



DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION-MIDDLE EAST REGION

Second Meeting (DGCA-MID/2) (Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 20-22 May 2013)

Agenda Item 5: Air Navigation

NEXT GENERATION OF AVIATION PROFESSIONALS (NGAP)

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

The aim of this paper is to present the outcome of MIDANPIRG/13 related to Next Generation of Aviation Professionals (NGAP) initiative to ensure that enough qualified and competent aviation professionals are available to operate, manage and maintain the future international air transport system; for further consideration by the DGCA-MID/2 meeting.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The DGCA-MID/1 meeting noted the concerns expressed by the various ICAO organs including the Council, the Air Navigation Commission (ANC) and MIDANPIRG on the serious impact the long standing deficiencies have on safety.

1.2 It's to be highlighted that the lack of sufficient number of qualified technical staff was the main contributing factor for the non-elimination of the safety deficiencies in the MID Region (both air navigation deficiencies and USOAP findings).

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The DGCA-MID/1 meeting was of the view that a number of deficiencies were common to many States and accordingly encouraged States to work cooperatively towards the elimination of such deficiencies, in particular with a joint effort for the training of technical staff. It was also highlighted that the Regional Safety Oversight Organizations (RSOOs) could play an important and effective role in this respect.

2.2 MIDANPIRG/13 held in Abu Dhabi, UAE, 22-26 April 2012 reviewed the deficiencies in the different air navigation fields. Taking into consideration the expected increase of traffic in the Middle East Region over the next 20 years, the meeting recognized that the demand for qualified and well trained aviation personnel would be challenging to meet the air traffic growth.

2.3 MIDANPIRG/13 recalled that in order to address the expected shortage of skilled aviation professionals in the near future, ICAO launched the Next Generation of Aviation Professionals (NGAP) initiative to ensure that enough qualified and competent aviation professionals are available to operate, manage and maintain the future international air transport system.

2.4 MIDANPIRG/13 (Abu Dhabi, UAE, 22-26 April 2012) was apprised of the outcome of the MIDAD STG/1 meeting. The meeting re-iterated that the implementation of a Regional/Sub-Regional AIS Database in the MID Region would improve the quality, availability and timeliness of aeronautical information provided to users and pave the way for the transition from AIS to AIM, in accordance with the ICAO Roadmap.

2.5 Based on the above, the meeting agreed that it is imperative that States endorse a proactive approach and develop national plans for human resources related to aviation personnel in order to cope with the expected future growth of air traffic and associated high demand for air traffic controllers, pilots, and aviation professionals in the other aviation sectors. Failure to do so may result in widening the gap between available and required personnel, which could not only constrain air traffic growth, but also adversely affect the safety and efficiency of air transport operations. Accordingly, the meeting agreed that the subject should be raised to the attention of the DGCA-MID/2 meeting and agreed to the following Conclusion:

CONCLUSION 13/62: NGAP NATIONAL PLANS

That, in order to ensure that enough qualified and competent aviation professionals are available to operate, manage and maintain the future international air transport system, States be urged to:

- a) develop Next Generation of Aviation Professionals (NGAP) National Plan;*
- b) use the ICAO guidance material for the development of the NGAP National Plans, including the information contained in ICAO DOC 9956 (Global and Regional 20-year forecasts) and the traffic forecasts and peak period analysis developed by the TF SG/4 meeting for the period 2010-2030; and*
- c) provide feedback to the ICAO MID Regional Office before 31 January 2013, for review by the DGCA-MID/2 meeting.*

2.6 As a follow-up action to the above Conclusion, the ICAO MID Regional Office issued State Letter Ref.: AN 12/11-13/022 dated 17 January 2013 requesting States to take all necessary measures to implement the provisions of the above MIDANPIRG/13 Conclusion and provide feedback to the MID before **31 January 2013** for review by the DGCA-MID/2 meeting. Only 3 States replied to the above-mentioned State Letter.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to urge States to:

- a) develop Next Generation of Aviation Professionals (NGAP) National Plan, with a clear mechanism for the identification of staffing needs for the short and medium term; and
- b) take appropriate measures, including availability of necessary resources, planning for training, etc; to ensure that enough qualified and competent aviation professionals are available to operate, manage and maintain the future international air transport system.