International Civil Aviation Organization

MIDANPIRG Air Traffic Management Sub-Group

Third Meeting (ATM SG/3)
(Cairo, Egypt, 22 – 25 May 2017)

Agenda Item 5:   **Airspace Management Isssues**

ACAC ATFM ACTIVITIES

(Presented by Arab Civil Aviation Commission - ACAC)

SUMMARY
This paper provides a description of ACAC strategy, States expectations and a proposed ACAC ATFM system to be implemented for the MID Region. Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

REFERENCES
- ACAC ANC/35 - ACAC ANC/36

1.   **INTRODUCTION**

1.1   During the 35th meeting, held in Rabat from 1 to 3 November 2016, it was agreed that the Arab Civil Aviation Commission continue to coordinate with Eurocontrol regarding the implementation of strategic ATFM level for Arab countries located in the Middle East (Phase 1: Short-term) and getting a related technical and financial proposal.

1.2   At the ANC/36 held in Rabat during 11to 13 April, it was agreed to provide Eurocontrol a document with a detailed information about ACAC strategy for ATFM implementation in the peninsula area, the planning timeframe and the nomination of a focal point for detailed discussions on the concrete areas.

1.3   Based on the ACAC strategy, described below is a short description of States expectations and a proposed ATFM system to be implemented for the MID Region.

2.   **DISCUSSIONS**

ACAC Strategy and Expectations

2.1   Experience clearly shows the benefits related to managing flows consistently and collaboratively over a region of a sufficient geographical size to take into account sufficiently well the network effects. The concept for ATFM and demand and capacity balancing should be further exploited wherever possible. System improvements are also about better procedures in these domains, and creating instruments to allow collaboration among the different stakeholders.

2.2   For ACAC Arab countries located in the Middle East, it was agreed that ATFM system should be implemented in two phases:

Phase 1: Short-term

Implementation of strategic ATFM level which has objectives:

1. Understand and define sector capacities within the participating states (FIRs) with identification of capacity constraints.

2. Enable better management of regional disruption, crisis & critical event and presentation of dynamic demand data.

3. Maintain safe demand/capacity balancing and to monitor the Airspace congestion.

4. Introduction of a coordinated "traffic orientation scheme" and development the publication of a common format of Route Availability Document.

Phase 2: Medium and Long Terms

Requested the support of Eurocontrol in the following areas:

1. Development of a Master plan for establishing and implementing a Central ATFM for the Mid-States as defined above associated with all its elements e.g. IFPS, EAD, SDO, Web Access Services, etc., with estimated budget and time scale of every phase;

2. All required organizational and institutional aspects; and

3. Proposal for operational interface with adjacent ATFM systems.

ACAC Expectations

2.3   ACAC is committed in the ATFM service implementation in the Middle East area. **For the short term, strategic ATFM operations** should be developed for the benefit of Middle East States. In order to ease the implementation of these operations, it is expected to have a centralized ATFM Unit covering the whole area. This area should be defined in a way to reach optimal results and to warranty better interoperability between both regions. All the enablers/prerequisite must be implemented before initiating the project implementation.

Central ATFM Region

2.4   Middle East Arab countries: Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

ATFM Activities

2.5   Strategic ATFM operations must be considered at this level. A technical proposal should be provided taking into consideration inputs, planning and coordination activities and outputs of the strategic phase such as:

- Continuous **data collection** with a review of procedures and measures directed towards an early identification of major demand/capacity imbalances (such as: axis management, air shows, major sport events, military exercises, etc.) and anticipation of capacity shortfalls for individual ACCs / airports.

- Planning and coordination activities through a Collaborative Decision Making process.

- Elaboration of an operations Plan describing the outputs of this phase consisting in a set of agreed ATFM measures/solutions to be considered for implementation in the pre-tactical and tactical phases.

- Any management or operational workshops and training required to run the Strategic ATFM phase.

2.6   The previous activities must cover procedures for:

- Reporting of events impacting ATC/ATFM;

- Creation of the events list to provide a quick overview for users, on what is planned;

- Notification of updates;

- Run of simulations in order to evaluate capacity constraints sets in terms of total delay generated, delay distribution and individual delay generated by each capacity constraint;

- Establishment of scenarios as solution to capacity bottlenecks; and

- Axis coordination to manage operational aspects on a dedicated flow, event or area.

2.7   The technical proposal by Eurocontrol should include the different units to set and systems to build while implementing the centralized ATFM system.

2.8   The initial implementation of the ATFM strategic operations is planned for 2018.

2.9   The focal point for detailed discussion will be ACAC ANC Secretary Mr. Mohamed REJEB and he will relay internally with the key persons from the stakeholders involved with the implementation of the ATFM services.

2.10   During the ACAC 35th Air Navigation Committee meeting held in Rabat from 1 to 3 November 2016, it was agreed to update the members of the Air Traffic Management Task force in order and to establish its Term of References and actions plan.

3.   ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1   The meeting is invited to:

a) take note of this paper;

b) support the ACAC ATFM Strategy; and

c) review the draft terms of reference of the ATFM Task Force taking into account ToR ACAC ATFM task force.

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