



International Civil Aviation Organization

**MIDANPIRG Communication, Navigation and Surveillance Sub-Group
(CNS SG/15)**

(Doha, Qatar, 11 – 14 May 2026)

Agenda Item 2: Communications Issues

OUTCOME OF THE MIDAMC STG/11 MEETING

(Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY
This paper presents the outcomes of the 11 th meeting of the MIDAMC Steering Group and proposes a set of Draft Conclusions aimed at enhancing the efficiency and performance of AFS network operations.
Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.
REFERENCES
- AMC Platform
- MIDANPIRG/20 Report

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The eleventh meeting of the MIDAMC Steering Group was conducted from 8 to 9 April 2026, at the ICAO MID Office, Cairo, Egypt. The meeting was held back-to-back with the MIDAMC Workshop.

1.2 The meeting was attended by a total of twenty-seven (27) participants, from eight (8) States (Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen).

2. DISCUSSION

AMC Progress Report

2.1 The MIDAMC Team presented annual AMC progress report for the MID Region, including the status of inter-regional connections, gateways with other regions, and updates on member States' data within the AMC.

2.2 The following operational matters were identified as concerns by the Steering Group:

- a) inconsistent AFTN/AMHS routing tables;
- b) the need to update look-up tables in external systems interfacing with the MTA via P3 or P7;

- c) incorrect routing of certain addresses, such as FH and FJ, which are usually routed to the AFI Region, although they belong to and should be routed to the EUR Region.

Regional OPMET Center (ROC) plan

2.3 The ROC plan was updated as in *Appendix A*. The meeting may wish to note that all actions have been completed, except the task “evaluation of inter-region connection bandwidth and its increase, if required” and the transition of Beirut-Nicosia connection from CIDIN to AMHS.

2.4 Therefore, the MIDAMC STG meeting agreed to coordinate with the MET SG regarding the status of the current implementation of the ROC, and to request States to assess the need to increase the connection bandwidth.

2.5 Following coordination with the MET SG, the meeting may wish to note that ROC data is exchanged without any issue and may therefore consider that the AMHS-ROC plan to be implemented completely.

Inter-regional Communication

2.6 The meeting may wish to recall that States have been urged, through MIDANPIRG Conclusion 20/37, to rationalize the AFTN/AMHS network in the MID Region, based on operational requirements and traffic volume, and to review the inter-regional connections established on a bilateral basis. No action has yet been taken with respect to the rationalization of the network.

2.7 The MIDAMC STG/11 reviewed the AFTN/AMHS regional requirements as outlined in the MID ANP, Volume II, CNS Tables II-1 and II-2. It was agreed that States should refrain from establishing additional inter-regional connections to ensure efficient and regular inter-regional messages flow.

2.8 Several operational issues concerning the inter-regional communications with gateways of other Regions were raised. Egypt highlighted the difficulties it encounters in coordinating and resolving these issues through correspondences. Consequently, the MIDAMC STG/11 meeting requested ICAO to organize a meeting to discuss inter-regional AFS matters with States involved.

AMHS 3rd Party Interconnection

2.9 The meeting may wish to recall that the successful transition of SITA integration was completed in 2019. Furthermore, it was noted with concern that the routing mismatches or misconfigurations have resulted in traffic loss, routing loops, and traffic delays. Therefore, equipping AFS operator with the requisite training in routing configuration, as well as the use of MIDAMC tools and functions, prior to operating on the live network was underlined.

2.10 The meeting may wish to recall the ongoing efforts to implement an AMHS gateway between the AMHS community and ARINC, and that MIDANPIRG/20, through Conclusion 20/41, urged the States concerned (Egypt, Libya, and Sudan) to validate the ARINC Addressee by 1 August 2023. States involved expressed the difficulties in validating those addressee as they are not registered in States records. Therefore, MIDAMC Team were tasked to coordinate with ARINC and requesting them to send the list of relevant addressees and required details to allow States conduct the validation process.

MIDAMC Capacity Building Activities

2.11 The meeting may wish to note the successful conduct of a MIDAMC Workshop from 5 to 7 April 2026, Cairo, Egypt, which provided basic knowledge and practical skills. Building on this achievement, the MIDAMC STG/11 meeting agreed that an advanced MIDAMC Workshop should be conducted in 2027 to further strengthen operator competencies, ensure consistency in network operations, and enhance overall efficiency and reliability of the AFTN/AMHS environment.

2.12 The meeting noted the requests from Libya, Syria, and Yemen to organize national MIDAMC Workshops with the aim of enabling broader participation and supporting the implementation and operation of AMHS within their respective States. Libya emphasized the need to arrange this workshop at the earliest opportunity.

MIDAMC Terms of Reference

2.13 The MIDAMC STG/11 reviewed the Terms of Reference (ToRs) of the MIDAMC STG and proposed the amendments presented at *Appendix B*, based on the following considerations:

a) Given that the management and development of SWIM services fall under the terms of reference of the AIM SG, the MIDAMC will support only the establishment and operation of the SWIM infrastructure, not the services themselves, in order to avoid overlapping of tasks and duplication of efforts.

b) The withdrawal of the MIDAMC Platform and the transition to the use of the AMC.

2.13 The MIDAMC STG/11 addressed the issue of establishing the MID IP Network, the summary of discussions can be found in WP/4.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

a) note that the ROC plan is implemented completely; and

b) agree to the following Draft Conclusions and Decision:

DRAFT CONCLUSION 15/X: AFS INTER-REGIONAL COORDINATION

That, in order to enhance coordination and facilitate resolution of outstanding inter-regional issues, ICAO MID Office is requested to organize an AFS inter-regional coordination meeting with AFI, APAC and EUR/NAT regions and States involved.

DRAFT CONCLUSION 15/X: EFFICIENCY OF THE AMHS NETWORK OPERATION IN THE MID REGION

That, in order to enhance the efficiency and ensure consistency of the AFTN/AMHS network operations in the MID Region, States be urged to:

a) *refrain from establishing new bilateral inter-regional connections and rationalize existing ones, ensuring that operational requirements, overall network efficiency, and the Regional provisions specified in MID ANP Volume II are fully considered;*

- b) *update the AMC Data, including AFTN/AMHS Routing directories, on a regular basis in close collaboration with the MIDAMC team; and*
- c) *ensure that the AMHS system operates in full alignment with the AMC data, including proper configuration of AMHS parameters and timely update of P3/P7 user agents' addressee information.*

DRAFT CONCLUSION 15/X: CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES ON AMHS/AMC

That, in order to strengthen AMHS operator competencies and enable the smooth and efficient AMHS operation in the MID Region:

- a) *an Advanced AMHS/AMC Workshop be organized in 2027; and*
- b) *States interested to organise national AMHS/AMC Workshop send official requests to the ICAO MID Office.*

DRAFT DECISION 15/XX: MID AMC STG AMENDED TERMS OF REFERENCE

*That, the MID AMC Steering Group Terms of Reference be amended as at **Appendix B***

APPENDIX A

MID ROC Plan

<i>AMHS Plan for ROC in Jeddah and Bahrain</i>					
	Task	Timeframe	Assigned to	Champion	Status
<i>AMHS Intra-regional Trunk Connections</i>					
1	Establish Jeddah – Beirut IP Network.	Jul 2015	Saudi Lebanon	IM MS	Completed
2	Establish Bahrain – Beirut IP Network.	Feb 2016	Bahrain Lebanon	YH MS	Completed
3	Establish Cairo – Beirut IP Network.	July 2016	Egypt Lebanon	AF//MR MS	Completed
4	Establish Bahrain – Jeddah IP Network.	Mar 2016	Bahrain Saudi	IM YH	Completed
5	Perform the Interoperability test between Jeddah and Beirut COM Centers.	July 2015	Saudi Lebanon	IB MS	Completed
6	Perform the Interoperability test between Bahrain and Beirut COM Centers.	July 2016	Bahrain Lebanon	MS YH	Completed
7	Perform the Interoperability test between Cairo and Beirut COM Centers	July 2016	Egypt Lebanon	AF/TZ/MR MS/EK	Completed
8	Perform the Interoperability test between Bahrain and Jeddah COM Centers.	15 October 2020	Bahrain Saudi	YM AA	Completed
9	Perform the Pre-operational test between Jeddah and Beirut COM Centers.	July 2015	Saudi Lebanon	IM MS	Completed
10	Perform the Pre-operational test between Bahrain and Beirut COM Centers.	July 2016	Bahrain Lebanon	YH MS	Completed
11	Perform the Pre-operational test between Cairo and Beirut COM Centers.	March 2017	Egypt Lebanon	AF/ /MR MS/EK	Completed
12	Perform the Pre-operational test between Bahrain and Saudi COM Centers.	25 October 2020	Bahrain Saudi	YM IM	Completed
13	Place the AMHS link into operation between Jeddah and Beirut COM centers, and updating the Routing tables.	July 2015	Saudi Lebanon MID AMC	IM MS/EK MN	Completed July, 2015
14	Place the AMHS link into operation between Bahrain and Beirut COM centers, and updating the Routing tables.	July 2016	Bahrain Lebanon MID AMC	YH MS/EK MN	Completed On 3/5/2016
15	Place the AMHS link into operation between Cairo and Beirut COM centers, and updating the Routing tables.	April 2017	Egypt Lebanon MID AMC	AF/TZ/MR MS/EK MN	completed

<i>AMHS Plan for ROC in Jeddah and Bahrain</i>					
	Task	Timeframe	Assigned to	Champion	Status
<i>AMHS Intra-regional Trunk Connections</i>					
16	Evaluate the Trunks connections bandwidth and increase it if required between (Bahrain, Beirut, Cairo and Jeddah).	Q4 2021	Bahrain Beirut Cairo Jeddah	YH MS/EK AF/TZ IM	
<i>The AMHS Interconnection with EUR Region Depends on Nicosia and Athens</i>					
17	Establish Cairo – Tunis IP Network.	<i>March 2016</i> <i>July 2016</i>		AF/TZ/MR IB/MA	completed
18	Establish Nicosia – Beirut IP Network.	Q3 2021		MS/EK	Lebanon is ready to connect
19	Establish Nicosia – Jeddah IP Network.			IM	Completed
20	Establish Bahrain – Nicosia IP Network.	Q3 2021		AD	Bahrain is ready to connect
21	Establish Cairo – Athens IP Network.	Dec 2016		AF/TZ/MR	Completed
22	Perform the Interoperability test between Cairo and Tunis COM Centers.	<i>April 2016</i> <i>August 2016</i>		AF/ /MR IB/MA	Completed
23	Perform the pre operational test between Cairo and Tunis COM Centers.	<i>Q3 2016</i>		AF/ /MR IB/MA	Completed
24	Place the AMHS link into operation between Cairo and Tunis COM Centers, and updating the Routing tables.	<i>Aug 2016</i>		AF/ /MR IB/MA	Completed
25	Perform the Interoperability test between Athens and Cairo COM Centers.	Mar 2017		AF/TZ/MR IB/MA	Completed
26	Perform the Interoperability test between Bahrain and Nicosia COM Centers.	Q4 2025		AD	Completed
27	Perform the Interoperability test between Nicosia and Jeddah COM Centers.	Q3 2021		IM	Completed
28	Perform the Interoperability test between Nicosia and Beirut COM Centers.	Q3 2021		MS/EK	Lebanon is ready to connect
29	Perform the Pre-operational test between Athens and Cairo COM Centers.	Mar 2017		AF/TZ/MR	Completed
30	Perform the Pre-operational test between Bahrain and Nicosia COM Centers.	Q3 2021		YH	Bahrain is ready to connect
31	Perform the Pre-operational test between Nicosia and Beirut COM Centers.	Q3 2021		MS/EK	Lebanon is ready to connect

<i>AMHS Plan for ROC in Jeddah and Bahrain</i>					
	Task	Timeframe	Assigned to	Champion	Status
<i>AMHS Intra-regional Trunk Connections</i>					
32	Perform the Pre-operational test between Nicosia and Jeddah COM Centers.	Q3 2021		IM	completed
33	Place the AMHS link into operation between Athens and Cairo COM Centers, and updating the Routing tables.	Q1 2017		MIDAMC AF/ /MR	Completed
34	Place the AMHS link into operation between Bahrain and Nicosia COM Centers, and updating the Routing tables.	Q3 2021		MID AMC YH	
35	Place the AMHS link into operation between Nicosia and Jeddah COM Centers, and updating the Routing tables.	Q3 2021		MID AMC IM	Completed
36	Place the AMHS link into operation between Nicosia and Beirut COM Centers, and updating the Routing tables.	Q3 2021		MS/EK	
37	Evaluate the inter-region connections bandwidth and increase it if required.	Q3 2021		MID AMC	Ongoing Need to find a mechanism for assessment
38	Transition of all regional AFTN/CIDIN Connections to AMHS.	Q3 2021	Bahrain UAE		Completed all intra-regional connections are AMHS 1 inter-regional connection is remained

MIDAMC Steering Group (MIDAMC STG) Terms of Reference

1. TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

1.1 The Terms of Reference of the MIDAMC Steering are:

- a) to promote the efficiency and safety of aeronautical fixed services in the MID Region through the operation and management, ~~on a sound and efficient basis, of a permanent MID Regional t h e~~ ATS Messaging Management Center (MIDAMC);
- b) foster the implementation of the Air traffic service Message handling service (AMHS) in the MID Region through provision of the guidance materials and running facilitation tools, utilizing the MIDAMC functions and tools;
- c) MIDAMC Steering Group will consist of a focal point from each Participating MID State who would represent the State and acts as the Steering Group Member;
- d) MIDAMC Steering Group will be responsible for overall ~~supervision, direction, evaluation operation and management~~ of the MIDAMC in the MID Region ~~project operation~~ and will review/update the MIDAMC work plan whenever required;
- e) the MID Region is considering the establishment of a Regional MID IP Network; the MIDAMC STG will drive the project ~~which is called Common aeRonautical Virtual Private Network (CRV)~~, until the Operation Group is established;
- f) ~~contribute to the development of~~ and maintain a regional plan for the transition from AFS to SWIM services; and
- g) provide regular progress reports to the CNS SG, and MIDANPIRG concerning its work programme.

1.2 In order to meet the Terms of Reference, the MIDAMC Steering Group shall:

- a) ~~develop~~/update the accreditation procedure for all MID users on the MIDAMC;
- b) develop and maintain guidance materials for MIDAMC users in the MID Region;
- c) discuss and identify solution for operational problems that may be arising;
- d) provide support/guidance to States for AMHS Implementation, and monitor the AMHS activities;
- e) assist and encourage States to conduct trial on the Implementation of the ATS extended services, and identify operational requirements;
- f) provide guidance/support to States on implementation of XML-based data models (IWXXM, FIXM, AIXM, etc.) over AMHS; including developing regional plans as required
- g) monitor States' readiness to implement XML based data models over extended AMHS;
- h) identify the need for any enhancement for the MIDAMC and prepare functional and technical specifications, and define its financial implications;

- i) follow-up on ICAO standards and recommendations on the ATS messaging management and SWIM;
- ~~j) define future liabilities and new participating States and ANSPs in the progressive introduction of SWIM services;~~
- k) follow-up and review the work of similar groups in other ICAO Regions including successful implementations of SWIM infrastructures to identify and adopt best practices;
- l) Identify SWIM prerequisites in terms of infrastructure, including IP-based network; and monitor the status of implementation of those elements in the MID Region;
- m) follow-up the implementation of IP Network in the MID Region supporting SWIM services, through joining relevant projects, like CRV and act as project manager;
- ~~n) propose appropriate actions for the early implementation also support the IP Network supporting the progressive introduction of SWIM services until the Operational Group is establish;~~
- o) develop and amend the relevant ICAO MID Regional documentation considering the progress made in SWIM implementation and considering the need for harmonization with the adjacent Regions in compliance with the GANP;
- p) coordinate with the relevant ICAO MID Regional Groups to ensure a gradual transition of AFS services to SWIM in the MID Region ensuring operational continuity and develop guidance material accordingly; and
- q) provide guidance and training to MID States and stakeholders involved in AMHSSWIM implementation.

2. COMPOSITION

- a) ICAO MID Regional Office;
- b) Members appointed by the MIDANPIRG member States; and
- c) Other representatives, who could contribute to the activity of the Steering Group, could be invited to participate as observers, when required.

3. WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

3.1 The Chairperson, in close co-operation with the Secretary, shall make all necessary arrangements for the most efficient working of the Study Group. The Study Group shall at all times conduct its activities in the most efficient manner possible with a minimum of formality and paperwork (paperless meetings). Permanent contact shall be maintained between the Chairperson, Secretary and Members of the Study Group to advance the work. ~~Best advantage should be taken of modern communications facilities, particularly video conferencing (Virtual Meetings) and e-mails.~~

3.2 ~~Face-to-face~~ Virtual meetings will be conducted when it is necessary to do so.