in the AIM field.





## SECURITY AND FACILITATION

### MID Office Conducts RAFIT/9 Preparatory Coordination Meeting

- ICAO MID held virtually (26 April 2026) the RAFIT/9 preparation meeting that was attended by the RAFIT Chairperson (Ahmed Karakutly, Saudi Arabia), the Vice-Chairperson (Ishaq Al Khayari, Oman) and MID Office. The main objective of the meeting was to discuss the arrangements and order of business of the upcoming RAFIT/9 meeting to be held virtually on 12 May 2026.

