

MID REPORT

GENERAL INFORMATION



ICAO MID Office Coordinates High-Level Visit of the ICAO Council President to the United Arab Emirates

From 4 to 8 February 2026, the official visit of Mr. Toshiyuki Onuma, President of the ICAO Council, to Dubai was successfully coordinated by the ICAO Middle East (MID) Office, NACC Office, in close cooperation with the UAE GCAA and national authorities.

During the high-level visit, Mr. Onuma coincided with two major international events hosted by the UAE:

- The World Government Summit (WGS 2026)
- TIPCAL – The International Program for Civil Aviation Leaders

During the visit, the ICAO Council President held several key bilateral meetings, including:

- A meeting with H.E. Abdulla bin Touq Al Marri, UAE Minister of Economy, where they discussed the essential role of civil aviation in supporting national economic growth and global connectivity.
- A meeting with H.E. Saif Mohammed Al Suwaidi, Director General of the UAE General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), focusing on regulatory cooperation, safety development, and regional aviation priorities.

Mr. Onuma also participated in high-level discussions and leadership sessions during the World Government Summit and TIPCAL, engaging with ministers, senior officials, and global aviation leaders. These engagements underscored ICAO's continued support to Member States in areas such as digital transformation, sustainability, innovation, and capacity-building.

The visit highlighted the UAE's ongoing leadership in global aviation and reinforced its strong partnership with ICAO. It also reaffirmed ICAO's commitment to working closely with Member States in the Middle East to advance international civil aviation objectives.



MID RO ACTIVITIES AND INTERACTIONS WITH STATES AND STAKEHOLDERS

- The Chairman of the Board and DG of the newly established Lebanese Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA), Capt. Mohammed Aziz visited the MID Office with Mr. Ali Chaar, Director Flight Safety, on 22 February 2026.
- During this meeting the DG of LCAA explained the new Organizational Structure of LCAA and requested ICAO's assistance to support Lebanon in the process of normalization of the civil aviation system, commensurate with a Multi-Disciplinary Assessment Mission.

- The conflict between Sudan and South Sudan prompted Sudan to cease its technical support to South Sudan. Given that the Khartoum FIR remains contingent and the Juba FIR has not yet been established, the provision of services over South Sudan's territory above FL245 necessitates additional support from Sudan. To address this matter, ICAO MID and ESAF jointly held a high-level virtual meeting on 26 February 2026 with the Directors General of Sudan and South Sudan. As a result of the meeting, Sudan consented to issue the necessary NOTAM to ensure the continuation of operations over South Sudan. Furthermore, both Directors General agreed, under ICAO auspices, to develop a required transition plan to fulfill all service provision requirements by South Sudan by the end of 2026.

- A coordination meeting with representatives from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Egypt Country Office and the Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa took place in the MID Office premises on 25 February 2026 to discuss the opportunities for strengthening cooperation and coordination between the two UN Agencies for the provision of assistance to member States, in particular in the areas of SAR and AVSEC/FAL.



- Save-the-date Letter for the MIDANPIRG/23 & RASG-MID/13 (Cairo, 14-18 June 2026) was issued.
- As part of the collaboration with the industry stakeholders, the MID Office hosted the IFALPA AFIMID and Professional & Government Affairs Committee Meetings (10 - 12 February 2026).



- Coordination with Qatar to agree on the dates of the upcoming DGCA-MID/8 meeting. State Letter proposing the hosting of the DGCA-MID/8 meeting in Doha, Qatar, 26-28 October 2026 was issued on 26 February 2026.
- Coordination continued with Oman and HQ for the finalization of the MID-Air Transport Symposium (Muscat, Oman, 27-29 April 2026) Concept Note and Tentative Work Programme.



IMPLEMENTATION SUPPORT ACTIVITIES

- A coordination meeting between the ICAO MID Office and the Boeing team (Mr. Kayode “K” Ariwodola, Director, Global Safety & Regulatory Affairs – Middle East & Africa, Boeing, and Mr. Ahsan Naseer, P.Eng, Aerospace Engineer, Global Aviation Safety and Regulatory Affairs, Boeing Middle East & Africa) was conducted through MS Teams on 10 February 2026 to discuss how best the ICAO MID Office could use the Boeing Voluntary Funds to provide technical assistance and capacity building activities to Iraq and other priority States in the Region.
- As requested by CDI, the MID Office provided required updates on the use of Saudi Arabia’s voluntary contributions (2019-2025), including their implementation status, financial status, deliverables and impacts achieved.
- Coordination with CDI for the development of implementation support projects proposals to provide technical assistance and capacity building activities to Iraq, Lebanon, Libya and Syria.
- As part of the NCLB Project for Syria under the theme “Restoring Regional Leadership and Global Connectivity,” a project proposal was developed and coordination was carried out with CDI for the preparation of the ICAO Project Brief, to be presented at the Shark Tank session of the ICAO Global Implementation Support Symposium (GISS) 2026, to be held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 14 to 16 April 2026.
- Following a request from Lebanon regarding the formal establishment of the Lebanese Civil Aviation Authority (LCAA), coordination has been initiated to organize a Multi-Disciplinary Gap Analysis and Assessment Mission to Beirut. The mission is tentatively scheduled for 4–8 May 2026 and aims to assess LCAA’s regulatory and safety oversight framework across key technical areas, identify gaps with respect to ICAO SARPs, and review the status of air navigation services. Based on the mission findings, a comprehensive Capacity Building Action Plan will be developed to support the institutional strengthening of LCAA and its alignment with international standards. Confirmation of the proposed dates has been requested to proceed with further coordination.
- The MID Flight Procedure Programme Team coordinated with DGAC France and other Flight Procedure Programmes (FPPs) to assess and align the training needs of MID States in Flight Procedure Design (FPD) and Performance-Based Navigation (PBN). As a result of this coordination, complimentary training seats were secured and allocated to Jordan, Oman, and Egypt for specialized courses aimed at strengthening national competencies in PANS-OPS and PBN implementation. Follow-up actions are being carried out to ensure timely nomination of participants, confirmation of course schedules, and alignment of selected candidates with future regional instructor development and capacity-building objectives under MID FPP.

MID Office Celebrates Ramadan Iftar in a Spirit of Unity and Togetherness

On Wednesday, 25 February 2026, the MID Office team was delighted to come together for a warm and heartfelt Ramadan Iftar, embracing the spirit of unity, gratitude, and togetherness. The gathering was graciously attended by Mr. Mohamed Rahma, Officer-in-Charge of the ICAO MID Regional Office. The Iftar provided a meaningful opportunity for colleagues to connect beyond the workplace, share reflections, and celebrate the values of solidarity, generosity, and mutual respect inspired by the holy month of Ramadan.

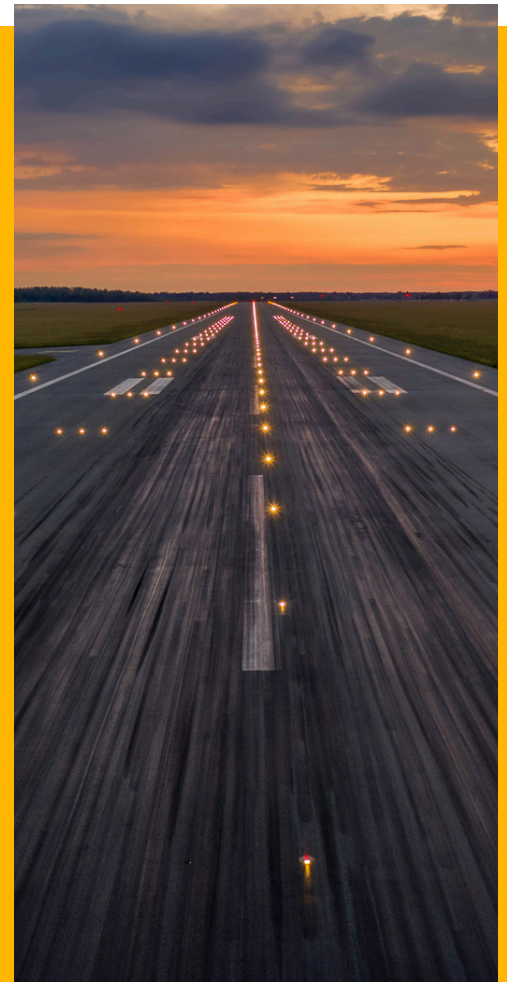


SAFETY



MID Office Safety and Oversight Activities

- Safety Team participated on the ICAO USOAP-CMA audit conducted at the Belarus Civil Aviation Authority from 4 to 17 February 2026, with a specific focus on the Aircraft Accident Investigation (AIG) area.
 - The report of the ICAO MID Technical Assistance Mission to the Kingdom of Bahrain, conducted from 18 to 22 January 2026, has been coordinated and finalized by the Safety Team.
 - The report contains detailed assessments and structured recommendations aligned with the ICAO USOAP Continuous Monitoring Approach (CMA) framework and the relevant Critical Elements of a safety oversight system.
- A virtual coordination meeting with the Iraq CAA on February 3rd, 2026, was conducted, to provide technical guidance on initiating the development of the State Safety Programme (SSP).
 - During the meeting, the SSP gap analysis and implementation plan were outlined, SSP entities/authorities and arrangements were identified, roles and responsibilities were clarified, and guidance was provided on the establishment of key components such as safety policy and objectives, State safety risk management, safety assurance, and safety promotion in alignment with ICAO Annex 19 provisions.
 - The GASP meeting held on 26 February 2026 was attended by RO/SAF-IMP, who provided feedback on the development and implementation of Regional Aviation Safety Plans (RASPs).



Aerodromes Design & Operations



Aerodromes Design & Operations Team Engagement in Safety, CNS, and Mental Health Activities

- An Apron Safety and Ground Handling Operations Management meeting was coordinated by the Aerodromes Design & Operations Team with ACAO and the ICAO EUR/NAT Office to explore the possibility of arranging an interregional capacity-building event related to the subject.
- A follow-up meeting on the outcomes of CNS SG/14 was arranged with the CNS SG Chair and Vice-Chair, to support alignment on the conclusions and follow-up actions stemming from CNS SG/14.

CAPSCA

- Provided support to the Mental Health Panel organized as part of the IFALPA AFI/MID Regional Meeting, held at the ICAO MID Office premises from 10 to 12 February 2026.

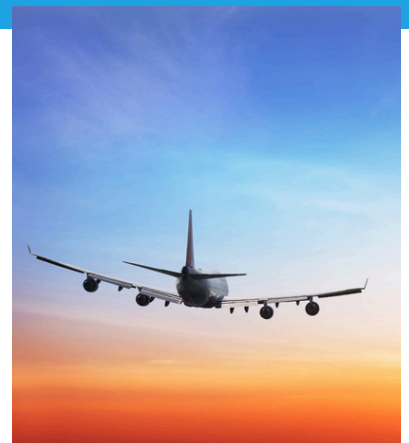


AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES



MID Office Coordination and Regional ATM/AIM Activities

- The ATM Special Coordination Meeting (SCM) was conducted in Muscat, Oman, from 1 to 3 February 2026, with ninety-six (96) delegates from eighteen (18) States and eight (8) International Organizations/Industries/Airlines participating. More than thirty (30) side meetings were held among delegates to address challenges at the interface between the ICAO MID, APAC, and EURO regions.
- A workshop on the Regional ATM Contingency Framework was held in Muscat, Oman, from 4 to 5 February 2026, consecutively with the SCM, involving the same participants. During the workshop, the draft global ATM contingency framework was presented, and exercises were conducted to gather stakeholder feedback prior to finalization and submission to the relevant PIRG for decision.
- The Global and Regional ATM Contingency Framework was reviewed at ICAO Headquarters with participation from all ICAO ATM Officers. Main issues and regional challenges were addressed, and a draft of global ATM priorities for harmonization was agreed upon. The Regional ATM Contingency Framework, previously discussed in the Oman workshop, was finalized based on stakeholder feedback and additional comments from ICAO ATM Officers.
- Following the US-Israel strikes on Iran and subsequent Iranian retaliation, the MID Region political tension Contingency Coordination Team (CCT) took the lead in coordinating and sharing real-time information with stakeholders to ensure the safety of international operations. Multiple FIRs, including Bahrain, Baghdad, Doha, Kuwait, and Tehran, were closed, triggering cascading airspace restrictions across the Region. The MID Office, through the CCT, continues to monitor the situation.



AIR NAVIGATION SERVICES



- On 16 February 2026, a coordination meeting on the potential EUR/NAT/MID SWIM Seminar for 2026 was held, bringing together representatives from ICAO MID, ICAO EUR/NAT, ICAO Headquarters, and EUROCONTROL. Strategic objectives and expectations were aligned, and the seminar was agreed to be hosted in Tbilisi, Georgia, from 22 to 24 June 2026. A draft concept note was reviewed and will be finalized following further coordination before issuing a State Letter for formal announcement and participant nomination.
- During the monthly IM/AIM coordination call held on 16 February 2026, regional updates were shared, ongoing initiatives and emerging challenges were discussed, and progress on the transition from AIS to AIM was reviewed. This included monitoring mechanisms and support activities for States requiring assistance during the current triennium.

- Following the ICAO/IATA/Jeppesen/ForeFlight Joint AIMing for Excellence Workshop (10-12 November 2025, Cairo), a coordination meeting on 25 February 2026 was convened to define the scope, format, and thematic areas for the 2026 edition. Representatives from ICAO MID, IATA, Jeppesen, ForeFlight, and Qatar Airways participated, and a promotional flyer was agreed to be developed to announce the event.
- Participated in the coordination meeting of the Organizing Committee for Global AIM 2026, held on 27 February 2026, during which the agenda and programme structure were reviewed, presentations and speakers were identified, and key organizational and logistical arrangements for the event (12-14 May 2026) were discussed.



ENVIRONMENT



MID Office Environmental and CORSIA Activities

- Provided remote support to the Kuwait CORSIA Focal Point on the application of the Sector's Growth Factor (SGF) for the calculation of the annual CO₂ emissions to be offset by each aeroplane operator attributed to Kuwait, prior to the consideration of CORSIA eligible fuels, in accordance with Annex 16, Volume IV, Part II, Chapter 3, paragraph 3.2 (2 February 2026).
- On Monday, 9 February 2026, a remote training and awareness session was delivered to Libya's environmental stakeholders, including ENV focal points, aircraft operators, and representatives from oil companies. The session served to identify Libya's specific needs and challenges in order to tailor the upcoming CORSIA workshop, scheduled to be held in Cairo, Egypt, from 24 to 26 March 2026, to better address their priorities.
- On Monday, 9 February 2026, the ICAO MID Regional Office participated in the FINVEST briefing session. The briefing provided an overview of the purpose and relevance of the Finvest initiative for ICAO, its current status and operational framework, including progress achieved since A42, partnerships, and financing hubs. The session also outlined Finvest's 2026 priorities, focusing on operationalizing and scaling impact to support States and financial institutions in accelerating Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) and clean energy investments, as well as identifying opportunities for enhanced regional engagement and support. As a follow-up, it was agreed that a dedicated webinar will be organized for MID States on 10 March 2026 to further present the Finvest initiative and explore opportunities for regional engagement.



SECURITY AND FACILITATION

Strengthening Aviation Security and Facilitation Across the MID Region through Coordination and Training

- The Fifth meeting of the Middle East Regional Aviation Security and Facilitation Group (MID-RASFG/5) was successfully held in Doha, Qatar, 3-5 February 2026. The meeting focused on discussing the most prominent challenges facing this vital sector and the best ways to strengthen cooperation frameworks and coordinate efforts that would raise the level of the security and facilitation of the civil aviation sector in the Middle East.



- In collaboration with ICAO Implementation Support & Development Section (ISD-SEC), a Behavior Detection Course conducted the ICAO. The five-day course aimed to educate security personnel, and those responsible for the implementation of aviation security measures, in behavior detection techniques and methods in order to enhance overall protection against acts of unlawful interference. (8th to 12th February 2026, Muscat - Oman).
- A meeting with the Libyan AVSEC Director conducted on 25 February 2026. The discussion focused mainly on the deployment of the Facilitation iPACK for Libya.

CASP-MID ACTIVITIES

ICAO CASP-MID Conducts Airport Assessment and Security Equipment Certification Workshop



CASP-MID organized an Airport Assessment and Security Equipment Certification workshop. The workshop addressed methodologies for conducting structured airport security assessments, identifying vulnerabilities, and enhancing oversight mechanisms. Participants also examined technical and operational requirements for the certification and performance validation of aviation security equipment in line with ICAO specifications.

ICAO CASP-MID Conducts Aviation Security Managers Course in Cairo



In February 2026, CASP-MID conducted an Aviation Security Managers course in Cairo for delegates from Egypt and Libya.

The course targeted senior and mid-level aviation security officials, focusing on strategic planning, leadership in aviation security management, quality control systems, and implementation of risk-based security measures.

CASP-MID ACTIVITIES

ICAO CASP-MID Conducts Online Landside Security Workshop

CASP-MID delivered a virtual Landside Security workshop, bringing together aviation security experts and practitioners from across the region.

The workshop addressed emerging threats within publicly accessible airport areas and emphasized the integration of landside security measures into overall airport security programmes. Topics included risk assessment methodologies, stakeholder coordination, insider threat mitigation, and best practices for protecting critical infrastructure.

ICAO CASP-MID Conducts Online Landside Security Workshop

CASP-MID conducted an online Risk Management workshop in February 2026 as part of its continued efforts to promote risk-based aviation security frameworks.

The workshop focused on practical implementation of risk management principles within national civil aviation security programmes. Participants explored threat assessment processes, vulnerability analysis, and resource optimization strategies aligned with ICAO guidance material.



CASP-MID Conducts Three Virtual Panel Discussions on Emerging Aviation Security Priorities

Riyadh, February 2026 - The Cooperative Aviation Security Programme - Middle East (CASP-MID) successfully conducted three virtual panel discussions during February 2026, addressing critical and evolving priorities in civil aviation security across the Middle East region.

The panel discussions focused on:

- Dangerous Goods (DG) Security and Compliance
- Cyber Security in Civil Aviation
- Emerging Threats to Aviation Security

The sessions brought together aviation security regulators, civil aviation authorities, airport operators, airlines, and subject matter experts from across the MID Region to exchange best practices, examine emerging risks, and strengthen regional coordination.