



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

**THE MIDDLE EAST AIR NAVIGATION PLANNING
AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP
(MIDANPIRG)**

**REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING OF
MIDAD TASK FORCE (MIDAD TF/1)**

(Cairo, Egypt, 16-18 June 2014)

The views expressed in this Report should be taken as those of the MIDANPIRG MIDAD Task Force and not of the Organization. This Report will, however, be submitted to the MIDANPIRG and any formal action taken will be published in due course as a Supplement to the Report.

Approved by the Meeting
and published by authority of the Secretary General

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PART I – HISTORY OF THE MEETING

1. PLACE AND DURATION

1.1 The First Meeting of the MIDANPIRG MIDAD Task Force was successfully held at the Meeting Room of the ICAO Middle East Regional Office in Cairo, Egypt, from 16 to 18 June 2014.

2. OPENING

2.1 Mr. Mohamed Smaoui, Deputy Regional Director of the ICAO Middle East Office, welcomed the participants to Cairo and wished them a successful and fruitful meeting. He highlighted that the MIDAD Task Force at its first meeting after the endorsement of the new MIDANPIRG Organizational Structure by MIDANPIRG/14 has a challenging work programme in order to continue the work of the two previous meetings of the MIDAD Study Group.

2.2 Mr. Smaoui reiterated that Regional or Sub-regional AIS/AIM databases could be an important enabler for the transition from AIS to AIM and the establishment of MIDAD is considered one of the main challenging projects for the MID Region. In this respect, he recalled that as a follow-up action to the DGCA-MID/1 Conclusion 1/5, the MIDAD Study (Phase 1) was successfully completed with the leadership of Bahrain and Jordan. He further recalled that the DGCA-MID/2 meeting (Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 20-22 May 2013) agreed that Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE take the lead in carrying out the MIDAD Project Phase 2 - Detailed Study. In this respect, Mr. Smaoui highlighted that the meeting is expected to review, discuss and provide comments on the draft version of the MIDAD specifications prepared by ITV and agree on the next course of actions, including the update of the Action Plan/Timelines related to the MIDAD Project Phase 2.

2.3 In closing, Mr. Smaoui thanked the participants for their presence and wished the meeting every success in its deliberations.

3. ATTENDANCE

3.1 The meeting was attended by a total of thirty seven (37) participants from eleven (11) States (Bahrain, Egypt, Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen) and seven (7) International Organizations and Industries (Group EAD, AVITECH, COMSOFT, HELIOS, IDS, ITV and FREQUENTIS). The list of participants is at **Attachment A** to the Report.

4. OFFICERS AND SECRETARIAT

4.1 The meeting was chaired by Mr. Abdalla Al Rashidi, Director AIM, GCAA, UAE. Mr. Abbas Niknejad, Regional Officer Aeronautical Information Management/Air Traffic Management (RO/AIM/ATM) was the Secretary of the meeting, supported by Mr. Mohamed Smaoui, Deputy Regional Director (DEPRD).

5. LANGUAGE

5.1 Discussions were conducted in English and documentation was issued in English.

6. AGENDA

6.1 The following Agenda was adopted:

Agenda Item 1: Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Election of Chairperson

Agenda Item 2: Progress report on the MIDAD Project

Agenda Item 3: MIDAD Project Phase 2 - Detailed Study

Agenda Item 4: Future Work Programme

Agenda Item 5: Any other Business

7. CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS – DEFINITION

7.1 All MIDANPIRG Sub-Groups and Task Forces record their actions in the form of Conclusions and Decisions with the following significance:

- a) **Conclusions** deal with the matters which, in accordance with the Group's terms of reference, merit directly the attention of States on which further action will be initiated by ICAO in accordance with established procedures; and
- b) **Decisions** deal with matters of concern only to the MIDANPIRG and its contributory bodies.

8. LIST OF DRAFT CONCLUSIONS AND DRAFT DECISIONS

DRAFT CONCLUSION 1/1: MIDAD LEGAL ENTITY/AGENCY

DRAFT CONCLUSION 1/2: MIDAD FOCAL POINTS

DRAFT CONCLUSION 1/3: FUNDING OF THE MIDAD DETAILED STUDY

DRAFT DECISION 1/4: TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE MIDAD TASK FORCE

PART II: REPORT ON AGENDA ITEMS

REPORT ON AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

1.1 The meeting reviewed and adopted the Provisional Agenda as at Para. 6 of the History of the Meeting.

1.2 In accordance with the MIDANPIRG Procedural Handbook, Seventh Edition – December 2013, Part IV, Para. 6.2, the meeting unanimously elected Mr. Abdalla Al Rashidi, Director AIM, GCAA, UAE as the Chairperson of the MIDAD TF.

REPORT ON AGENDA ITEM 2: GLOBAL DEVELOPMENTS RELATED TO AIM

2.1 The meeting recalled that, taking into consideration the limitations and drawbacks related to the current operational structure and provision of AIS/AIM services in the MID Region, and the experience of adjacent Regions in the implementation of Regional AIS databases, especially the European AIS Database (EAD), the DGCA-MID/1 meeting (Abu Dhabi, UAE, 22 - 24 March 2011), through DGCA-MID/1 Conclusion 1/5, agreed that a Study be carried out in the MID Region pertaining to the establishment of a MID Region AIS Database (MIDAD).

2.2 The meeting recalled that, Jordan and Bahrain took the lead in carrying out the MIDAD initial study. The objective of the MIDAD study, at its first step, was to collect data from States in order to get a realistic and sound picture of the situation in the AIS Offices in the Region in terms of organization, staffing, facilities and infrastructure, workload, automation, transition to AIM and most importantly to identify the States' commitment, support and interest in MIDAD and its inclusion in the planning process for the transition to AIM.

2.3 The meeting noted that, Missions were conducted to Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Syria. Missions to Iraq, UAE and Yemen could not be conducted; however, information has been provided by these States through emails. The Report related to the Initial MIDAD Study (First Phase) was endorsed by MIDANPIRG/13. Accordingly, MIDANPIRG/13 agreed that the First Phase of the MIDAD Study was considered completed and had achieved the expected goals. Based on the Recommendations contained in the Initial MIDAD Study Report, the MIDANPIRG/13 meeting agreed to move ahead with the MIDAD Project.

2.4 The meeting noted that Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, UAE and Yemen signed the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) reflecting their commitment to the MIDAD Project as shown in **Appendix 2A**. The meeting encouraged other States from within and outside the MID Region, to participate in the MIDAD Project and sign the MOA.

2.5 The meeting recalled that, MIDANPIRG/14 decided that the composition of the MIDAD ST should be reduced to members from Jordan, Iran, Kuwait and the ICAO MID Regional Office.

2.6 The meeting recalled that, the DGCA-MID/2 meeting (Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, 20-22 May 2013) was apprised of the outcome of MIDANPIRG/13 related to MIDAD and agreed that Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE take the lead in carrying out the MIDAD Project Phase 2 - Detailed Study. It was also noted that, MIDANPIRG/14 meeting agreed that, the MIDAD Project Phase 2 would consist of the following main steps:

- a) Call for Tender to select the Consultant, which will develop the Technical Specifications and Call for Tender related to the MIDAD detailed Study;
- b) selection of the Consultant and Contract negotiation;
- c) development of the Technical Specifications and Call for Tender related to the MIDAD detailed Study; and
- d) selection of the Company to develop the MIDAD detailed study and Contract negotiation.

2.7 The meeting recalled that, the MIDANPIRG/14 meeting agreed that the delivery and acceptance of the MIDAD detailed study will mark the end of Phase 2 of the MIDAD Project and the start of Phase 3 (implementation, operation, maintenance, etc.).

2.8 The meeting noted that, in line with the DGCA-MID/2 Conclusion 2/7, Bahrain was assigned the responsibility for the issuance of the Call for Tender related to the MIDAD Project Phase 2 (First step). In accordance with the Action Plan/Timelines related to the MIDAD Project Phase 2, the Civil Aviation Affairs of Bahrain (BCAA) published a Call for Tender on 15 August 2013. Six tenders have been received and all tenders were valid. An evaluation document was prepared to support the Tender Board to make its final decision with inputs collected from Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and UAE and the MIDAD ST.

2.9 The meeting was apprised that, ITV has been selected as the Consultant and a contract was signed on 10 February 2014. The Statement of Work (SOW) and the Deliverables have been defined as follows:

Id	Title	Work Package	Delivery Date
D0.1	Project Management Plan	WP0	15.02.2014
D1.1a	First Draft Specification of „Detailed Study“	WP1	15.03.2014
D1.1	Specification of „Detailed Study“	WP1	15.06.2014
D2.1a	Draft Tender Documentation	WP2	15.04.2014
D2.1	Tender Documentation	WP2	15.06.2014
D3.1	Tender Evaluation Report	WP3	30.11.2014

2.10 It was highlighted with appreciation that Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE covered the costs of the mentioned contract for the MIDAD Project Phase 2 (First step) on the basis of equal contribution.

REPORT ON AGENDA ITEM 3: MIDAD PROJECT PHASE 2 - DETAILED STUDY

3.1 The meeting was apprised of the status of the draft specifications and tender documentation of the MIDAD Detailed Study, presented by ITV and Bahrain (through WP/3). The meeting received with appreciation also comments/proposals from Saudi Arabia and UAE (through WP/7) to improve the specifications for the detailed study. Additional inputs were provided by the industry (i.e.: Helios, APAC, Frequentis, GroupEAD and Avitech).

3.2 It was highlighted that the specifications for the MIDAD Detailed Study should cover functional and non-functional requirements (i.e. technical, operational, financial, legal, governance, institutional, implementation phases, etc.). In addition, the following aspects, will have to be included in the specifications for the MIDAD Detailed Study:

- a) an implementation plan allowing a phased implementation;
- b) the organizational and legal setup for MIDAD;
- c) assignment of responsibilities and accountabilities of States and MIDAD;
- d) system architecture;
- e) data ownership and liability;
- f) data security, backup and replication strategies;
- g) possibilities for potential value-added services and its financing/charging mechanisms;
- h) system maintenance;
- i) staff training; and
- j) oversight of MIDAD.

Note: it is to be noted that the above list of specifications is not considered as an exhaustive list and the full list will be consolidated by ITV.

3.3 The meeting received with appreciation a presentation via web conferencing by Mr. Gaston Liegeois, Deputy Head of EAIM unit, EAD, Eurocontrol. Mr. Liegeois provided a briefing on the EAD experience. It was highlighted that it very important to learn from the EAD experience. The meeting was apprised of the EAD services. In this regard, the meeting agreed that it is necessary to explore all possibilities of cooperation and exchange of aeronautical information and services (e.g. NOTAM validation) between MIDAD and EAD and eventually other Regional AIS/AIM Databases, in order to avoid duplication of efforts.

3.4 In connection with the above, the meeting highlighted that MIDAD AIS/AIM services and products should be clearly defined in the Detailed Study, taking into considerations the needs of States and Users.

3.5 The meeting recalled MIDANPIRG/13, through Conclusion 13/21, agreed that the following options be considered for the endorsement of the MIDAD legal framework by the DGCA-MID/2 meeting:

-
- a) a volunteer State/Group of States provides the legal framework by hosting the project; or
 - b) an ICAO TCB Project for the implementation of MIDAD, including the establishment of a MIDAD legal entity or agency (similar to the MIDRMA).

3.6 It was highlighted that the DGCA-MID/2 meeting, through Conclusion 2/7, agreed that the legal framework for the detailed study (at least the first step) will be ensured by the four leading States (Bahrain, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE).

3.7 In connection with the above, the meeting recalled that based on the outcome of the MIDAD STG/2 meeting, MIDANPIRG/13 agreed to the following:

- depending on the chosen option for the legal framework, the funding mechanism should be agreed upon by the member States and the users and has to be clearly documented in the financial model;
- the establishment of a MIDAD Supervisory Management Board might be necessary. This Board would be composed of Representatives appointed by the Directors General of Civil Aviation and should be empowered to take decisions. Another Alternative is to leave the task of supervision of the MIDAD Project to the DGCA's themselves through direct correspondence and/or through the DGCA-MID meetings;
- a MIDAD Agency/Service Provider could be responsible for the development, establishment and operation of MIDAD.

3.8 Based on the above, the meeting agreed that starting from phase 3 of the MIDAD Project (implementation/operation), it is necessary to establish a MIDAD legal Entity/Agency and accordingly, this should be reflected in the specifications for the detailed study, which should provide options related to the best mechanism for the establishment of this Entity/Agency in term of staffing, funding, duties and responsibilities, etc. Nevertheless, it was highlighted that some institutional issues related to the MIDAD Entity/Agency should be addressed by the MSG/4, ANSIG/1 and/or MIDAD TF/2 meetings in order for the DGCA-MID/3 meeting to take the final decision.

3.9 Based on the above, the meeting agreed to the following Draft Conclusion:

DRAFT CONCLUSION 1/1: MIDAD LEGAL ENTITY/AGENCY

That,

- a) *the establishment of a MIDAD Legal Entity/Agency be included in the specifications for the detailed study; and*
- b) *the institutional issues related to the MIDAD Entity/Agency be addressed by the MSG/4, ANSIG/1 and/or MIDAD TF/2 meetings in order for the DGCA-MID/3 meeting to take the final decision.*

3.10 The meeting agreed that ITV should take into consideration all the comments/proposals contained in the working papers and those raised during the discussions and consolidate a revised version of the specifications for the MIDAD Detailed Study. It was also agreed that the revised version should be shared with the MIDAD Leading States and MIDAD ST at a first stage and then with all other MID States for further review and consolidation of the final version.

3.11 Taking into consideration the scope and objectives of the MIDAD Project, the meeting agreed that MIDAD should stand for “**MID Region AIM Database**” rather than “MID Region AIS Database”.

3.12 Considering that Mr. Abdalla Al Rashidi, Director AIM, GCAA, UAE has been elected as the Chairperson of the MIDAD TF, the meeting agreed that UAE be assigned the responsibility for the issuance of the Calls for Tender related to the MIDAD Project Phase 2 – Detailed Study. The meeting agreed also that the Chairperson of the MIDAD Task Force would sign the Contracts with the chosen Consultant/Company, on behalf of the MIDAD participating States.

3.13 The meeting recalled the agreement that the Consultant chosen for the development of the specifications/Call for Tender related to the detailed study would provide necessary support until the end of Phase 2 and accordingly will not be eligible to bid for the development of the detailed study. With regard to Phase 2 (second step) and Phase 3 (Implementation), it was agreed that the Company/Consultant which would be selected for the development of the Detailed Study would also be assigned the task to prepare the Call for Tender for Phase 3 (implementation) and assist in the evaluation of the offers for the selection of the Company(ies) which would be awarded the contract for phase 3. Accordingly, it was agreed that the company that will be awarded the contract of the detailed study will not be eligible to bid for the phase 3 of the project.

3.14 For an improved coordination between all Stakeholders related to the MIDAD Project, the meeting recognized the need for designation of MIDAD Focal Points. Accordingly, the meeting agreed to the following Draft Conclusion:

DRAFT CONCLUSION 1/2: MIDAD FOCAL POINTS

*That, States and Users’ Organizations be urged to designate MIDAD Focal Points before **15 August 2014** to facilitate the coordination process related to the MIDAD Project.*

3.15 In connection with the above, the meeting noted with concern that the Users’ Organizations (IATA, AACO, etc.) have not attended the MIDAD STG and TF meetings and re-emphasized that user requirements should be taken into consideration when developing the MIDAD detailed study.

3.16 The meeting reiterated that the MIDAD stakeholders include the Military users. Nevertheless, it was underlined that States are responsible for the provision of aeronautical information and aeronautical data related to Military (i.e.: the confidential data/information would not be provided to MIDAD).

3.17 With regard to the funding of the Detailed Study, the meeting agreed that it is necessary for the MIDAD TF/2 meeting to agree on the proposed options for the funding mechanism to be presented to the DGCA-MID/3 meeting for final decision. Accordingly, the meeting agreed to the following Draft Conclusion:

DRAFT CONCLUSION 1/3: FUNDING OF THE MIDAD DETAILED STUDY

That, States be urged to provide the ICAO MID Regional Office before 31 December 2014 with their preferred option for the funding of the MIDAD Detailed Study in order to be considered by the MIDAD TF/2 in the selection of the best option(s) to be presented to the DGCA-MID/3 meeting for final decision.

3.18 Taking into consideration the main Regional and Global milestones and events, as well as the outcome of its discussions, the meeting reviewed and updated the Action Plan/Timelines related to the MIDAD Project Phase 2 as follows:

	Action	Deliverable	Responsible	Timeline	Status
1	Call for Tender preparation to select the Consultant, which will develop the Technical Specifications and Call for Tender related to the MIDAD detailed Study	Call for Tender	Bahrain	15/08/13	Completed
2	Tender phase	Closing of the Tender	Bahrain	15/09/13	Completed
3	Receipt of the Offers	Offers	Industry	23/10/13	Completed
4	Evaluation of the offers and selection of the Consultant	Consultant selected	Four Leading States with the support of the MIDAD ST	31/01/14	Completed
5	Progress report to MIDANPIRG/14	Outcome of MIDANPIRG/14	Four Leading States with the support of the MIDAD ST	19/12/13	Completed
6	Contract negotiation with the selected Consultant	Contract with the selected Consultant	Four Leading States with the support of the MIDAD ST	07/02/14	Completed
7	Contact (Workshops) with potential Companies interested to bid for the	First Draft of technical specifications for the MIDAD detailed study	Four Leading States with the support of the chosen	15/03/14	Completed

	Action	Deliverable	Responsible	Timeline	Status
	development of the MIDAD detailed study		Consultant		
8	Preparation of the Draft Specifications for the MIDAD Detailed Study, for review by the MIDAD TF/1	Draft Specifications for the Detailed Study	ITV, Four Leading States and MIDAD ST	15/06/14	Completed
9	Preparation of the revised Draft-1 Specifications for the MIDAD Detailed Study, taking into consideration comments/inputs of MIDAD TF/1	Revised Draft-1 Specifications for the Detailed Study	ITV	31/07/14	Ongoing
10	Review and comments by Four Leading States and the MIDAD ST on the Revised Draft-1 Specifications for the Detailed Study	Comments/Inputs	Four Leading States with the support of the MIDAD ST	15/09/14	
11	Preparation of the revised Draft-2 Specifications for the MIDAD Detailed Study, taking into consideration comments/inputs of Four Leading States and MIDAD ST	Revised Draft-2 Specifications for the Detailed Study	ITV	30/09/14	
12	Review and comments by All States of the Revised Draft-2 Specifications for the Detailed Study	Comments/Inputs	All States	15/10/14	
13	Preparation of Final Specifications and Tender Documentation for the MIDAD Detailed Study	Final Specifications and Tender Documentation	ITV	30/10/14	

	Action	Deliverable	Responsible	Timeline	Status
14	Tender Phase (opening)	Call for Tender	UAE	01/11/14	
15	Tender Phase (closing)	Call for Tender	UAE	30/11/14	
16	Receipt of the Offers	Offers	Industry	15/02/15	
17	First Financial Evaluation	First Financial Evaluation	Four Leading States with the support of the MIDAD ST	01/03/15	
18	Agree on proposal(s) for the funding mechanism of the Detailed Study (to be presented to DGCA-MID/3)	Proposal(s) for the funding mechanism	MIDAD TF/2	15/03/15	
19	Initial Evaluation of the offers	Evaluation/Analysis report	ITV	01/04/15	
20	Progress report to the DGCA-MID/3 meeting	DGCA-MID/3 Go-ahead decision and agreement on funding mechanism for the Detailed Study and MIDAD legal Entity/Agency	MIDAD TF Chairman/ ICAO	DGCA-MID/3 (April 2015)	
21	Coordination meeting between ITV and Four Leading States concurrently with the DGCA-MID/3 meeting for the validation of shortlisted companies	Shortlisted companies	ITV and Four Leading States	DGCA-MID/3 (April 2015)	
22	Interviews with the shortlisted companies	Clarifications	ITV and Four Leading States	15/06/15	
23	Initial Evaluation of the offers by Four Leading States and MIDAD ST and proposal for the selection of the	Evaluation/Analysis report and proposal of the awarded company	Four Leading States with the support of the MIDAD ST	31/07/15	

	Action	Deliverable	Responsible	Timeline	Status
	company				
24	Final Evaluation and Decision regarding the awarded company	Final Evaluation and Decision regarding the awarded company	MIDAD TF/3	15/09/15	
25	Signature of the Contract with the selected Company	Contract signed	MIDAD TF Chairperson	15/10/15	
26	Development of the Detailed Study documents/deliverables	Detailed Study documents/deliverables	Company	15/10/16 (TBC)	

REPORT ON AGENDA ITEM 4: FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

4.1 The meeting recalled that, through Decision 14/2, MIDANPIRG/14 endorsed the Seventh Edition of the MIDANPIRG Procedural Handbook, which included the new MIDANPIRG Organizational Structure. Accordingly, the meeting reviewed and updated the MIDAD TF Terms of Reference (ToR) and agreed to the following Draft Decision:

DRAFT DECISION 1/4: TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE MIDAD TASK FORCE

That, the Terms of Reference of the MIDAD Task Force be updated as at Appendix 4A.

4.2 Taking into consideration, the progress of the MIDAD Project and the planned ICAO MID Regional events which are of relevance to the activity of the MIDAD Task Force, the meeting agreed that the MIDAD TF/2 and MIDAD TF/3 meetings be scheduled for March and September 2015, respectively.

REPORT ON AGENDA ITEM 5: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

5.1 Nothing has been discussed under this agenda item.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX 4A

MID REGION AIM DATABASE TASK FORCE (MIDAD TF)

1. TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of Reference of the MIDAD TF are to:

- a) take responsibility for overall leadership, supervision, direction, and management of the MIDAD project;
- b) carry out necessary coordination with States for the establishment of the MID Region AIM Database (MIDAD);
- c) address all technical, operational, financial, legal and institutional issues related to MIDAD;
- d) agree on the mechanism(s) for the oversight of MIDAD;
- e) monitor the developments of the MIDAD Project; and
- f) provide regular progress reports to the AIM SG, ANSIG and MIDANPIRG, as appropriate, concerning its work programme.

2. COMPOSITION

The MIDAD TF is composed of:

- a) all MIDAD member States;
- b) other MID States which are not member of MIDAD and concerned International/Regional Organizations, as observers; and
- c) representatives from industry and user Organizations having a vested interest in Aeronautical Information Management and experience in the development of Regional AIS/AIM Databases could participate as observers, as necessary.

ATTACHMENT

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