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Международная
организация
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авиации

منظمة الطيران
المدنى الدولى

国际民用
航空组织

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2 September 2026

**Subject: Sixth MID Region Safety Summit and SSP/SMS Regional Workshop
(Dubai, UAE, 9–12 November 2026)**

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to invite your Administration/Organization to participate in the Sixth MID Region Safety Summit, which will be gratefully hosted by the the United Arab Emirates General Civil Aviation Authority (UAE GCAA) in Dubai **from 11 to 12 November 2026**, preceded by a Regional Workshop on SSP/SMS and USOAP CMA from **9 to 10 November 2026**, the venue for both events will be **Anantara Downtown Dubai Hotel**.

The Summit will be convened under the theme “Shaping the Future of Aviation Safety in Complex Airspace and Emerging Technologies across the MID Region.” The event will provide a strategic platform for MID States and industry partners to address the evolving aviation risk environment, including increasing airspace complexity, the integration of advanced technologies such as Advanced Air Mobility (AAM), and the transition toward predictive safety approaches. It will also consider lessons learned from recent regional developments, including operations in complex and disrupted environments, with a view to strengthening crisis management, contingency planning, and overall operational resilience.

The Regional Workshop on SSP/SMS and USOAP CMA will complement the Summit by providing a technical forum to support States in enhancing the effective implementation of State Safety Programme (SSP) and Safety Management System (SMS) frameworks, while also addressing current USOAP CMA priorities and challenges.

The Summit and Workshop will be conducted in alignment with the Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP), the MID Regional Aviation Safety Plan (MID-RASP), Annex 19, and the ICAO USOAP Continuous Monitoring Approach (CMA).

The Work Programme of the Sixth MID Region Safety Summit is at **Attachment A**. The Bulletin includes administrative arrangements for the Summit & Workshop, other useful information for participants, and the hotel list is at **Attachment B**.

I would like to encourage active participation by experts from both the regulatory and service provider sides in the fields of safety management, flight operations, airworthiness, aerodromes, air navigation services, training, and accident and incident investigation.

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I would appreciate if you could, as soon as possible, preferably not later than 25th October 2026, confirm participation and registration through the following link: [Registration Link](#). Should you require more information about the events, please contact the ICAO MID Office (icaomid@icao.int), Mr. Mashhor Alblowi, Regional Officer, Aircraft Operations and Flight Safety, at (malblowi@icao.int).

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Mohamed Khalifa Rahma
Regional Director
ICAO Middle East Office

Attachments



ICAO SIXTH MID REGION SAFETY SUMMIT WORK PROGRAMME

Shaping the Future of Aviation Safety in Complex Airspace and Emerging Technologies across the MID Region

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

11–12 November 2026

Hosted by the United Arab Emirates
In collaboration with MID Region Civil Aviation Authorities and Industry Partners





Executive Strategic Rationale

The aviation ecosystem in the Middle East Region is undergoing significant transformation. Increasing airspace complexity, rapid traffic growth, emerging technologies, Advanced Air Mobility (AAM), and evolving operational risks are reshaping aviation operations and safety management.

At the same time, recent regional developments have highlighted the vulnerability of aviation systems to rapidly evolving operational disruptions, airspace restrictions, and crisis situations, emphasizing the importance of resilience, contingency planning, and effective coordination among aviation stakeholders.

The Region continues to experience:

- Sustained traffic growth and fleet expansion;
- Major global hub operations;
- Increasing airspace density and operational complexity;
- Rapid adoption of emerging technologies and innovative aviation concepts;
- Integration challenges associated with Advanced Air Mobility (AAM);
- Evolving operational risks requiring enhanced preparedness and resilience.

These developments require a continued evolution of aviation safety management, supported by safety intelligence, predictive approaches, innovation, regional cooperation, and effective operational resilience frameworks.

The Sixth MID Region Safety Summit will provide a strategic platform for MID States, industry partners, regional organizations, and technical experts to discuss current and future aviation safety challenges and identify opportunities for collaborative action across the Region.

The Summit will also examine lessons learned from recent regional developments and operational disruptions, with particular emphasis on crisis management, contingency planning, airspace resilience, and effective coordination among aviation stakeholders. Through the exchange of experiences and best practices, the Summit will support the development of practical recommendations aimed at enhancing preparedness, strengthening operational resilience, and improving aviation safety performance across the MID Region.



Day 1 – 11 November 2026

Shaping the Future Aviation Safety Landscape

Opening Remarks (UAE GACA & ICAO)

Strategic Keynote: From Compliance to Predictive Safety: The Future of Aviation Safety in the MID Region

Session 1

Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Frontier: Vision, Rules and State Implementation

- ICAO Vision for Advanced Air Mobility in the MID Region
- Regulatory frameworks and Integration
- State Experience in Planning and Regulating Vertiport Infrastructure for Advanced Air Mobility Operations
- Opportunities for Regional Harmonization of Regulatory Frameworks for Advanced Air Mobility and Emerging Technologies
- When Innovation Meets Investigation, Preparing AIG for Air Taxi Incidents
- GCAA Aviation Safety Marathon, UAM & Environmental Impact

Session 2

From Rules to Reality, Operations, Economy and Industry

- Emerging Technologies, Artificial Intelligence and Aviation Safety
- State Experience in Addressing Cybersecurity Risks to Aviation Safety in the Context of Digital Transformation
- National Approaches to Human Factors and Human–Machine Interaction in Increasingly Automated Aviation Systems
- Beyond Safety, The eVTOL Economy and AAM's Contribution to National Growth
- Industry Dialogue, From Certification to Commercial Operations: Scaling AAM Safely in the MID Region



Day 2 – 12 November 2026

Building Resilience and Advancing Predictive Safety

Session 3

When the System Is Tested: Crisis Coordination and Operational Resilience

Recent regional developments have demonstrated the significant impact that rapidly evolving security situations, airspace restrictions, and operational disruptions can have on the aviation system. These events affect air navigation service providers, airports, airlines, flight crews, regulators, and other aviation stakeholders, requiring timely decision-making and effective coordination.

- Aviation Crisis Management, Lessons Learned, Contingency Planning and Operational Resilience
- Fire Talk One Sky, One Response: Who Takes Control When Aviation Is Under Pressure?
- State Experience in Managing the Safety Impact of GNSS Interference on Flight Operations and Air Navigation Services
- National Experience in Maintaining Airport Operations and Business Continuity During Regional Disruptions
- Sustainable Readiness of the Civil Aviation Sector
- Air Cargo Resilience and Supply-Chain Sustainability
- Restructuring the National Airspace for Future Operations

Session 4

Advancing Predictive Safety in the MID Region

- Strengthening National Occurrence Reporting Systems and Just Culture as the Foundation for Predictive Safety
- State Experience in Developing Safety Performance Indicators and Enhancing State Safety Programme Maturity
- Predictive Safety at Scale, Turning Operational Data into Early Warning

Future Priorities for Aviation Safety in the MID Region

- Key messages emerging from the Summit discussions
- Priorities for the ICAO Dubai Aviation Safety Recommendations 2026
- Opportunities for regional collaboration and information sharing

Summit Outcome

ICAO Dubai Aviation Safety Recommendations 2026

The Summit will develop a set of practical recommendations aimed at supporting MID States, industry stakeholders, and regional organizations in addressing current and emerging aviation safety challenges and strengthening aviation safety performance across the MID Region.



SIXTH MID REGION SAFETY SUMMIT

Regional Workshop on SSP/SMS and USOAP CMA

Dubai, United Arab Emirates — 9 to 12 November 2026

Hosted by the General Civil Aviation Authority of the United Arab Emirates

BULLETIN — INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

At a Glance

Dates	9–12 November 2026
Venue	Anantara Downtown Dubai Hotel, Business Bay, Dubai
Opening	08:00 hrs (UTC +4), Monday 9 November 2026
Registration time	07:00–08:00 hrs,
Language	English
Dress code	Business attire
Registration	Single registration covers both the Workshop (9–10 Nov) and the Summit (11–12 Nov) https://forms.gcaa.ae/surveys/ICAO-MID--ICAO-MID-States 
Contact	Safety.Summit@gcaa.gov.ae



1. Venue and Programme

The Sixth MID Region Safety Summit will be hosted by the General Civil Aviation Authority of the United Arab Emirates at the [Anantara Downtown Dubai Hotel, Business Bay, Dubai](#).

The event runs over four consecutive days as a single programme:

- 9–10 November 2026 — Regional Workshop on SSP/SMS and USOAP CMA
- 11–12 November 2026 — Sixth MID Region Safety Summit

One registration covers both segments. Participants are welcome to attend all four days or any part of the programme; no separate sign-up is required.

Venue address: [Anantara Downtown Hotel Dubai - Business Bay - Dubai](#)

2. Schedule

- The Opening Session will be held at 08:00 hours (UAE local time) on Monday 9 November 2026.
- The detailed schedule and order of the day will be announced at the Opening Session.
- All proceedings and documentation will be in English. No interpretation will be provided.

3. Registration

Participants are requested to register in advance ([registration link](#)) by the **25th of October 2026**.

On arrival, participants should collect their badge at the Registration Desk at the entrance to the conference area between 07:00 and 08:00 hours on the opening day. Badges must be worn at all times within the venue.

4. Documentation

No documentation will be distributed in hard copy. All Workshop and Summit documentation will be published online.

5. Accommodation

Participants are responsible for their own hotel and travel arrangements. A list of hotels near the venue is at the Attachment.

November is peak season in Dubai and hotel availability tightens well in advance. Early booking is strongly recommended.

6. Transportation

Operating taxi companies in Dubai:

- [Careem](#)
- [Uber](#)
- [Dubai Taxi Company \(DTC\)](#)



From Dubai International Airport (DXB)

DXB operates three terminals. Emirates and selected flydubai services use Terminal 3; flydubai and regional carriers use Terminal 2; most other international airlines use Terminal 1. Terminal 2 is located on the opposite side of the runway from Terminals 1 and 3.

By metro — The Red Line serves Terminals 1 and 3 directly and runs to Business Bay Station (R26) without a change of line. The venue is approximately 850 m (13 minutes' walk) from the station. Total journey time is around 55–60 minutes.

From Terminal 2, take the airport shuttle bus to Abu Hail Station (G17), transfer to the Red Line at Union Station (G20/R18) and continue to Business Bay (R26).

A Nol card is required — cash and bank cards are not accepted at metro gates. Nol cards are sold at ticket offices and vending machines in every metro station, including at DXB Terminals 1 and 3 near the metro entrances, and accept cash or card. The Silver Nol card is the practical choice for a short visit. Fares are calculated by zone when you tap in and out; current rates are available on the RTA website and the Nol Pay application.

By taxi or ride-hailing — Taxis are available outside all arrival terminals, operate 24 hours and are metered. Journey time to the venue is approximately 20–25 minutes depending on traffic. Taxis departing the airport carry a fixed AED 25 starting fare; a typical fare to Business Bay is in the range of AED 60–100. Ride-hailing services (DTC, Careem, Uber) are widely used and can be booked through their applications.

From Al Maktoum International Airport (DWC)

DWC is approximately 45 km from the venue, around 45–55 minutes by road depending on traffic. There is no direct metro connection; taxi or pre-arranged transfer is recommended.

Parking

Participants arriving by car should note that parking at the venue is managed by the hotel valet parking team and it will be complimentary for the event attendees.

7. Passport

All foreign nationals entering the United Arab Emirates must hold a passport, GCC citizens may travel using a national identification card. The document shall be valid for a minimum of six months from the date of entry.

8. Visa

All visitors are strongly advised to check their specific [visa requirements](#) prior to travel.

9. Customs

Travelers may bring in items permitted under [UAE customs](#) requirements.

10. Currency and Payments

The currency of the UAE is the Dirham (AED), in notes of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500 and 1000, and coins of 25 and 50 fils and 1 dirham. The rate is fixed at approximately 1 USD = 3.6725 AED.

Foreign exchange facilities and ATMs are widely available at the airports & shopping malls. International credit and debit cards (Visa, MasterCard, American Express) are accepted almost everywhere, as are Apple Pay and Google Pay. A service charge is normally included in restaurant and hotel bills; additional tipping is discretionary.



Visitors to the UAE pay a standard 5% Value Added Tax (VAT) on most goods and services, plus local accommodation and tourism fees that vary by emirate. Tourists can claim a partial VAT refund on shopping. Please visit [UAE TAX website](#) for more info.

11. Connectivity

Complimentary Wi-Fi is available at the venue. Network details will be provided at registration.

Prepaid SIM cards and eSIM packages are available on arrival at both airports and from telecom outlets across the city.

12. Weather and Dress

November is one of the most pleasant months in the UAE, with daytime highs averaging around 30–31 °C (86–88 °F) and overnight lows of approximately 19–23 °C (66–73 °F). Rainfall is rare.

Light clothing is suitable outdoors; a light jacket or layer is advisable for air-conditioned indoor venues. Business attire is expected for all sessions. Modest dress is customary in public places.

13. Health

Bottled water is recommended. The nearest medical facility to the venue is Emirates Hospital Clinics – Business Bay, approximately 500 m (10 minutes' walk).

14. Insurance

Participants are advised to hold insurance covering any unexpected contingency, including transport-related risks and medical treatment. Neither the host nor the organizers accept liability in this regard.

15. Emergency Numbers

Service	Number
Police (emergency)	999
Ambulance	998
Fire / Civil Defence	997
Coast Guard	996
From any mobile (routes to 999)	112
Police (non-emergency, Dubai)	901
Tourist Security Assistance	800 4438
Dubai Health Authority	800 342

16. Local Time

UAE operates on Gulf Standard Time (UTC +4). There is no daylight-saving time in the UAE.

17. Electrical Supply

Power sockets follow the Type G standard (three rectangular prongs), 220–240 V.



18. Assistance

The General Civil Aviation Authority of the United Arab Emirates will be pleased to assist participants with any advice they may require.

For all enquiries — registration and assistance during the event:

Safety.Summit@gcaa.gov.ae

ATTACHMENT — HOTELS AND NEARBY FACILITIES

Hotels near the venue

Hotel	Distance	Walk	Reservations
Anantara Downtown Dubai (venue)	—	—	- Email address: events.adtd@anantara.com - Event booking reference promo code: GCAA161126
ME Dubai by Meliá	600 m	9 min	Official website
Radisson Blu Hotel, Dubai Waterfront, Business Bay	700 m	10 min	Official website
JW Marriott Marquis Hotel Dubai	850 m	12 min	Official website

Nearby facilities

Location	Access
Business Bay Metro Station (Red Line, R26)	850 m — 13 min walk
Emirates Hospital Clinics – Business Bay	500 m — 10 min walk
The Dubai Mall / Burj Khalifa	Red Line, Business Bay → Burj Khalifa–Dubai Mall (non-stop); by car 2.3 km, approx. 8 min
Dubai International Airport (DXB)	18 km — approx. 20–25 min by car
Al Maktoum International Airport (DWC)	45 km — approx. 45–55 min by car

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