International Civil Aviation Organization

MID ATS Messaging Management Centre Steering Group

Fourth Meeting (MIDAMC STG/4)
(Cairo, Egypt, 18 – 19 March 2019)

Agenda Item 3:   **AFS Issues**

SITA TYPE X REGIONAL CONNECTIONS

(Presented by Kingdom Of Saudi Arabia)

SUMMARY
This paper proposes the establishment of additional Regional SITA Type X connection in Saudi Arabia, to improve the availability and reliability of AFS and SITA interconnection.
Action by the meeting is in paragraph 3.
REFERENCES
- EUR Doc 035- AMHS Third Party Interconnection Architecture - MSG/6 Meeting Report

1.   INTRODUCTION

1.1   SITA has been operating AFTN/SITA Type B Gateways for over 40 years. The gateways are currently connected via low and medium speed connections to AFTN COM Centres in several States.

1.2   These inter-connections allow SITA customers to communicate with the AFS Network (AFTN/CIDIN) using the message type of their network. The AFTN/SITA Type B Gateway provides the necessary message conversion to enable seamless data exchange between both networks.

1.3   The evolution of the SITA messaging environment is based on the IATA Type X Messaging Specification, which is a messaging standard based on XML and Web service. The communication between SITA Type X users and users outside of the Type X environment is ensured via dedicated Type X Gateways. In case of AMHS, the dedicated gateway is called "AMHS/SITA Type X Gateway".

2.   DISCUSSION

2.1   The meeting may recall that the MIDAMC STG/3 reviewed the SITA-AMHS gateway interconnection topology. Moreover, Jordan and Lebanon have been selected to be the Regional SITA Type X Connections in the MID Region.

2.2   The Integration of SITA Type X Gateway in the MID Region was planned for 28 February 2019.

2.3   As SITA Integration is a pre-requisite for any inter-regional AMHS connection to exchange XML based messages, ICAO MID Region should establish additional Regional Type X connection, to improve the reliability and the availability of AMHS/SITA interconnection.

2.4   Jeddah COM Centre is one of the Main COM centres in the ICAO MID Region and connects the MID Region with Europe and AFI Regions, therefore, establishing an additional connection in The Kingdome Of Saudi Arabia is beneficial for the whole Region.

3.   ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1   The meeting is invited to:

a) support of establishing a third SITA Type X regional connection in Saudi Arabia;

b) invite ICAO MID Office to request SITA establishing the third Connection and develop a plan accordingly; and

c) urge MID States to consider routing PRMD=SITA to Jeddah COM Center, after implementation of new connection.

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