



C-DEC 234/9
31/03/25

COUNCIL — 234TH SESSION

NINTH MEETING

(COUNCIL CHAMBER, MONDAY, 24 MARCH 2025 AT 1430 HOURS)

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

OPEN MEETING

Progress report on the establishment of a Doha Flight Information Region (FIR) / Search and Rescue Region (SRR)

1. The Council considered this item on the basis of an oral report from the President of the Council which reported on the implementation of the ICAO Council decision (C-DEC 225/10, refers) concerning the proposal for the establishment of the Doha flight information region (FIR) and search and rescue region (SRR). The Council also had for consideration C-WP/15692 presented by the Kingdom of Bahrain and C-WP/15694 presented by the State of Qatar. In doing so, the Council, in accordance with Rule 56 of the Rules of Procedure for the Council (Doc 7559/11), agreed to consider C-WP/15690 in English only, while also agreeing to waive the Rule 26 b) (ii) of the said Rules, given that C-WP/15694 had not been made available to the Council at least five working days before the meeting.

2. Following consideration, the Council:

- a) recalled its previous decisions on the matter (C-DEC 225/10 and C-DEC 223/9, refer), whereby the Council agreed on the establishment of the Doha FIR/SRR, to be carried out in two phases, with:
 - i. *Phase One* consisting of the Council's approval of the dimensions of the Doha FIR/SRR, including revised dimensions of the Bahrain FIR/SRR, as described in the Appendix to the C-DEC 225/10 (i.e. Area A, and Area B below flight level (FL) 245 within Doha FIR; and
 - ii. *Phase Two* consisting of the Council's agreement that within two years, upon satisfactory implementation of the first phase and without prejudice to regional technical studies, the Council would decide on the implementation of the second phase of the proposal (i.e. Area B above FL 245 to be moved from Bahrain FIR and be included in the Doha FIR);
- b) took note of the information contained in the oral report of the President of the Council on the progress made in the implementation of Phase One and the ongoing efforts of the President of the Council and the Secretariat to support the Member States involved with the implementation of Phase One, while also recognizing the extensive collaboration and mutual support that exists between the Members States in the ICAO Middle East Region, fostering an environment conducive to effective air traffic management and overall regional stability;

- c) took note of the information provided by Bahrain and Qatar, as contained in C-WP/15692 and C-WP/15694, respectively, as regards the implementation of Phase One;
- d) agreed to proceed with the implementation of Phase Two, to occur on 26 November 2026, with the associated aeronautical information to be published on 1 October 2026, which would allow for approximately 18 months of preparation and adequate collaboration among States to finalize all necessary arrangements;
- e) invited Bahrain and Qatar to develop a roadmap that would include all the steps needed to ensure a safe and seamless transfer of responsibilities and provision of air navigation services in Area B above FL 245 between the two States;
- f) invited Bahrain and Qatar, along with their adjacent States concerned, to cooperatively implement the Council's decision;
- g) requested the Secretary General to continue to provide guidance and implementation support including the facilitation of coordination among the States concerned; and
- h) in light of the decision in d) above, also approved the amendment to the MID ANP, Doc 9708, Volume I, as contained in Attachment E of the oral report, and reproduced in the Appendix to this C-DEC.

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APPENDIX

PROPOSAL FOR AMENDMENT OF THE AIR NAVIGATION PLAN — MIDDLE EAST REGION, VOLUME I

FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DOHA FIR/SRR

a) Plan *Air Navigation Plan - Middle East Region (Doc 9708, Volume I)*

b) Proposed amendment: Editorial note: Amendments are arranged to show “deleted text” using strikeout (~~text to be deleted~~), and “added text” with grey shading (**text to be inserted**).

Amend the requirements for the Doha Flight Information Region (FIR) and Doha Search and Rescue Region (SRR) to the MID ANP Table ATM I-1 and Table SAR I-1, respectively, (cf. Charts: ATM I-1 and SAR I-1) in accordance with the following:

26°04'00"N 053°57'00"E 25°49'00"N 053°06'00"E 25°38'01"N 052°57'44"E 25°02'24"N
052°30'54"E 24°59'59"N 052°18'37"E 24°50'46"N 052°22'15"E 24°49'00"N 052°00'00"E
24°42'47"N 051°34'22"E 24°38'17"N 051°26'08"E 24°37'47"N 051°24'21"E 24°37'31"N
051°24'06"E then follow the limit of territorial waters and the sovereign boundary between Qatar and
Saudi Arabia then follow the limit of Qatar and Bahrain territorial waters to **26°11'02"N 050°55'03"E**
26°13'30"N 050°55'13"E 26°16'09"N 051°00'16"E 26°21'17"N 051°04'20"E 26°23'40"N
051°12'20"E 26°21'34"N 051°23'01"E 26°13'56"N 051°38'49"E ~~25°38'01"N 052°57'44"E~~
26°44'40"N 051°43'59"E 26°04'00"N 0 53°57'00"E

FIR vertical limit: SFC to UNL

AND

~~26°04'00"N 053°57'00"E 25°49'00"N 053°06'00"E 25°38'01"N 052°57'44"E 26°13'56"N 051°38'49"E~~
~~26°44'40"N 051°43'59"E~~

~~FIR vertical limit: SFC to FL245.~~

Amend the requirements for the boundary of Bahrain FIR and Bahrain SRR in accordance with the following:

... **28°44'00"N 049°40'00"E 27°05'00"N 050°55'00"E 26°55'00"N 051°10'00"E 26°44'40"N**
051°43'59"E 26°13'56"N 051°38'49"E 26°21'34"N 051°23'01"E 26°23'40"N 051°12'20"E
26°21'17"N 051°04'20"E 26°16'09"N 051°00'16"E 26°13'30"N 050°55'13"E 26°11'02"N
050°55'03"E then follow the limit of Qatar and Bahrain territorial waters then follow the sovereign
boundary and limit of territorial waters between Qatar and Saudi Arabia to **24°37'31"N 051°24'06"E**
24°37'47"N 051°24'21"E 24°38'17"N 051°26'08"E 24°42'47"N 051°34'22"E 24°49'00"N
052°00'00"E 24°50'46"N 052°22'15"E 24°03'00"N 051°47'00"E then follow the sovereign boundary
between Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to **22°42'00"N 055°12'00"E** ...

AND

25°02'24"N 052°30'54"E 24°59'59"N 052°18'37"E 24°50'46"N 052°22'15"E 25°02'24"N
052°30'54"E

FIR vertical limit: SFC to UNL.

~~Bahrain FIR also includes the airspace defined by 26°04'00"N 053°57'00"E 25°49'00"N 053°06'00"E~~
~~25°38'01"N 052°57'44"E 26°13'56"N 051°38'49"E 26°44'40"N 051°43'59"E~~

~~FIR vertical limit: FL245 to UNL.~~

— END —