



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

(Kuwait, 4-6 November 2019)

Agenda Item 10: MID Region Strategic Planning

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE SUPPORT OF AIR TRANSPORT IN THE MID REGION

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper proposes the development of a Strategic Plan for the support of the sustainable development of air transport in the Region in the next 15 years (2020-2035).

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The development of international civil aviation can strongly contribute towards establishing and preserving the friendship and understanding among nations and people of the world.

1.2 The adoption of a regional vision of the future promotes the opportunity for mutual cooperation and optimization of the use of resources to achieve common objectives aligned with the ICAO vision of achieving the sustainable development of the global civil aviation system.

1.3 With greater air connectivity with acceptable safety levels, supported by strong Government institutions and having respect for the environment, the air transport system could contribute to the attainment of the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the welfare of States.

1.4 The benefits enabled by air transportation can only materialize if States have a safe, efficient, secure, economically viable and environmentally sound air transport system.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 In accordance with Assembly Resolution A39-25, States were urged to:

- recognize the significant contributions of aviation to sustainable development realized by stimulating employment, trade, tourism and other areas of economic development at the national, regional and global levels, as well as by facilitating humanitarian and disaster response to crises and public health emergencies; and

- enhance their air transport systems by effectively implementing SARPs and policies while at the same time including and elevating the priority of the aviation sector into their national development plans supported by robust air transport sector strategic plans and civil aviation master plans, thereby leading to the attainment of the SDGs;

2.2 Considering that air transport is a driving force for the economy and social development of States, the Strategic Plan 2020-2035 aims to ensure the sustained growth of civil aviation in the Region, with emphasis on four main pillars:

- Air connectivity;
- Aviation safety;
- Aviation Security; and
- Environmental protection.

2.3 The objective of the plan is to ensure that all MID States can enjoy the benefits of air transport with greater connectivity, under optimum conditions of safety and security, with duly strengthened civil aviation authorities acting autonomously and independently, with due care to environmental protection. It is sought to orientate the priorities to achieve greater access of the population to air transport, combining at the same time the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental.

2.4 The endorsement of the Plan by the Ministers responsible of Civil Aviation in the MID Region will foster the involvement and commitment of the Civil Aviation Authorities and industry in its implementation during the next 15 years. This will ensure the sustained growth of air transport, in line with the Strategic Objectives of ICAO and at the same time supporting the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).

2.5 The Strategic Plan should include a Vision for the sustainable development of Air Transport in the MID Region up-to 2035. It should also include specific objectives with clear timelines, in support of the UN SDGs and ICAO Strategic Objectives.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) consider the proposal to develop a Strategic Plan for the support of the sustainable development of air transport in the Region in the next 15 years (2020-2035); and
- b) agree on the following Draft Conclusion:

DRAFT CONCLUSION 5/X: MID REGION AIR TRANSPORT STRATEGIC PLAN 2020 -2035

That, in order to support the sustainable development of air transport in the MID Region, in line with the Strategic Objectives of ICAO and at the same time supporting the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs):

- a) *States and International Organizations designate Focal Points to support the ICAO MID Office in the drafting of the MID Region Air Transport Strategic Plan 2020 -2035; and*

- b) *the Draft MID Region Air Transport Strategic Plan 2020 -2035 be presented to the DGCA-MID/6 meeting for review and agreement to be presented to a Ministerial Conference for endorsement.*

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