AIDC/OLDI Workshop
Summary of discussions

Cairo, Egypt 14-16/2/2023

History of the Workshop

➢ The AIDC/OLDI Workshop was successfully conducted 14-16 February 2023 in Cairo, Egypt.

➢ The Workshop was attended by (40) participants from (9) States (Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE, USA, Somalia and Tunisia) and four (4) Organizations (ACAO, EUROCONTROL, IATA, and ICAO).

Agenda of the Workshop

Agenda Item 1: ICAO provisions related to AIDC/OLDI
- ASBU FICE Thread
- MID AN Strategy
- MID AN Report 2022
- Operational advantages of using AIDC/OLDI over voice communication

Agenda Item 2: AIDC/OLDI Messages sets
- AIDC Messages Set
- OLDI Messages Set
- OLDI & AIDC Gap Analysis

Agenda Item 3: Technical and Operational requirements
- ATM Automation System supporting AIDC/OLDI
- Communication Requirements
- Testing and approval requirements
- Operational and Technical personnel training
- Performance Considerations

Agenda Item 4: Template for bilateral Letter of Agreement

Agenda Item 5: Review of the MID Region Strategy for the Implementation of AIDC/OLDI

Summary of Discussions

- The Workshop was apprised of ICAO Provisions and regional activities related to the AIDC/OLDI;

- The Workshop noted the outcome of the CNS SG/10 related to the AIDC/OLDI;

- The Workshop recalled that the implementation level of AIDC/OLDI in the MID Region (21%) is still far below the target (70% by 2020) in accordance to the MID Region Air Navigation Strategy;

- The Workshop was apprised of the status of implementation of OLDI/AIDC in the some ACAO States.

Summary of Discussions

- The Workshop was apprised of AIDC/OLDI performance benefits and its positive impact on ANS KPIs (Safety, Efficiency and predictability);

- The Workshop noted the 3 AIDC protocols utilized by FAA and ongoing expansion and enhancements;

- The Workshop was apprised of OLDI messages set and use cases that signify the operational process supported by OLDI coordination exchanges;

Summary of Discussions

- The Workshop noted that the implementation of the basic set of OLDI messages has been mandated by law in EUROPE;

- The Workshop was apprised of AIDC/OLDI messages mapping and noted that the basic messages are identical in both protocols; however, OLDI can support Civil-Military coordination, datalink operation, crossing request and SKIP sector;

- The Workshop underlined that AIDC/OLDI messages exchange needs to be agreed bilaterally;

Summary of Discussions

- The Workshop was apprised of the content of AIDC/OLDI letter of agreement (LoA) to include messages type, coordination, and time and distance parameters, 2 samples of LoAs were presented;

- The Workshop noted the performance requirements (availability, reliability, data security/ integrity, operational evolution) for OLDI implementation;

Summary of Discussions

- The Workshop noted the main systems affected by OLDI deployment;

- The Workshop reviewed the mechanism of identifying AIDC/OLDI applicability areas in the MID Region;

- The Workshop worked in 5 breakout groups and reviewed the MID Region Strategy for AIDC/OLDI implementation (ICAO MID DOC 006); the groups identified the required updates to be proposed to MIDANPIRG;

Summary of Discussions

- The Workshop was apprised of the training requirements, it was noted that the automated exchanges of transfer and co-ordination data have substantial impact on ATC procedures and ATCO working methods. Therefore, an adequate familiarization training for ATCO needs to be ensured, however, ATSEPs need to be trained on how to maintain the equipment: OLDI communication facilities, flight data processing, OLDI front-end and any other equipment involved in reception / provision and handling of OLDI messages.

Summary of Discussions

- The Workshop noted OLDI Monitoring tool developed by EUROCONTROL to yearly reflect the status of OLDI message deployment.

- The Workshop received updates from States (Egypt, Iraq, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and UAE) on the current status of AIDC/OLDI implementation, future plans, challenges and lessons learned;

- The Workshop discussed the SL dated 29 December 2022 regarding the PfA on the initial implementation of the flight and flow — information for a collaborative environment (FF-ICE) services;

Recommendations

- The Workshop recommended the use of AIDC/OLDI in congested airspace as it can cause a substantial increase in Capacity. The ATCO workload can be reduced compared with the conventional process **(7-10 %** increase of sector capacity figures based on EUROCONTROL)

- The use of standalone OLDI terminals where ATM automation System does not support OLDI would be an interim solution to enhance the ATSUs coordination;

Recommendations

- States were encouraged to use OLDI to better manage SSR codes by automatic allocation of SSR code from a centralised SSR pool;

- States were encouraged to use AIDC/OLDI exchanges to support the coordination and transfer process within the same FIR or with cross-border enroute, approach and TWR ATS unit;

- The Workshop recognized on the need to update ICAO MID AIDC/OLDI focal points list.

Recommendations

- Radar data sharing is not directly linked with OLDI, but it will definitely improve the content of OLDI message. All OLDI messages contain the time over the coordination point; this time can be accurately calculated if the flight trajectory is regularly updated with surveillance report. Especially in big airspace volumes, the trajectory timing cannot be accurately calculated without adequate use of surveillance data. The Radar data sharing can improve the surveillance coverage and fill the gaps; thus, the sharing of radar data will substantially improve the content of OLDI messages.

Recommendations

- The Workshop proposed update to the MID Region AIDC/OLDI applicability areas to be reviewed and endorsed by the relevant groups;

- States needs to develop a procedure to refer to voice communication incase of OLDI outage or message timeout as AIDC/OLDI exchanges critical data in terms of time delivery and response time;

Recommendations

- The Workshop encouraged States to use the EUROCNONTROL OLDI messages Use Cases **https://www.eurocontrol.int/publication/eurocontrol-specification-line-data-interchange-oldi** during the test and acceptances phases;

- Encouraged States to conduct change management process before implementing AIDC/OLDI including the system changes considering all the interfaces and their safety impact and mitigation measures.

Recommendations

- The Workshop agreed to establish an action group to update the ICAO MID Doc 006 taking into consideration inputs/comments received from the breakout groups to be presented to the CNS SG/11 (May, 2023, Amman, Jordan), the AG composed of:

    a) *Ahmed Abdel Wahab Mohamed (Egypt);*
    b) *Yassir Qasim Abdul Hasan (Iraq);*
    c) *Ibrahim Mahmoud Faraj (Jordan);*
    d) *Saad S Al-Qahtani (Saudi Arabia)*
    e) *Hamda Mohammed Al Shehhi (UAE); and*
    f) *Basel Mohammed Al-Awlaqi (UAE);*