



**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
MIDDLE EAST OFFICE**

ICAO REGIONAL FACILITATION (FAL) IMPLEMENTATION SEMINAR

(Cairo, Egypt, 12 – 15 March 2018)

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

I. GENERAL

1.1 Place and Duration

1.1.1 The ICAO Regional Facilitation (FAL) Implementation Seminar was successfully held at the ICAO MID Regional Office, Cairo, Egypt, 12 – 15 March 2018.

1.2 Attendance

1.2.1 The Seminar was attended by a total of fifty one (51) participants from ten (10) States (Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Syria) and two (2) International Organizations (ACAC and IATA). The list of participants is at **Attachment A**.

1.3 Opening

1.3.1 Mr. Mohamed Khalifa Rahma, Regional Director, ICAO MID Regional Office, opened the Seminar. He welcomed all participants to Cairo. Mr. Rahma highlighted the significant growth in aircraft movements and passenger traffic being experienced in the Middle East Region, which places an increased demand on the facilitation of civil aviation. Mr. Rahma recalled that the 39th ICAO Assembly had resolved that there is a clear need for national and international action to ensure the security and integrity of traveller identification and border controls.

1.4 Officers and Secretariat

1.4.1 Mr. Jitendra Thaker, Technical Officer - Facilitation Section, ICAO Headquarters was the main facilitator supported by Mr. Luay Ishaqat and Mr. Karim Labib, Regional Officers Aviation Security and Facilitation (RO/ASF), ICAO Middle East Office.

1.5 Agenda

1.5.1 The agenda was developed around the main following topics:

- Annex 9: Mandate, Description & Latest Developments

- Implementation of Annex 9: Electronic Filing of Differences (EFOD) and Compliance
- National Air Transport Facilitation Programme (NATFP) and National Air Transport Facilitation Committee (NATFC)
- Drafting Exercise of a NATFP

1.5.2 The Agenda/Work Programme and the presentations delivered during the Seminar are available at the ICAO MID Regional Website: <https://www.icao.int/MID/Pages/2018/Regional%20FAL%20Seminar.aspx>

II. OBJECTIVE

2.1 The main objective of the Seminar was to focus on the implementation of the National Air Transport Facilitation Programme (NATFP) and the establishment of the National Air Transport Facilitation Committee (NATFC) as part of the Aviation Security and Facilitation strategic objective. In addition, an introduction to the Electronic Filing of Differences System (EFOD) and a practical exercise to explore the system and its capabilities. Finally, the participants were expected to undergo a practical exercise of drafting chapters 1 to 7 of the NATFP based on Doc. 10042.

III. SUMMARY AND OUTCOME OF DISCUSSIONS

3.1 The Seminar was comprised of three days of presentations (12-14 March 2018) presented by ICAO, State representatives and IATA covering all Facilitation topics of the agenda and providing feedback on implementation matters. The fourth day was allocated to review the NATFP drafted chapters by dividing the participants into four groups to cover the chapters 1 to 7 of the NATFP.

3.2 The first day of the Seminar provided an introduction to ICAO Annex 9 requirements under Chicago Convention, latest developments and current issues and updates of Annex 9, States' responsibilities under article 38, response to State letters, and introduction to the Electronic Filing of Differences (EFOD).

3.3 The second day of the Seminar focused entirely on the Electronic Filing of Differences (EFOD) from a practical view of the States. Annex 9 Standards which are included in the Protocol Questions of USAP-CMA and USOAP-CMA were revised as well.

3.4 The third day of the Seminar focused on the exchange of expertise between AVSEC and FAL. ICAO MID Office RO/ASF, Mr. Luay Ishaqat, delivered a presentation on practical experience through the process of the establishment of NCASP by AVSEC personnel. Saudi Arabia and Sudan presented their experience and development so far in regards NATFP and NATFC. IATA introduced their Fast Travel, the significance of Efficiency and Service for passengers and API/PNR.

3.5 The fourth day concluded with presentations by the groups who developed Chapters 1 to 7 of the NATFP followed by the delivery certificates of attendance to all participants.

3.6 The Seminar was successful in all intended respects, particularly in identifying Facilitation requirements, implementation challenges and sources of assistance to help States and other stakeholders in the coordination and delivery of Facilitation measures. The participants appreciated the material delivered by the speakers and actively contributed their views and experience relating to Facilitation.

3.7 Participants have been made aware of the Facilitation materials available on the main ICAO website and via the ICAO Secure Portal. Participants were encouraged to remain in close contact with ICAO (HQ and MID Office) and IATA to seek support and guidance on issues relating to the implementation of Facilitation measures.

3.8 As further assistance from ICAO, participants were made aware of the forthcoming 10th meeting of Facilitation Panel (FALP/10), 10 - 13 September 2018 at ICAO, Montreal, Canada.

4. CLOSING

4.1 In closing, Mr. Rahma thanked the participants for their presence and encouraged them to implement both requirements of the establishment of the NATFP and the NATC.

4.2 The participants thanked ICAO for organizing such a fruitful Seminar.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

NAME	TITLE
<p><u>STATES</u></p> <p>EGYPT</p> <p>Mr. Akram Abo Elhamd</p>	<p>Officer Cairo - EGYPT</p>
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