



*International Civil Aviation Organization*

**Air Traffic Services Route Network Task Force (ARN TF)**

**Fifth Meeting**

*(Amman, Jordan 5 - 7 February 2012)*

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**Agenda Item 5: Review/update of Regional Activities carried out by CANSO**

**MIDRAR ACTIVITY**

*(Presented by CANSO)*

**SUMMARY**

The purpose of this working paper is to provide a brief update on the progress and activities carried out by Middle East Regional Airspace Review (MIDRAR) Project and discuss the findings presented. The results of the discussions will be incorporated in the further work of MIDRAR.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The present traffic volume and the expected significant growth in traffic volume place urgent need for more capacity and efficiency improvement in ATM system, if these challenges are ignored or mistreated they will develop to be one of the major factors to limit aviation growth in the region.

1.2 Inspired by ICAO DOC 9854 which stated that

- ATM community should have a continuous involvement in the planning, implementation and operation of the system to ensure that the evolution of the global ATM system meets the expectations of the community,
- The operational concept presupposes that the ATM community will work together to continually improve ATM performance, especially in relation to safety and achieving the expectations of the ATM community.

**2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 Middle East Regional Airspace Review (MIDRAR) project was formed by CANSO as a joint initiative between ATM Stakeholders to develop a positive solution to airspace capacity constraints in the Middle East.

2.2 The objectives agreed in the MIDRAR are:

- Solve capacity challenges and improve efficiency in the Middle East airspace region's ATM through a regional approach;

- Create a credible baseline for the region;
- Conduct gap analysis;
- Create a credible programme for remedial action;
- Manage implementation of programme;
- Drive improvement of ATM through moving towards optimally designed airspace;
- Build consensus and buy-in

2.3 The MIDRAR will consider a geographical area beyond the current CANSO membership and will include the Bahrain, Cairo, Amman, Muscat, Jeddah, Damascus, UAE others regional FIRs if the information is available.



2.4 MIDRAR project as part from the ATM community aims at developing a regional approach to solve the capacity and efficiency challenges for the MID region. This cannot be achieved without the involvement of the key stakeholders of the region: airlines, airports, Air Navigation Services Providers and the military organizations.

2.5 From the early stages of the project it has been agreed to conduct MIDRAR in three main phases;

Phase	Description
Phase 1 (Review)	<p>In Phase 1 the project will establish a high level road map for the ME airspace capacity enhancement.</p> <p>This phase will include a preliminary identification of potential areas of capacity improvements for the ME region based on analysis of current and previous regional or national studies, national plans and expert judgment. This will be validated and further developed where possible through direct engagement with the ANSPs.</p> <p>Agreed challenges will be prioritized and potential opportunities will be proposed.</p> <p>Establishing a high level road map for the ME airspace improvement.</p>
Phase 2 (Development and Implementation)	<p>In Phase 2, the project will support the gradual implementation of the opportunities identified in Phase 1.</p> <p>The process will include a more detailed and evidence-based analysis of each challenge and, if appropriate, the development of an implementation strategy.</p>
Phase 3 (Continuous Improvement)	Phase 3 will provide act as a platform for future improvements.

2.6 As MIDRAR Phase 1 is about to close and Phase 2 about to start the identified high level challenges and initiatives need further validation by the wider community. Furthermore, the successful implementation of these initiatives required the cooperation and engagement of the stakeholders specially the ANSPs.

2.7 The MIDRAR achievements to date can be summarized as follows:

- Present and validate the challenges during the MEAUSE meeting.
- Create questionnaire for ANSPs to:
  - a. complement pre-existing information/studies
  - b. collect additional technical/operational information
  - c. identify challenges.
- Develop initial draft of MIDRAR report
- Complete initial assessment of challenges
- Develop a first set of initiatives for Phase 2 of MIDRAR.

2.8 The next step is to discuss and present the challenges and developed initiatives with the wider stakeholder community. This discussions are intended to validate the work to date ensure that all aspects of the airspace.

**3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to note:
- a) note the information presented in this paper;
  - b) discuss the MIDRAR findings presented during the meeting and provide feedback;
  - c) actively engaged in MIDRAR activities; and
  - d) appoint a focal point to MIDRAR.

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