



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

MID AMC PROJECT

(Presented by Jordan)

SUMMARY

The aim of this paper is to present the actions taken as a follow-up to the MIDANPIRG/13 Conclusion 13/27 related to the establishment of a MID ATS Messaging Management Center (MID-AMC), and proposes to all MID States to start using the MID AMC.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Aeronautical Telecommunication Network (ATN) Concept has been developed by ICAO for the provision of a global aviation standard telecommunications network to provide seamless ground-to-ground and air-to-ground communication services to support projected traffic flow increase.

1.2 The state-of-the-art ATS Messaging Handling system (AMHS) which is one of the main ATN Messaging Applications, will be replacing the very low capabilities, obsolete AFTN/CIDIN Network Systems and has been installed and commissioned in most of the MID Region States, positioning currently the MID Region as the Lead Region worldwide in AMHS Implementation.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 An efficient and proper AMHS Network operation requires consistent definition and distribution of Address information of the users, operators and providers. As a Short to Midterm solution, EUROCONTROL established an ATS Messaging Management Center (AMC) to provide centralized offline services management worldwide, with limited access to users outside EUR/NAT Region such as the MID Region. Depriving the other areas the exploitation of the capabilities of the EUROCONTROL AMC center.

2.2 Due to that fact as well as the need to have centralized tool for the MID Region, and out of Jordan commitment towards the well-being of the civil aviation, CARC initiated the idea of establishment of an MID-AMC in the second meeting of the ATN/IPS Working Group.

2.3 The MID Regional AMC can support States/Organizations that are in the process of implementing AMHS or those who have already started operational use of AMHS, and provide user access to a repository of information collected from wide-spread sources such as Documentation, Test activities and Implementers Forum, in addition to the provisions of essential information to States/Organizations aiming at a harmonizing the operation of their communication systems such as Network Inventory, Address and Routing Management.

2.4 During MIDANPRIG/12 participants realized the importance of the said center as an essential component of the combined AFTN/CIDIN/AMHS communication environment in the MID Region, and supported the initiative to establish the MID Regional AMC. Moreover it was agreed to use the MID AMC as an automated tool to update the regional Facilities and Services Implementation Document (FASID) tables related to the communication part.

2.5 Accordingly MIDANPIRG/13 agreed to the following Conclusions:

CONCLUSION 13/26: MID AFTN/CIDIN DIRECTORY

That, ICAO MD Regional Office:

- a) take necessary steps with Jordan to populate the MID AFTN/CIDIN Directory in the MID-AMC; and*
- b) post the MID AFTN/CIDIN Directory in the ICAO MID Website.*

CONCLUSION 13/27: MID-ATS MESSAGE MANAGEMENT CENTRE (MID-AMC) PROJECT

That,

- a) Jordan complete the development of the MID-AMC;*
- b) ICAO MID Regional Office communicate with EUROCONTROL to provide the necessary support for the project;*
- c) ATN-IPS WG and CNS SG develop the necessary legal framework for the use of the MID-AMC; and*
- d) States be encouraged to use the MID-AMC on trial basis for one year.*

2.6 Based on the above Jordan has successfully completed the MID-AMC implementation, and the CNS SG/5 and ATN/IPS WG/5 meetings completed the tasks in Conclusion 13/27 and agreed on development of Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) and establishment of Board from all MID States to manage the MID-AMC. The MoA and Terms of Reference of the Board are at **Appendices A and B** to this working paper. Accordingly, the MID-AMC had been in operations on since 12 December 2012 on trial basis, and acknowledged that no negative feedback has been received so far from the system users.

2.7 For the establishment of consistency, uniformity and stability among the European AMC and MID-AMC centers, a meeting was held between MID-AMC team and EUROCONTROL where an agreement between the two AMCs on Synchronization protocol procedure, operational, technical and administration issues was concluded defining the main elements of the continuous coordination resolving most of the coordination problems. Including the creation of all new MID Regional AMHS users and providers by the MID-AMC, since EUROCONTROL had decided not to accept the creation of new users from the MID Region

2.8 The meeting may wish to note that, thirty-six users from MID States (Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia Sudan and UAE) have been registered on the MID-AMC and participating in the trial operations of the MID-AMC. However, some States have not yet signed the MoA, The joining of all MID States to the MID-AMC will benefit the MID Region ATN infrastructure and will improve the performance through their feedback on the operation of the MID-AMC.

2.9 In conclusion, working together is more effective and the participation of MID Region States exploiting their experience, knowledge and operations feedback will be very fruitful for the Region in particular and for the global aviation efficiency in general. The success of this regional project is very much dependent on the active participation in the trial period and provision of regular feedback about the operation and performance.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to urge:

- a) all MID States to start using MID-AMC on trial basis and provide feedback to ICAO MID Regional Office and MID-AMC-Project manager; and
- b) concerned States that have not signed the Memorandum of Agreement to sign the MoA at **Appendix A** to this working paper.

APPENDIX A

**Middle East Regional ATS Messaging
Management Center
(MID AMC)**

**MEMORANDUM
OF AGREEMENT**

MEMORANDUM OF
AGREEMENT

On the establishment, operation and management of the
Middle East Regional ATS Messaging Management
Center (MID AMC) fully funded by Jordan

1. PARTIES

1.1 The Parties to this memorandum of agreement are: Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, UAE and Yemen. and any other ICAO MID Region States

2. AGREEMENT

- CONSIDERING the urgent need to institute a programme, on a regional basis, for a high quality AFS network and efficient data exchange.
- CONSIDERING the Parties' earlier decision that the Middle East Regional ATS Messaging Management Center (MID AMC) will be funded by Jordan.

The Parties have agreed as follows:

1. The Preamble, MIDANPIRG/13 Conclusion 13/27 and CARC's Letter No. 22/1000/11/2926 dated 3/August/2011 hereto shall constitute an integral part of this Memorandum of Agreement.
2. The Parties to this memorandum of agreement, referred to hereunder as Participating States agree to establish the Middle East Regional ATS Messaging Management Center (MID AMC) and undertake to become its members;
3. The MID AMC shall be managed as a Regional programme; shall have legal personality and shall act through the MID AMC Board;
4. The overall objective of the MID AMC is the promotion of efficiency and safety of air navigation in the Middle East Region through the operation and management, on a sound and efficient basis, of a permanent MID Regional ATS Messaging Management Center;
5. The MID AMC Board, in which each Participating State is entitled to appoint one member (technical), shall retain overall direction and responsibility for the supervision and operation of the MID AMC in accordance with the relevant obligations of the Participating States. The Board shall elect its chairman. It shall inter-alia, supervise and direct the MID AMC, follow-up its activities and reports and assign its priorities;
6. The MID AMC's scope, duties and responsibilities will be those agreed by the Board's first meeting and could be revised by the Board. The MID AMC will be assigned clear tasks in a step-by-step approach starting with MID AMC establishment. The MID AMC duties and responsibilities will include, but will not be limited to the following:

Collecting and analyzing ATS Messaging data received from MID States as well as from European AMC;

Establishing a consistency among data from EUROPEAN AMC to the MID AMC and vice versa;

Ensuring the continuous harmonization of data over an AIRAC cycle

Propose optimum routing based one regional change

Create access accounts and authorization according to regional procedure

Create necessary reports and documents

Submit a report to each Board meeting on MID AMC activities;

7. The Participating States have accepted Jordan's offer to host the MID AMC in Jordan to enable the early establishment and functioning of the MID AMC; for which participating States will not be charged
8. Jordan will provide the offices, software, equipment and local personnel needed for the MID AMC operations and pay for the set up of the MID AMC; at no charge to MID States
9. In case of the need for the MID AMC enhancement or addition for any service it will be decided by the board for the requirement and cost which may be borne by Participating States on equal basis ;
10. The MID AMC staff shall be composed of and provided and funded by Jordan:
 1. MID AMC Project Manager (Full Time)
 2. MID AMC Project Assistant (Full Time)
 3. Five MID AMC operators (Full Time)
11. The MID AMC Project Manager shall manage the project on day-to-day basis and effect coordination with the Chairman of the MID AMC Board. He/She shall submit the MID AMC reports to the Board with copies to the ICAO Regional Office in Cairo;
12. This Memorandum of Agreement shall come into effect on the date it has been signed by the Participating States;
13. Any amendment to this Memorandum of Agreement, shall be carried out by the parties to this Memorandum of Agreement;
14. Any dispute arising out of or relating to this Memorandum of Agreement, shall be settled by direct consultation between the Participating States concerned; and within the framework of MIDANPIRG

15. Any Participating State may withdraw from this Memorandum of Agreement by giving a prior written notice of six (6) months to the MID AMC Board. The obligations assumed by the Participating States under this Memorandum of Agreement shall continue to exist after the withdrawal from this Memorandum of Agreement to the extent necessary to permit the orderly finalization of activities, the withdrawal of personnel, the distribution of funds and assets and the settlement of contractual obligations. Additional funds, if necessary, to cover the above mentioned expenditures shall be provided by the Participating States.
16. The hosting of the MID AMC by Jordan may be terminated at the request of Jordan, with two years advance written notification to the MID AMC Board to allow sufficient time for selection of an alternative location and necessary arrangements for setting up a new MID AMC.
17. All correspondence relating to the implementation of this Agreement shall be addressed to:

MID AMC
Chairman of the MID AMC
Civil Aviation Regulatory
Commission P.O. Box 7547
Amman Jordan

With copy to the:

ICAO Regional Director
ICAO Middle East Regional Office
Egyptian Civil Aviation Complex, Airport Road
P.O Box 85, Airport Post office, Terminal One
11776, Cairo, Egypt

Agreed on behalf of participating States

State	Signature	Title	date
Bahrain			
Egypt			
Iran			
Iraq			
Jordan			
Kuwait			
Lebanon			
Oman			
Qatar			
Saudi Arabia			
Syria			
UAE			
Yemen			

APPENDIX B

MID-AMC BOARD TOR

1. Terms of Reference (TOR)

1.1 The Terms of Reference of the MID-AMC board are:

- a) to promote the efficiency and safety of aeronautical fixed services in the MID Region through the operation and management, on a sound and efficient basis, of a permanent MID Regional ATS Messaging Management Center (MID-AMC);
- b) foster the implementation of the Air traffic service Message handling service in the MID Region through provision of the guidance materials and running facilitation tools, utilizing the MID-AMC
- c) MID-AMC Board will consist of a focal point from each Participating MID State who would represent the State and acts as the Board Member;
- d) MID AMC Board will be responsible for overall supervision, direction, evaluation of the MID-AMC project and will review/update the MID-AMC work plan whenever required.

1.2 In order to meet the Terms of reference, the MID-AMC board in coordination with ATN-IPS WG will be reporting to MIDANPIRG CNS SG and shall:

- a) Develop a credential procedure for all users on the MID-AMC;
- b) develop and maintain guidance materials for MID-AMC users.
- c) discuss and identify solution for operational problems may be arising.
- d) provide support/guidance to states for AMHS Implementation, and monitor the AMHS activities.
- e) assist and encourage states to conduct trial on Implementation of the ATS extended services, and identify operational requirements.
- f) identify the need for any enhancement for the MID AMC and prepare functional and technical specifications, and define its financial implications;
- g) follow-up on ICAO standards and recommendations on the ATS messaging management
- h) define future liabilities and new participating States and ANSPs
- i) follow-up and review the work of similar groups in other ICAO Regions.

2. Composition

- a) ICAO MID Regional Office;
- b) Members appointed by the States; and
- c) other representatives, who could contribute to the activity of the board, could be invited to participate as observers.

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