



**DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION-MIDDLE EAST REGION
FIFTH MEETING (DGCA-MID/5)**

(Kuwait, 4-6 November 2019)

Agenda Item 5: Aviation Safety and Air Navigation

COMMON AERONAUTICAL VIRTUAL PRIVATE NETWORK PROJECT (CRV)

(Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This Information Paper aims to provide an update on the establishment of the MID IP Network in the MID Region through joining the CRV project.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The MIDANPIRG/16 meeting agreed that the procurement framework of the APAC CRV be used for the implementation of the MID IP Network Project; and the MID IP Network be renamed as Common aeRonautical VPN (CRV) in order to represent both Regions.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The CRV aims to help States achieve a safe, secure, reliable and economical backbone network to handle current and anticipated network traffic demand as well as enabling the new features enhancement in the APAC and MID Regions. MIDANPIRG/16 though Conclusion 16/15 invited States to engage with the recommended supplier to establish individual service contracts.

2.2 The CRV network will support the exchange of:

- AFTN/AMHS messages to replace the current AFTN/AMHS connections;
- ground-to-ground voice communications between States;
- AIDC messages via the exchange of AFTN/AMHS messages;
- METAR and SPECI (including TREND), TAF and SIGMET data in a GML-compliant format;
- NOTAM and aeronautical data including obstacles, terminal procedures and airport mapping data in a GML-compliant format;
- Data Link Communications;
- AIM information such as eAIP over IP;
- ATFM data flow of meteorological data in the same manner as support for WXXM data flow;
- exchange of ATFM information such as flight schedule, ATFM messages, ATFM daily plan (ADP), etc.;
- ATS messages, Traffic Flow Management, Airport CDM and boundary crossing in a GML-compliant format; and
- other data as necessary.

2.3 The implementation of the project in APAC Region will be followed-up by the APAC CRV OG. In the MID Region, the MID AMC Steering Group STG was tasked to manage the CRV Project and act as the MID CRV-OG (Common aeRonautical VPN – Operational Group) until the establishment of this group.

2.4 The meeting may wish to recall that six (6) States (Bahrain, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon and Sudan) confirmed their commitment and three (3) States (Oman, Saudi Arabia and UAE) confirmed provisional commitment.

2.5 MIDANPIRG/16 through conclusion 16/15 invited States that have already committed to join CRV to engage with the recommended supplier to establish individual service contracts; and States that have not yet done so to carry out a comprehensive CBA related to the implementation of an IP Network under the CRV framework; and inform the ICAO MID Office about their decision related to the joining of CRV.

2.6 In connection of the above, eight (8) States (Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE) provided their network requirements through the completion of the high level questionnaire.

2.7 The MSG/6 meeting noted that States selected different packages for the same connections. In order to request price revision from CRV service provider, consolidated proposal with unified package for all MID States has been developed. Therefore, the MSG/6 meeting, through Conclusion 6/28, urged States to complete the MID CRV requirements.

2.8 The CNS SG/8 meeting agreed to conduct the fifth meeting of the MIDAMC STG with the CRV's service provider (PCCW) to address the following pending issues related to the CRV project:

- a) Technical requirements
- b) Cost, including arrangement for division/allocation of cost
- c) Process for contract award
- d) Responsibility for network administration
- e) Handling of network service issues
- f) Performance specifications
- g) Network security issues
- h) Network redundancy issues
- i) Capacity for growth and expansion
- j) Required lead time for implementation
- k) Performance management, measurement, monitoring, reporting and control
- l) Missing message issue faced by Bahrain, Kuwait and Oman.

2.9 The MIDAMC STG/5 was hosted by IATA, Amman, Jordan, 13-14 October 2019. The meeting discussed the pending issues and provided clarifications on several technical matters, including, but not limited to, Security, network management, failure management and network redundancy and scalability.

2.10 Furthermore, during the MIDAMC STG/5 meeting, breakout sessions were arranged between PCCW and MID States to discuss State's requirements and difficulties.

2.11 The MIDAMC STG/5 meeting agreed to the following actions to be done within one (1) month of the meeting date:

- a) PCCW to contract alternative local partners in some states like (Bahrain, Jordan, Lebanon, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and UAE) in order to provide better pricelist;

- b) PCCW to arrange bilateral meeting with the Saudi Arabia;
- c) PCCW's local partners to conduct site surveys in some MID States (Bahrain, Jordan, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and UAE);
- d) PCCW to take necessary actions to allow hardware delivery to Iran and Yemen in order to include them in the project;
- e) PCCW to provide new revised pricelist to all MID states; and
- f) ICAO MID to follow-up and coordinate as deem necessary.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to note the content of this paper.