# MID ATFM Task Force Update to ATM SG5

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*Chairman - MID ATFM Task Force*

**ATM SG/5 (Aqaba, Jordan, 1-4 December 2019)**

# Why ATFM is needed in the MID Region?
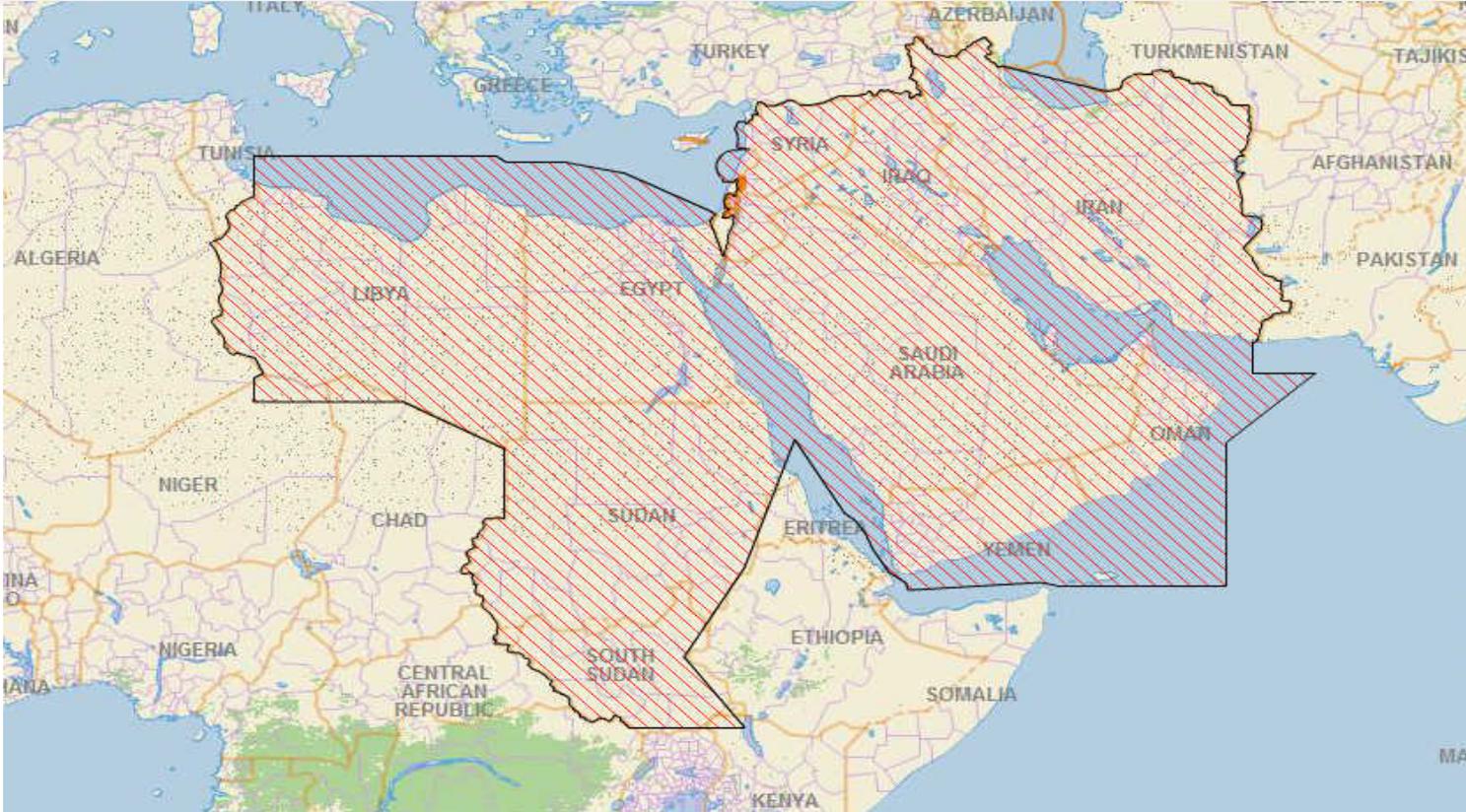
ICAO Middle East Region is composed of **15 States**:

| | |
|---|---|
| Bahrain | Oman |
| Egypt | Qatar |
| Iran | Saudi |
| Iraq | Arabia |
| Jordan | Sudan |
| Kuwait | Syria |
| Lebanon | UAE |
| Libya | Yemen |

# ATFM TF Meetings

– The First Meeting of the Air Traffic Flow Management Task Force (ATFM TF/1) was successfully held in Muscat, Oman, 23 - 25 September 2018. The meeting was gratefully hosted by the Public Authority for Civil Aviation (PACA), Oman.

– The ATFM TF/2 was successfully held in Casablanca, Morocco, 19 – 20 March 2019. The meeting was gratefully hosted by the Arab Civil Aviation Organization (ACAO).

– The Meeting supported the recommendations emanating from the ACAO/ICAO ATFM Workshop (Casablanca, Morocco, 17 – 18 March 2019) held-back-to-back with the ATFM TF/2 meeting

– The ATFM TF and FWC2022 TF meetings are being held back-to-back

# Where do we stand Now?

The ATFM TF/1 meeting established the ATFM Core Team composed of volunteer experts from Bahrain, India, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE (ATFM TF Chairman), USA, ACAO, AEROTHAI, CANSO, EUROCONTROL, IATA and ICAO to carry out the tasks assigned by the ATFM Task Force that include but are not limited to:

1. Carry out a survey to assess the status of the MID Region related to ATM/ATFM capabilities, airspace, sectors and airports capacity, etc.

2. Carry out teleconferences with States' ATFM focal points to explore their views and thoughts related to ATFM taking into`set of data that should be exchanged and explore means that would be used for the exchange of data including the development of a common template.

3. Prepare an initial draft ATFM CONOPS.

4.  Develop guidance as required to support States addressing issues related mainly to:

a)   aerodromes and airspace capacities;

b)   regular review for aerodromes and airspaces where traffic demand is expected to reach capacity, or is resulting in traffic congestion;

c)   compliance by airspace users with ATFM measures

d)   any other guidance relevant to the regional ATFM Framework

e)   mechanisms for ATFM data gathering, collation and sharing between States, Organizations and ICAO

5.  Develop a Template to support States with the development of National ATFM Implementation Plan.

# ATFM Core Team Members

| Name/Title | State/Organization | Contact details |
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**Main Outcome of ATFM TF based on the Core Team work that was supported by MIDANPIRG/17**

- The meeting reviewed the responses to the survey received from 10 States.
- It was recognized that the MID Region is still in the first steps related to the establishment of ATFM capabilities.
- It was recommended that qualification of experts in ATFM as well as raising awareness should be given high priority.
- The meeting agreed to a set of criteria to be used for the evaluation of the scenarios based on the severity of the challenge to achieve the criteria as well as its weight/importance on the success of the scenario.
- The meeting emphasised that establishing a centralised ATFM Unit would be the optimal solution followed by the scenario of having 2 Centres for 2 participating areas, then a centralised scenario through a third party providing the ATFM service and the last one would the Multi-Nodal. However, considering the challenges, feasibility and time and efforts required, the Multi Nodal Scenario achieved the highest Score
- MIDANPIRG/17 agreed that **Multi Nodal Scenario** to be implemented as an initial start

# High level outline to be considered during the development of the CONOPS

### *Phase I- Building State's National ATFM Capabilities*

1. Raising awareness related to ATFM

2. Establishing the regulatory framework for ATFM at national level

3. Establishment of ATFM Services within the ATS organizational structure (FOC, FMP, FMU, etc.)

4. Human resources

5. Training

6. Operating Procedures

7. National ATFM Team to ensure Collaborative Decision Making (CDM)

8. Tools to be used

9. Determine and declare Airspace and airports capacity

10. Establishment of State's National ATFM CONOPS

# High level outline to be considered during the development of the CONOPS

### Phase II – Establishment of Regional Framework

1- Setting up the concept/framework for Cross border ATFM in the MID Region

2- Define which ATFM Measures would be required including GDPs (where applicable to be defined by States)

3- Agreement on the Format of the ATFM Messages

4- Means to be used for Communication between adjacent States ATFM FOC

5- Development of Common Operating Procedure (COP)

6- Agreement on LoA template for ATFM (App G of ATS LoA Template)

7- Agreement on the coordination procedures

8- Signature of LoAs between adjacent ATFM FOC

9- Establishment of platform to be used for sharing of information

# High level outline to be considered during the development of the CONOPS

### *Phase III- Implementation of Cross border ATFM*

1- Exchange of information through the established platform and/or periodic daily teleconferences

2- Sharing of the ATFM Daily Plan

3- Implementation of the ATFM/CDM process for regulating traffic when required (regional and later inter-regional)

4- Post Implementation Review

5- Research and future development

# Action by the meeting

The meeting is invited to:

a)  commend the work carried out till today by all the experts supporting the ATFM TF and the ATFM Core Team

b)  encourage States and Organisations to implement the Recommendations of the ATFM Workshop held in Casablanca at **Appendix A** and continue their collaboration and provide further support in order to prepare the MID Region to accommodate the significant increase of traffic due to the FIFA World Cup 2022 or any other major events in a safe and efficient manner; review the ATFM Action Plan at **Appendix B**; and

c)  urge States to take necessary measures to ensure the establishment of ATFM service at the national level, including the promulgation of the required regulations, organisational structure, human and financial resources, training, etc.

**ACAO/ICAO ATFM Workshop (Casablanca, Morocco, 17 – 18 March 2019)**

The main objectives of the ACAO/ICAO ATFM Workshop (Casablanca, Morocco, 17 – 18 March 2019) were to is to raise awareness about ATFM, share other ICAO Regions and States' experience as well as discuss and agree on recommendations for the implementation of ATFM in the MID Region based on the work carried out by the ATFM Core Team.

*The Workshop recognized that:*

- a regional solution to manage the traffic flow across the MID Region became a priority.

- collaboration between all stakeholders is a key success for effective development and implementation of regional framework for ATFM/CDM.

- development of ATFM Concept of Operations requires inputs/data from all stakeholders to ensure it meet the projected objectives.

- sharing information is the most important enabler for ATFM/CDM.

*The Workshop agreed to the following Recommendations*

1.      States and Stakeholders are encouraged to support ACAO and ICAO efforts related to the implementation of ATFM/CDM and in particular the work of the MIDANPIRG ATFM Task Force related to the Development of ATFM Concept of Operations for the MID Region taking into consideration other experiences.

*States are encouraged to:*

2.      establish ATFM framework at the national level (regulations, organizational structure, functions, operating procedures, etc.)

3.      develop ATFM National Implementation Plan

4.      ensure that ATFM personnel are trained and qualified to effectively carry out their tasks. ATFM Manager (decision maker) should have adequate ATC experience.

5.      carry out necessary studies to determine airspace and airports capacities

6.      exhaust all measures that would increase capacity and continue working on the airspace improvements and the enhancement of the air navigation services within their relevant FIRs taking into consideration the airspace users' requirements.

7.      support the implementation of the IFPS at regional level

8.      ensure the implementation of the Collaboration Decision Making (CDM) concept.

9.      support flight data exchange for the management and monitoring of air traffic flow at regional and inter-regional levels

*ATFM TF is invited to:*

10.      develop a training programme template to be used by States.

11.      develop a Template for National ATFM Implementation Plan

12.      support States in carrying out their airspace and sector capacity studies

*ACAO and ICAO, supported by ATFM experts as required, are invited to:*

13.      organize workshops and training courses related to ATFM.

14.      conduct visits to States to support the ATFM Implementation.

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**ACTION PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ATFM IN THE MID REGION**

| Key Activities | Action | | Target date | Deliverable | Champion | Supported by | Status/RMK |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No | Description | | | | | |
| **Key Activity 1** Agreement on the ATFM Regional Framework | 1. | Recommending the best Scenario for a regional ATFM framework | 20 Mar 2019 | Recommendation | ATFM TF/2 meeting | | Completed |
| | 2. | Presentation to the ACAO ANC/40 | 21 Mar 2019 | Support | ACAO | | Completed |
| | 3. | Preparing a Working Paper to MIDANPIRG/17 | 30 Mar 2019 | WP | Secretariat | Chairman | Completed |
| | 4. | Agreement on the regional ATFM framework by MIDANPIRG | 18 Apr 2019 | MIDANPIRG Conclusion | MIDANPIRG/17 | Secretariat | Completed |
| | 5. | Presentation to the ACAO Executive Council | 28-29 Apr 2019 | For support | ACAO | | Completed |
| | 6. | Notifying States about MIDANPIRG/17 Conclusion and that the development of ATFM CONOPS started | 30 Apr 2019 | State Letter | ICAO | Chairman | |
| **Key Activity 2** Development of Draft CONOPS | 7. | Development of a Draft ATFM CONOPS | 10 Jul 2019 | Draft ATFM CONOPS | ATFM Core Team | | |
| | 8. | Circulating the Draft ATFM CONOPS to States | 15 Jul 2019 | State Letter | ICAO | ACAO | |
| | 9. | Feedback form States on the Draft ATFM CONOPS | 15 Aug 2019 | Feedback | States | | |
| | 10. | Consolidation of the Draft ATFM CONOPS for presentation to the ATM SG/5 meeting | 30 Aug 2019 | Consolidated version of ATFM CONOPS | Secretariat | Chairman ATFM Core Team | |
| | 11. | Agreement on the Draft ATFM CONOPS | 11 Sep 2019 | Draft ATFM CONOPS | ATM SG/5 | | |
| | 12. | Circulating the Draft ATFM CONOPS | 25 Sep 2019 | State Letter | ICAO | ACAO | |
| | 13. | Presentation to DGCA-MID/5 | Nov 2019 | For Info and Support | ICAO | | |
| | 14. | Presentation to ACAO Executive Council | Dec 2019 | For Info and Support | ACAO | | |
| **Key Activity 3** Development of ATFM Regional Framework and | 15. | Development of Initial Draft ATFM Regional Framework and draft ATFM Common Operating Procedures | 31 Dec 2019 | Initial Draft ATFM Regional Framework and draft Common Operating Procedures | ATFM Core Team | Face-to-face meeting(s) might be required | |

| draft Common Operating Procedures based on the agreed CONOPS | 16. | Agreement on the Draft Regional Framework and draft Common Operating Procedures | 13 Jan 2020 | Draft ATFM Regional Framework and draft Common Operating Procedures | ATFM TF/3 meeting (12-13 Jan 2020) | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 17. | Circulating the Draft Regional Framework and draft Common Operating Procedures to States | 20 Jan 2020 | State Letter | ICAO | ACAO | |
| | 18. | Feedback form States on the Draft ATFM Regional Framework and draft Common Operating Procedures | 10 Mar 2020 | Feedback | States | | |
| | 19. | Consolidation of a Draft Regional Framework and draft Common Operating Procedures for presentation to the MSG/7 meeting | 25 March 2020 | Consolidated version of Draft ATFM Regional Framework and draft Common Operating Procedures | Secretariat | Chairman ATFM Core Team | |
| | 20. | Presentation to ACAO Executive Council | Apr 2020 | For Info and Support | ACAO | | |
| | 21. | Endorsement of the ATFM CONOPS, Regional Framework and Common Operating Procedures including agreement on a roadmap for the implementation | 17 Jun 2020 | ATFM CONOPS, Regional Framework and Common Operating Procedures | MSG/7 (15-17 Jun 2020) | | |
| | 22. | Circulation of the CONOPS, Regional Framework and Common Operating Procedures and posting them on the ICAO MID Website | 30 Jun 2020 | State Letter | ICAO | ACAO | |
| | 23. | Presentation to ACAO Executive Council | Dec 2020 | For Info and Support | ACAO | | |
| **Key Activity 4** Implementation of the MID ATFM Regional Framework and Common Operating Procedures based on the agreed CONOPS | 24. | Implementation of the MID ATFM Regional Framework and Common Operating Procedures | Cont. | Implementation of ATFM Regional Framework and Common Operating Procedures | States | | |
| | 25. | Implementation of ATFM framework at national level | Cont. | National ATFM framework | States | | |

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| **Key Activity 5** Post Implementation Review of the MID ATFM Regional Framework | 26. | Post implementation review | Each 3 months | Post Implementation review | ATFM Core Team | |
| | 27. | Improvement of the ATFM Regional Framework and Common Operating Procedures | TBD 2021 | Proposal for improved ATFM Regional Framework and Common Operating Procedures | ATFM TF | ATFM Core Team |
| | 28. | Review and continuous improvement of the ATFM Implementation in the MID Region with consideration of establishment of centralized ATFM system for the MID Region | TBD | Continuous improvement | ATFM TF | ATFM Core Team |
| **Key Activity 6** Training and raising awareness related to ATFM | 1. | Development of Training Programme Template for qualifying ATFM Specialist | 31 Dec 2019 | Training Programme Template for ATFM Specialist | ATFM TF / ATFM Core Team | |
| | 2. | Development of working arrangement for the ATFM Visits to States that would include ATFM Workshop and/or training courses | 31 Dec 2019 | working arrangement for the ATFM Visits | ATFM TF / ATFM Core Team | |
| | 3. | Organizing an ATFM Workshop with the planned A-CDM Workshop | 21-23 Oct 2019 | A-CDM/ATFM Workshop | ICAO/ACAO | ATFM TF |
| | 4. | Organizing of ATFM Training Courses | TBD 2020/ 2021 | ATFM Training Courses | ICAO/ACAO | TBD |
| | 5. | Conduct ATFM Support visits to States | TBD 2020/ 2021 | ATFM Support visits | ATFM support Team | TBD |
| | 6. | Conduct familiarization visits to CADENA, Singapore, India, EUROCONTROL, FAA, etc. | TBD | ATFM Familiarization Visits | ACAO ICAO | |

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