



Summary of Discussion of the 2nd Virtual Meeting of the MIDANPIRG Chairpersons

(9 July 2020, from 10:30 to 12:00 UTC)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The second Virtual Meeting/Teleconference of the MIDANPIRG Chairpersons was held on Thursday 9 July 2020 from 10:30 to 12:00 UTC, using Zoom facility.

1.2 The meeting was convened as a follow up to the outcomes of the Second DGCA-MID Virtual meeting of 18 June 2020 to discuss the role of MIDANPIRG in the implementation of the ICAO Council's Aviation Recovery Task Force (CART) Report and Take-off Document, and to review the future work programme and working arrangements of MIDANPIRG.

1.3 The meeting recalled that 2nd DGCA-MID Virtual meeting agreed to develop and support the implementation of a tailored MID Region Implementation Roadmap, which is consistent with the CART framework and its Global Implementation Roadmap, while addressing the Region's specific priorities.

1.4 The meeting was attended by a total of 32 participants. The list of participants is at **Attachment 1**.

2. OPENING

2.1 Mr. Mohamed Smaoui, Acting Regional Director, Middle East Office, welcomed all participants and thanked them for accepting the invitation to join the meeting. Mr. Smaoui highlighted the important role of MIDANPIRG and its main actors (the Chairpersons, the Secretariat, States, international organisations and industry stakeholders) could play in the implementation of the CART.

2.2 Mr. Smaoui also briefed the meeting with the main outcomes of 2nd RASG-MID Chairs Virtual Meeting held on Thursday 2 July 2020, to develop an action plan covering assignment of champions, expected deliverables and timelines to support the implementation of CART at regional level in-line with the 3 main pillars Communication, Implementation Support and Monitoring and Reporting.

3. DISCUSSIONS

3.1 Ms. Muna Alnadaf, CNS Officer, provided a presentation covering the Agenda Items and matters to be discussed during the meeting. The presentation is at **Appendix A**.

3.2 The meeting was updated on the measures taken at global and regional levels, with regard to the CART Implementation, including but not limited to:

- ICAO HQ is developing Global Implementation Roadmap (GIR) that presents the activities, mechanisms and tools established by ICAO to support, coordinate and monitor the implementation of the CART recommendations and guidance.
- Development and launch of the COVID-19 Response and Recovery Implementation Centre (CRRIC), which includes, amongst others, a gap analysis tool for self-assessment pertaining to the level of implementation of all CART recommendations; and a dashboard for reporting the status of implementation of the measures contained in the Take-off Document and for monitoring purpose.

- Development and deployment of the COVID-19 Implementation Packages (iPACKs).
- At regional level the ICAO MID Office is developing a MID CART Implementation Plan to enable a tailored approach to ICAO’s support efforts, adapted to the situation of MID Region.
- Although the current version of CART document does not contain specific recommendations related to ANS, the draft MID CART Implementation Plan defined some key activities, as per the outputs from the MID RPTF WS4, related to:
 - ANS Business continuity and recovery;
 - ATFM Operational Flexibility;
 - Aeronautical Information Management;
 - Regional Network Operations Recovery;
 - Overflight Permissions;
 - Training and awareness.

3.3 After the presentation, a brainstorming/discussion session took place to address the following questions/subjects:

- Do you agree with the ANS key activities or are there any other activity(ies) that could be addressed?
- What is the relationship between the MID RPTF and the MIDANPIRG (responsibility for the approval and supervision of such body)?
- How the MIDANPIRG could support the MID CART Implementation Plan?

3.4 Some of the actions that came out of the brainstorming session include:

- The meeting agreed on the proposed ANS key activities and highlighted the need to include MET and SAR Services provisions, under ANS business continuity and recovery activity.
- The meeting agreed that the highest priority should be accorded to the “ANS Business Continuity and Recovery” and underlined the need to make rapid progress on this matter under the directives of MIDANPIRG. In this respect, it was highlighted that necessary data related to ANS business continuity should be collected from States the soonest.
- The meeting highlighted the importance of the communications between States to exchange experiences and share best practices.
- In connection with data collection and sharing of information, the meeting recalled that since the beginning of the crisis, ICAO MID developed a COVID-19 webpage, with useful links/information and guidance materials. The COVID-19 webpage contains a Table showing the list of NOTAMs issued by MID States and measures taken related to COVID-19. In addition, a new link was created on the COVID-19 webpage providing the status of airports operability in the MID Region (<https://www.icao.int/MID/Documents/Airports%20Operability.pdf>)
- The meeting agreed that communication with States, data collection and analysis, identification of gaps, difficulties, deviations, etc.; and reporting and implementation support activities are critical to overcoming the challenges related to CART implementation in a harmonized manner.
- Considering the advisory role of the MID RPTF, the meeting agreed that the

MSG/7 meeting (1-3 September 2020) should be used to support the implementation of CART in the MID Region, through the review of the MID RPTF outcomes and eventually endorsement of necessary Conclusions to foster harmonized implementation by States.

- The meeting agreed to draft an Action Plan with clear/specific actions, assignment of champions (MIDANPIRG Chairs, ICAO Secretariat, States or ORGs/stakeholders), expected deliverables and timelines, in a prioritized manner, reflecting only the actions which necessitate follow-up by MIDANPIRG. The main lines of actions should focus on the three main pillars: Communication/Collaboration, Implementation Support and Monitoring & Reporting.

Future Work Programme

3.5 The meeting noted that the ICAO MID Office Work Programme has been under regular review since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis and all the planned events for July, August, and September 2020 have been postponed or will be conducted through video teleconferencing.

3.6 The meeting reiterated its support to conduct business by alternative means, including video teleconferencing. It was agreed that each event and topic would be treated on case-by-case basis in advance and in coordination with all concerned.

3.7 The meeting recalled that the MSG/7 meeting is planned to be conducted from 1 to 3 September 2020 via teleconferencing; while MIDANPIRG/18 will be conducted concurrently with the RASG-MID/8 face-to-face; the exact date and venue will be discussed during the MIDANPIRG/RASG-MID Coordination (MRC) Virtual Meeting, which will take place just after the closing of the meeting.

3.8 The CNS SG Chairman highlighted the need to reschedule the CNS SG/10 & MIDAMC STG/6 meeting to beginning of 2021, considering the current situation and uncertainty related to borders opening and lifting of travel restrictions including in the host State "Oman".

3.9 The meeting agreed that the ATFM TF (20-22 September 2020) & FWC2022 TF (22-23 September 2020) will be conducted virtually (via teleconferencing).

3.10 The meeting agreed that virtual activities would be beneficial for educational purposes. In this regard, the meeting noted with appreciation that GCAA UAE jointly with ICAO MID and ACAO is organizing a series of webinars, under the theme "Month of Knowledge for the Future of ANS".

3.11 The Chairman of the FWC 2022 TF referred to the Proposal for Amendment of the ICAO MID Air Navigation Plan (Doc 9708), MID ANP - Volume I (Serial No.: MID ANP-I 20/01 – ATM/SAR), dated 12 January 2020, originated by the State of Qatar; and highlighted that in accordance with the procedure for amendment of the Air Navigation Plan, approved by the ICAO Council, the case should be tabled for review by MIDANPIRG. Accordingly, he requested to hold a MIDANPIRG Virtual meeting, as soon as possible.

3.12 It was highlighted that the meeting of the MIDANPIRG Chairs is not the appropriate forum to talk on behalf of a State, since the participants are supposed to represent MIDANPIRG and its subsidiary bodies and discuss subjects related to their work programmes. In this respect, the First Vice Chairperson of MIDANPIRG, the Vice Chairperson of the AIM SG, the Chairperson of the MET SG, and the Vice Chairperson of the PBN SG raised objection to the proposal and highlighted that, it is important to stick to the agreed work programme i.e. MSG/7 to be conducted virtually beginning of September and MIDANPIRG/18 to be conducted concurrently with the RASG-MID/8 as a face-to-face meeting beginning of 2021. It was further

underlined that the highest priority of the MIDANPIRG program while addressing the region's specific priorities should be consistent with the CART framework and the Global Implementation Roadmap priorities.

3.13 The MIDANPIRG Chairperson highlighted that the subject should not be discussed during a MIDANPIRG Chairs meeting, rather, it should be consulted with all the 15 MID States through a State Letter. The MID Office confirmed that in accordance with the MIDANPIRG Procedural Handbook (Part II, para. 4.1), and the approved procedure of amendment of the ANP – Volume I; and considering the guidance received from ICAO HQ on the subject, a State Letter will be issued to seek the views of the 15 MID States. In the State Letter, States will have to provide their views/preferred option with regard to the need to organize a MIDANPIRG Virtual meeting to include in its agenda, amongst other subjects, discussion on the PfA (Serial No.: MID ANP-I 20/01 – ATM/SAR). Considering the contradicting views on the subject, the following options would be proposed:

- a) change the MSG/7 meeting (1-3 September 2020) to a MIDANPIRG Virtual meeting
- b) organize a dedicated MIDANPIRG Virtual meeting to address the case of the PfA (Serial No.: MID ANP-I 20/01 – ATM/SAR)
- c) present the case of the PfA (Serial No.: MID ANP-I 20/01 – ATM/SAR) to the MIDANPIRG/18 face-to-face meeting planned for February 2021

4. AOB AND CLOSING

4.1 The meeting recalled that the MIDANPIRG/RASG-MID Coordination Virtual meeting will be held just after the closing of the meeting. It was highlighted that the decision regarding the date and venue of MIDANPIRG/18 and RASG-MID/8 meetings would be taken during the MIDANPIRG/RASG-MID Coordination Virtual meeting.

4.2 At the end of the meeting, the MIDANPIRG Chairman and the ICAO Acting Regional Director thanked the participants for their participation and support.

2nd MIDANPIRG CHAIRPERSONS Virtual MEETING

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Meeting	Name	States	Title	Email	Remarks
MIDANPIRG CHAIRPERSONS AND VICE CHAIRPERSONS					
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RASG-MID CHAIRPERSONS AND VICE CHAIRPERSONS					

Meeting	Name	States	Title	Email	Remarks
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