

**Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Experts Working Group****24-25 February 2015**

The Fourth Experts Working Group (EWG) Meeting for CASP-MID was held at the Hotel Movenpick, Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain on 24-25 February 2015. In attendance were representatives of seven States; Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Jordan, Tunisia and Libya. Also participating were two representatives from the United Kingdom Department for Transport (UKDfT). In addition to representatives from Civil Aviation Authorities, three States (Bahrain, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia) included a representative from the Ministry of Interior (MOI), and one State included a representative of the National air carrier. The full attendance list is an addendum to this report.

The meeting followed a provisional agenda and was opened by Mr. Hussain Al-Shuail, Assistant Undersecretary Bahrain Civil Aviation Affairs. Mr. Al-Shuail welcomed all participants including those representing Libya and Tunisia as future CASP-MID States. He spoke about the success of the CASP-MID Programme and recognized the work of the CASP-MID Programme Coordinator. At the conclusion of the opening remarks, the EWG Chairman, Abdulrahman A. AlBalwi, General Authority of Civil Aviation, Saudi Arabia, also welcomed the participants and officially opened the Meeting.

CASP-MID Programme Coordinator

Mr. David Tiedge, CASP-MID Programme Coordinator, acted as the Secretary for the Meeting. The Programme Coordinator reviewed the meeting agenda with the participants and presented an organizational timeline on the evolution of the CASP-MID Programme to its current status.

The Programme Coordinator then outlined the goals and proposed outcomes for the meeting including a review of the approved 2014-2015 CASP-MID Annual Work Plan and EWG participation in decisions on future CASP-MID training initiatives.

Update on Global and Regional Aviation Security and Facilitation Matters by ICAO Regional Officer, Cairo

Mr David Sterland, Regional Officer, Aviation Security and Facilitation (MID RO/AVSEC/FAL) from ICAO's Middle East Office in Cairo provided a full update to participants on the latest ICAO developments in aviation security and facilitation and on the broader work in the region - including on-going work with the Aviation Security Training Centres (ASTCs) and the global programme of training for 2015

(<http://www.icao.int/Security/isd/Training/Pages/default.aspx>). The global programme includes the ICAO-sponsored training activities planned for the ASTCs in Amman, Bahrain, Beirut and Dubai during 2015.

At the regional level, for the remainder of 2015, the meeting was reminded about plans to conduct:

- In coordination with ICAO HQ, an ICAO Aviation Security Instructor Certification course in Bahrain, 1-9 June 2015. This would initially be targeted at the four States where the ASTCs are based to increase the number of local instructors available to ICAO; and
- Five ICAO-sponsored AVSEC courses (Risk Management, Amman (11-14 May), Instructors, Bahrain (7-15 Sep), National Quality Control Programme, Beirut (5-9 Oct), Inspectors, Dubai (2-10 Nov) and Certification, Amman (6-10 Dec))

At the regional and international level, the meeting was updated regarding the following:

- The successful completion of the USAP-CMA auditor training in November 2014 for the Middle East region which has resulted in auditors being certified from ten States and the regional audit seminar in January 2015 which was attended by ten MID States;
- The requirement to notify ICAO HQ regarding compliance with Amendment 14 to Annex 17;
- The forthcoming Twenty-sixth meeting of the Aviation Security Panel, Montréal (13-17 Apr);
- The outcomes of the Global High-level Safety Conference, Montréal (2-5 Feb), including developments in the areas of flight tracking and conflict zones;
- The proposed amendment of Annex 9 – Facilitation (Amendment 25);
- The forthcoming third ICAO meeting of the Directors General of Civil Aviation for the Middle East States (DGCA-MID/3), Doha (27-29 Apr), and the opportunity to provide

papers on the subjects of aviation security and facilitation to the meeting. (Agenda Item 6, Aviation Security and Facilitation, aims to apprise the meeting on developments in aviation security and facilitation at the global level and on the activities undertaken at the regional level since the last meeting (DGCA-MID/2, Jeddah, 20-22 May 2013). The meeting will be briefed on the progress achieved by the Cooperative Aviation Security Programme for the Middle East (CASP-MID) and requested to reiterate support for CASP-MID as the regional mechanism for collaboration in aviation security in the MID Region (i.e. encourage additional States to join CASP-MID);

- The outcomes of the first Symposium on Innovation in Aviation Security, Montréal (21-23 Oct 2014), including the link to all the useful presentations from the Symposium (<http://www.icao.int/Meetings/SIAS/Pages/Presentations.aspx>);
- The availability of a National Civil Aviation Facilitation Programme template document which will be provided to meeting participants;
- A proposed second regional aviation security seminar in September 2015 (dates and venue to be confirmed) to be arranged jointly by the ICAO Cairo, Dakar and Paris Regional Offices (following on from the successful seminar conducted in Paris, 28-30 Jan 2014); and
- The planned 11th MRTD/TRIP Symposium, Montréal, 14-16 Oct 2015.

Participants were reminded about the comprehensive information available on all of the above topics and meetings on the ICAO public website or on the ICAO Secure Portal/ICAO-NET. They were also provided with a presentation on the ICAO Global Risk Context Statement which was well received. (Copies of the Risk Context Statement in Arabic had been provided to participants at EWG/3 in June 2014).

UKDfT Presentation on Regional and Global AVSEC Issues

Mr. Thomson Hunter, Head of International Capacity Development, Aviation Security Division, UK DfT, presented an informational briefing on the role of the Department for Transport in airport security in the UK and the focus on risk mitigation. He described an active threat to aviation as terrorists will respond to security measures and will seek to strike vulnerabilities. This is applicable within the UK and the Middle East. To reduce the risk, you must prevent terrorism by tackling its underlying causes, pursue terrorists and those that sponsor them, protect the public and State interests and prepare for the consequences. Also presented was the evolution of the threat from explosives over the years, MANPADS proliferation and airspace risks. The briefing was well received and appreciated by the participants.

Mr. Gerrard Baker, Regional Aviation Security Liaison Officer Middle East, UK DfT, based in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, provided information on future training possibilities for Middle East States including an upcoming Aviation Security Seminar in Dubai 3-5 March 2015. Also discussed was a possible visit by CASP-MID participating States to the UK in 2016, similar to the visit to the U.S. in March 2015.

Civil Aviation Security Training

The Programme Coordinator discussed the completed training courses/workshops conducted under the CASP-MID Programme. The first CASP-MID sponsored course was an ICAO Aviation Security Certification Systems Workshop in English held at the Queen Noor Civil Aviation Technical College in Amman, Jordan from 17-21 August 2014. The second CASP-MID sponsored course was an ICAO National Aviation Security Inspectors Course in Arabic which was held at the Bahrain ASTC during the period 7-15 September 2014. The third CASP-MID sponsored course was a National Aviation Security Instructors Course which was held at the Sudan Academy for Aviation Sciences and Technology in Khartoum, Sudan during the period 8-16 December 2014.

The Chairman then led a discussion with all participants on proposed CASP-MID training initiatives for 2015. Some States preferred specific training to be held in individual States similar to the training course in Sudan which trained 21 aviation security instructors from the Sudan Civil Aviation Authority and other aviation stakeholders. Other States preferred CASP-MID regional training courses which include a cross section of participants from CASP-MID States. The Chairman requested each State to provide their specific training needs, so a course schedule can be developed in the near future.

The participants also discussed the need for a training course to focus on audit preparation for future audits under the ICAO Universal Security Audit Programme Continuous Monitoring Approach. The ICAO Middle East Aviation Security Regional Officer suggested a course/workshop could be developed based on the recent ICAO Regional Aviation Security Audit Seminar USAP-CMA held in Cairo 26-28 January 2015. The Regional Officer will coordinate with the ICAO Aviation Security Audit Section and the Implementation, Support and Development Section to determine the possibility of such a course/workshop.

Discussion on the status of the Approved CASP-MID 12 Month Work Plan

The Programme Coordinator provided the 2014-2015 Annual Work Plan of CASP-MID for updated review and discussion. Each planned work activity was described, as well as the timeline for completion. The Programme Coordinator will update the 12 Month Work Plan and distribute it to all EWG participants for review and concurrence prior to the next Meeting of the CASP-MID Experts Working Group.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Mr. Abdullah Al-Raddadi from Saudi Arabia provided a briefing on the National Integrated Project for Airports Security and Protection (NIPASP) in Saudi Arabia. Mr. Millud Sager from Libya also provided a briefing on a case study concerning the utilization of ICAO Annexes to develop aviation security legislation for Middle East States.

EWG Priorities and follow-up

The EWG participants identified the following issues for follow-up:

Expansion of Membership – The representatives from Tunisia provided the CASP-MID Memorandum of Participation signed by the Director General of Civil Aviation for Tunisia. As a result, CASP-MID now has six participating States.

DGCA Conference - A working paper on CASP-MID will be presented by the EWG Chairman and the CASP-MID programme Coordinator at the April Meeting of the Directors General of Civil Aviation in Doha, Qatar.

Funding – A planned donation from Canada to the CASP-MID programme will assist States in travel costs for participation in future CASP-MID training events and meetings.

Cargo Security – The Chairman advised the Saudi Arabia delegation will include a cargo security expert for the next meeting of the EWG.

Conclusion of the Meeting

The meeting concluded with all pleased at the large number of States and participants attending the Meeting. The participants from Tunisia offered to host the Fifth Meeting of the Experts Working Group which received full concurrence from the group. The suggested dates were 8-9 September 2015.