



International Civil Aviation Organization

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

(Doha, Qatar, 11 – 14 May 2026)

Agenda Item 2: Communications Matters

MID IP Network Project

(Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper reviews the status of the MID IP projects and explores potential ways forward. It calls for an assessment of all options and scenarios, taking into account past efforts and coordination with other Regions.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

REFERENCES

- MIDAMC STG/11 Report
- MIDANPIRG/20 Report
- MIDANPIRG/22 Report

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The implementation of an IP network is critical for the effective operation of the System Wide Information Management (SWIM) Flight Information Centres (FICE) and associated aviation services.

1.2 SWIM relies on the seamless exchange of digital aeronautical, flight, and weather information between stakeholders, including air navigation service providers, airlines, and airports. Traditional point-to-point communication systems are insufficient to support the growing demand for real-time, interoperable data sharing.

1.3 An IP network provides the necessary scalability, flexibility, and security to handle high volumes of structured data efficiently, enabling enhanced situational awareness, improved decision-making, and reduced operational delays. Furthermore, IP architectures facilitate integration with other modern services such as trajectory-based operations, collaborative decision-making platforms, and digital NOTAM systems, ensuring that FICE can deliver timely and accurate information to all users in the aviation ecosystem.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The meeting may wish to recall that MIDANPIRG/18 agreed, through Conclusion 18/37, that the ICAO MID Office, with the support of concerned States, initiate discussions with EUROCONTROL, in order to explore the possibility of joining the NEWPENS project as an alternative solution for establishing a MID IP Network.

2.2 ICAO MID requested EUROCONTROL to extend the New PENS to MID States. New PENS Webinar conducted (10 November 2021). 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) pending technical and financial proposals. Consequently, MIDANPIRG/20 was informed that EUROCONTROL agreed to extend the New PENS project to the MID States, official notification letter and next steps will be communicated to the ICAO MID Office soon.

2.3 The meeting may wish to recall that ICAO MID Office has been approached by APAC Office to explore the possibility to re-engage the MID States in the APAC CRV project since the cost would be much less than quoted before. The MIDANPIRG/21 meeting agreed to refer the matter to the CNS SG/13 for further study, then recommend a solution to MIDANPIRG/22 Meeting.

2.4 During the MIDAMC STG/11 meeting, it was highlighted that a regional or sub-regional decision should be taken to join a regional network, to enhance cost-effectiveness for the States concerned. It was highlighted that States interfacing with the APAC Region may consider joining CRV individually, thereby enhancing their overall connectivity and strengthening their role as entry/exit points for the MID Region.

2.5 The meeting further discussed the need for establishing a regional IP network, noting that the majority of States already possess advanced IP infrastructure. The meeting also discussed the possibility for certain States to join an adjacent regional network (CRV or New PENS), based on their geographical location and existing connections.

2.6 The MIDAMC STG/11 meeting noted concerns regarding uncertainties in coordination and the approach adopted. Accordingly, it was agreed to establish a focus group to reassess all options and scenarios regarding the MID IP projects, and to provide guidance to the Secretariat in the most appropriate course of actions, taking into account the past efforts and coordination with other Regions, furthermore, the outcome of this focus group would be presented to the CNS SG/15 and MIDANPIRG/23 meetings. The focus group is composed of the following:

- a) Mohamed Sultan (Egypt)
- b) Yasser Zayyad (Jordan)
- c) Ahmed El-Amari (Libya)
- d) Faisal Alzahrani (Saudi Arabia)
- e) Ayham Alkilani (Syria)
- f) Ezat Faiq (Yemen)
- g) The secretariat

2.7 Due to the short time between the MIDAMC STG/11 and the CNS SG/15 meetings, as well as the Secretariat workload, the meeting for the focus group could not be arranged.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) invite States to indicate their intention to participate in the CRV project;
and
- b) consider alternative options for establishing the network in the absence of a regional or sub-regional decision;

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