



International Civil Aviation Organization

AIR NAVIGATION SYSTEMS IMPLEMENTATION GROUP

Second Meeting (ANSIG/2)
(Cairo, Egypt, 6 – 8 December 2016)

Agenda Item 4.2.2: Specific Air Navigation Issues

**IMPLEMENTATION OF REGIONAL OPMET CENTRE (ROC) JEDDAH AND BACK-UP ROC
BAHRAIN**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the status of implementation of ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

REFERENCES

- MIDANPIRG/14 Report
- MIDANPIRG/15 Report
- MET SG/6 Report

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The meeting may wish to recall that the MIDANPIRG/14, through Conclusion 14/30, agreed that Saudi Arabia in coordination with ICAO establish a MID Regional OPMET Centre (ROC) by the first half of 2015 to improve the regional and inter-regional OPMET efficiency and also agreed Bahrain in coordination with ICAO establish a back-up Regional OPMET Centre (ROC) and that MID States be encouraged to continue cooperation in the exchange of OPMET data in the MID Region.

1.2 The meeting may wish also to recall that the MIDANPIRG/15, through Conclusion 15/33, urged States to update their OPMET exchange scheme in coordination with ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain in order to complete MID ROC implementation by 30 September 2015.

1.3 Status of implementation of ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain in support to MIDANPIRG Conclusions 14/30 and 15/33 is provided in this paper.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 ROC Jeddah reported that nine States (Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Jordan, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and United Arab Emirates) have fully implemented the appropriate OPMET exchange scheme. Four States (Bahrain, Egypt, Iran and Kuwait) have partially implemented this scheme, while two States (Syria and Yemen) have not started implementation in this regard. Details on implementation are provided at **Appendix A**.

2.2 Progress related to back-up ROC Bahrain included developing routing tables for

Lebanon, Jordan, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and United Arab Emirates. In addition, OPMET data was routed from Bahrain to Vienna for Iran, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

Implementation reporting/monitoring

2.3 MIDANPIRG MET Sub-Group is the main Regional monitoring body to report progress on the implementation of ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain.

2.4 At the national level, MET Focal Points are responsible for following-up actions supporting the implementation of ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain.

Data collection mechanism

2.5 ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain provide an update on States progress to support the implementation of these ROCs. Furthermore, ROC Vienna has assisted in monitoring required OPMET data in the MID Region exchanged with the EUR Region and has identified issues such as duplicate bulletins and OPMET information in multiple bulletins. ROC Jeddah in return contacted States, when necessary, to remedy these issues.

Implementation challenges

2.6 Implementation challenges in most cases include human resources and coordination needed in determining what OPMET data is needed from ROC Jeddah to meet the users' needs. This requires knowledge of international flight destinations as well as alternate aerodromes along the routes for those operators operating within the States.

2.7 Implementation challenges in some States include the need for supporting the implementation of ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain by the responsible institution.

2.8 Basic ROC functions are a prerequisite for the implementation of ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange Model (IWXXM). ROC Jeddah could serve as a future translation centre for States not in a position to provide OPMET data in IWXXM. Using basic principles in translating Traditional Alphanumeric Code (TAC) to IWXXM developed by the Meteorology Panel (METP) Working Group on Meteorological Information Exchange (METP WG-MIE) would be one component to enable the use of System Wide Information Management (SWIM).

2.9 To support the future implementation of IWXXM at ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain, ROC Jeddah has participated in the *Workshop on Implementing the ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange Model (IWXXM) for the exchange of OPMET data* (Paris, 31 May to 02 June 2016) and expected to participate in future workshops such as the *Interregional APAC/EUR/MID Seminar on "service improvement through integration of AIM, MET and ATM information"* from 2 to 5 October 2017 in Brussels.

2.10 Development of an IWXXM implementation plan for the MID Region is expected in 2017 and it would be necessary to coordinate with those responsible for communications in the implementation of extended AMHS.

Other implementation issues – special air-reports

2.11 The meeting may wish to note that implementation of distributing special air-reports to ROC Jeddah will be assisted by a special air-report test expected for other phenomenon on 6 September 2017 and for volcanic ash on 7 September 2017. These tests will assist in the Meteorological Watch Offices (MWO) to practice sending these reports to ROC Jeddah using ICAO and WMO provisions. Details will be provided in the invitation letter more than one month in advance of the test. The end goal is to have these special air-reports available to operators who could use this information in their

safety risk assessments. Given the above, the MET SG/6 agreed to the following Draft Conclusion for ANSIG consideration:

DRAFT CONCLUSION 2/X: SPECIAL AIR-REPORT TEST

That, MID States be invited to participate in the EUR Special Air-Report Test in order to identify deficiencies and associated solutions in the reporting and dissemination of these reports.

Note: Guidance on the format and dissemination of special air-reports will be adapted for the MID Region and provided as an attachment to the invitation.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) review and update the status of implementation of ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain;
- b) identify the difficulties faced in the implementation of ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain;
- c) recommend measures to expedite the implementation process;
- d) support e ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain in implementing the exchange of OPMET data in IWXXM and possibly serving as translation centre(s); and
- e) endorse the Draft Conclusion at para. 2.11.

APPENDIX A

MID ROC implementation plan

Following is a list of tasks to be fulfilled to progress on the transition, last update November 10, 2016

No.	Task	Responsible	Prerequisite	Start Date	Estim. Time (According to plan)	Finish at
1	Implement Collective Addresses	ROC Jeddah	-	24.10.2014	1 week	01.01.2015
2	Transition Bahrain	ROC Jeddah	-	27.10.2014	1 month	Part1 finished 15.1.2015, Part2, Pending
3	Transition Process with Kuwait	ROC Jeddah	-	06.01.2014	1 month	Part1, OK, 05/02/2015, Part2 Pending
4	Transition Process with Qatar	ROC Jeddah	-	06.01.2015	1 month	Transition Patr1 OK, 13/04/2015 Part2, OK, 20/04/2015
5	Transition Process with Oman	ROC Jeddah	-	06.01.2015	1 months	Part1, OK, 22/02/2015, Part2, OK, 01/05/2015
6	Transition Process with UAE	ROC Jeddah	-	06.01.2015	1 month	Part1, OK, 25.2.2015, Part2, OK, 15/05/2015
7	Send Saudi Arabian Compilations to BROCC Bahrain (OBZMMID)	Meteorological Communications Centre (MCC) Jeddah	Task No. 1 has to be finished	02.11.2014	1 day	01/03/2015
8	Continue and Finish Transition Sudan	ROC Jeddah	-	01.09.2014	11 months	Part1 and Part2, OK, 01/08/2015
9	Develop Backup Procedure	ROC Jeddah & BROCC Bahrain (inform MID-BMG)		23.10.2014	4 months	Draft procedure has been discussed during ROC Jeddah Training (October 16-27, 2016) and to be agreed with B-ROC Bahrain
10	Develop Regional HB on OPMET Data Exchange	ROC Jeddah & BROCC Bahrain (inform MID-BMG)		24.03.2015	2 months	started (October 30, 2016) see note 3 below
11	Develop first ideas for Training for operators	ROC Vienna		27.10.2014	2 weeks	Submitted to PME
12	Finalize Training for operators	ROC Jeddah & BROCC Bahrain & ROC Vienna		10.11.2014	April 2016	Training done (October 16-27, 2016)

13	Route GULF reports to ROC Jeddah	ROC Jeddah		27.10.2014	1 month	01/02/2015
14	Transition Process for Iran	ROC Jeddah		16.02.2015	2 months	Part1,OK, 25/11/2015 Part2, pending
15	Transition Process for Jordan	ROC Jeddah				Transition part1 OK, 19/04/2015, transition Part2 OK, 20/05/2015
16	Transition Process for Egypt	ROC Jeddah				Egypt, transition part1 OK, 17/05/2015, transition part2 Pending
17	Transition Process Iraq	ROC Jeddah		16.04.2015	2 months	Iraq, transition part1 OK (last update 28/8/2015), transition Part2 OK 2/10/2016
18	Transition Process Syria	ROC Jeddah				Syria (no contact information yet)
19	Transition Process Lebanon	ROC Jeddah				Transition part1&2 ,OK, 13/12/2015
20	Transition Process Libya	ROC Jeddah				Transition part1 OK, 25/03/2015, Transition part2 OK, 17/05/2015
21	Transition Process Yemen	ROC Jeddah				No Reply

Comments:

- 1- **Finish column in this attachment is filled based on what information States provided in the transition form, however we noticed some discrepancies between some Mid- States transition forms and routing table provided by ROC Vienna .**
- 2- **Some Mid-States still received OPMET data from outside ROC Jeddah, however, ROC Jeddah is still working hard to contact OPMET data source to stop sending data to Mid-state directly with coordination with that Mid-state.**
- 3- **Regional Handbook on OPMET Data Exchange expected to be finished within 2-3 months.**

-END-