International Civil Aviation Organization

MIDANPIRG Air Traffic Management Sub-Group

Eleventh Meeting (ATM SG/11)
(Abu Dhabi, UAE, 19 – 23 October 2025)

Agenda Item 3: **Planning and implementation issues related to ATM/SAR**

OPTIMIZING EXPERTISE AND RESOURCES THROUGH
REGIONAL COLLABORATION IN ATM

(Presented by Sultanate of Oman)

SUMMARY

This Working Paper highlights the need for regional cooperation and the collaborative use of available regional expertise and resources to accelerate priority ATM initiatives in the MID Region. It emphasises the benefits of coordinated regional support—particularly where individual States may not possess specialized tools or resources—to reduce financial and operational burdens and to promote harmonized and standardized implementation across the region.

Accordingly, the paper proposes a regional support mechanism under MIDANPIRG/ATMSG to coordinate exchanges of expertise and resources, provide peer review, maintain a lessons-learned repository, and help States meet MID targets efficiently.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

REFERENCES

- ICAO Doc 9613, Performance-based Navigation (PBN) Manual, 5th Edition.
- ICAO Doc 8168, Procedures for Air Navigation Services - Aircraft Operations (PANS-OPS), Volume II.
- MIDANPIRG MID Region Air Navigation Strategy, Doc 002 (Revision March 2025).

1. **INTRODUCTION**

1.1   Effective delivery of priority ATM initiatives requires shared tools, interoperable data, and specialized expertise tailored to MID operational realities.

1.2   Many MID States are still developing these capabilities; shared services and pooled resources can accelerate implementation, reduce costs, promote consistent alignment with ICAO provisions, and harmonize systems across ATM domains.

1.3   Accordingly, regional collaboration is instrumental, enabling cooperative actions that bridge resource and capability gaps, standardize methodologies, and build sustainable regional capacity.

2. **DISCUSSION**

Regional Cooperation and Shared Expertise

2.1   There is a need for joint planning, shared tools, and coordinated expert input to deliver consistent, high-quality outcomes aligned with ICAO provisions across the MID Region.

2.2   Targeted exchanges among States and ICAO MID experts would provide regional insights, best practices, and validation.

2.3   A cooperative model would optimize resources, align with applicable ICAO provisions, and enable practical knowledge transfer.

Cost, Capability, and Efficiency Considerations

2.4   Absent such cooperation, individual States may need to hire costly external services, purchase proprietary tools, and fund extensive training, slowing implementation.

2.5   Accordingly, a structured regional approach provides on-demand capabilities, reduces duplication of effort, and accelerates implementation.

Extending Cooperation to Broader ATM Domains

2.6   Comparable frameworks are needed across evolving ATM domains (particular the cross border and regional implementation: e.g. establishment of ATS routes, Contingency planning, ATFM implementation, FRA/FUA, ATM–UTM integration, etc…) given their cross-border nature and technical complexity.

2.7   Besides that, exchange of professionals, and familiarization visits to ATM facilities with ICAO MID facilitating where possible—are highly desirable and recommended.

2.8   To institutionalize and sustain these activities, it is proposed to establish a regional support mechanism—e.g., a Go-Team under MIDANPIRG/ATMSG—to share expertise and resources, provide peer review, and assist States in meeting MID targets.

Expected benefits

2.9   Regional cooperation allows States to pool expertise, tools, and/or data to deliver faster, more consistent, and ICAO-compliant outcomes, with the following additional benefits:

- Cost-effective and shared access to specialized tools and SMEs.
- Reduced duplication and enhanced efficiency through shared data, templates, and work programmes.
- Capacity-building via on-the-job knowledge transfer and retention.
- Identification and coordinated use of cross-border infrastructure.
- A lessons-learned repository built from completed collaborative projects.

3.   ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1   The meeting is invited to:

a)   note the information contained in this Paper;

b)   encourage MID States to actively seek and/or offer mutual technical support, particularly where specialized tools or resources are limited; and

c)   endorse the proposal presented in paragraph 2.8.

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