



International Civil Aviation Organization

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

ICAO MID NOTAM IMPROVEMENT WEBINAR

(16 AUGUST 2021, 08:00 – 09:30 UTC)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The second ICAO MID NOTAM Improvement Webinar was successfully held on 16 August 2021, from 08:00 to 09:30 UTC using MS Teams platform.

1.2 The objectives of the Webinar are to:

- raise awareness to improve the quality of NOTAM and COVID-19 publications ;
- monitor progress in eliminating/reducing the old NOTAMs; and
- share States' experiences and lessons learned.

1.3 The Webinar was attended by a total of forty-six (46) participants from eleven (11) States (Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Syria and UAE) and two (2) Organizations/Industries (AACO and IATA). The list of participants is at **Attachment A**.

1.4 The Agenda included the following items:

- Welcome and introduction;
- COVID publication Analysis;
- NOTAM go-team activities and key outcomes of the technical panels
- Regional activities on NOTAM Improvement including NOTAMeter and Regional Statistics and Regional KPIs;
- MID States action plans, experiences and challenges;
- The way forward and AoB.

1.5 The Webinar's materials including, Agenda/Work Programme, presentations and the Summary of Discussion are available at <https://www.icao.int/MID/Pages/2021/NOTAM%20Improvement%20Webinar.aspx>

2. OPENING REMARKS

2.1 Mr. Radhouan Aissaoui, Regional Officer, Information Management, ICAO Middle East Office, welcomed all participants and thanked them for accepting the invitation to join the teleconference. He highlighted that this is the second Webinar on NOTAM Improvement that is held in accordance with MIDANPRG/18 Conclusion 18/21 related to AIM WEBINARS in which ICAO MID office was asked to organize Webinars on the NOTAM proliferation and needs for improvement in 2021.

3. DISCUSSIONS

3.1 Background

3.1.1 On 8 April 2021 at 12:00 UTC, ICAO launched a new Global Campaign on NOTAM Improvement (NOTAM2021) by kicking off Phase 1 on old NOTAM with a webinar in collaboration with its seven regional offices. The objective is to achieve a notable reduction in the number of old NOTAM still in circulation.

3.1.2 To support States in achieving the aim of the NOTAM2021 campaign and to monitor progress, ICAO will host a series of bi-monthly global progress webinars.

3.1.3 The NOTAM2021 Global Campaign is supplemented by a series of regional activities during 2021 with the aim of raising awareness to improve the quality of NOTAM, monitoring progress in eliminating the old NOTAM and sharing experiences and lessons learned.

3.1.4 This campaign continues to grow and be successful. After the first regional webinar held on 1 June 2021, the second ICAO MID NOTAM Improvement Webinar was successfully held on 16 August 2021. This focus group has been providing advice and guidance for the campaign since its launch in 2017.

3.2 *COVID publication Analysis*

3.2.1 Ms. Lindi-Lee Kirkman, IATA Manager Safety & Flight Operations ATM Infrastructure provided a presentation covering the COVID-19 publications challenges. She highlighted that based on the analysis that has been done recently, it was found that some challenges in COVID-19 publications still exist, including :

- Multiple NOTAM with the same Subject from the same State
- Some NOTAM issued with extensive text resulted in multi-part NOTAM. Some of the multi-part NOTAM issued in separate NOTAM causing a high risk of missing safety-critical information.
- Repetitive text across a number of NOTAM, which have a similar condition. This practice creates overlaps and contradictions.
- Stretching The Time Standards of Annex 15 which clearly states that “*a NOTAM shall be originated and issued promptly whenever the information to be distributed is of a temporary nature and of short duration*” (6.3.2.2) whereas “*temporary changes of long duration (three months or longer)...shall be published as AIP Supplements*” (6.3.1.3). Since the COVID-19 NOTAM has been issued for 17 months with so many extensions. The [Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Aeronautical Information Management \(PANS-AIM, Doc 10066\)](#) elaborates that “*within three months from the issuing of a temporary NOTAM of long duration, the information contained in the NOTAM shall be included in the AIP Supplement*” (6.1.4.5). In either case, a NOTAM should never be active for more than three months and never be replaced more than once. So, it is recommended that the COVID-19 NOTAM be the subject of an AIP SUPP or an AIC.
- A lot of COVID information is published outside of Aeronautical Information. Some States issued or amend Regulations, Safety Notices or Government Notices with no references to these in the Aeronautical Information publications which make difficult to find and gather and information.

3.2.2 To address the challenge of COVID-19 publications, States should carry out quality control of their publications taking into account the fact that the value of the inputs usually influences the value of the output (Quality in, quality out (QIQO)). States should review what is published and how is it be published, collaborate across the entire data chain from data acquisition to the end users to achieve the QIQO.

3.2.3 The meeting encouraged member States to move forward to:

- review and correct COVID NOTAM and publications (States (Aeronautical Information (AI) Service providers together with Regulators should)
- engage and educate originators of the AI publication requirements.
- Request the assistance of the “go-team” whenever needed by contacting any of the team members

3.2.4 The AI “go-team” will continue to hold AIM Technical Panels with specific States for support and guidance.

3.3 *NOTAM go-team activities and key outcomes of the technical panels*

3.3.1 Mr. Walid Elhoss, AACO Manager – Economics and Technical Departments, delivered a presentation covering the NOTAM go-team activities and key outcomes of the technical panels.

3.3.2 It was noted the NOTAM go-team conducted technical panels with Iran, Libya and Syria. The outcomes of the panels include :

- Iran has put a tremendous effort into reducing old and very old NOTAM and a lot still remains to be done as the current status until 15/08/2021 shows the existence of (27 Old NOTAMs and 55 very old). In addition, it was noted that an AIC along with a new NOTAM in replacement of the 6 COVID-19 NOTAM A1869/21, A1881/21, A1882/21, A1883/21 A1884/21 and A1885/21 have been issued.
- Libya resolved all old/very old NOTAMs and sent the aeronautical information and data into the AIP, an AIC, or some other publication.
- Syria AIM incorporate the old and very old NOTAM containing permanent information in a draft AIM AMDT that is actually under review before promulgation. In addition and in term of COVID-19 publications Syria Aim is exploring the possibility of issuing AIC in replacement of the COVID-19 NOTAM. Draft AIC was developed and is under review before publication.

3.4 *Regional activities on NOTAM Improvement including NOTAMeter and Regional Statistics and Regional KPIs*

3.4.1 Mr. Radhouan Aissaoui, ICAO MID RO IM, pointed out that In the MID region the number of NOTAM decreased insignificantly. A small reduction of the number of NOTAM comparing to January with 963 and now there are 949 active NOTAM. There is a reduction of 14 NOTAM.

3.4.2 With respect to old NOTAM status in MID region, It was noted that there has been a decline and it was 67 in January and as of August it is 48 old NOTAM. A reduction of 19 old NOTAM.

3.4.3 There are some 22 very old NOTAM were eliminated in the MID region since January 2021. 137 to 115 very old NOTAM. After a peak recorded in February with 150 very old NOTAM. This reduction is making a difference and it is welcomed and recognized by the ICAO MID.

3.4.4 The top 10 NOTAM-promulgating States in the MID Region were identified. Those States are promulgating 886 NOTAM of which represents 93.3%.

3.4.5 Furthermore, it was noted with appreciation that in the MID region there were some excellent performances, where 5 States have ZERO old and very old NOTAM. These being, Iraq, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE.

3.4.6 Mr. Dean Anthony Fernandes, Manager - AIM Operations GCAA UAE, provided a presentation on regional Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

3.4.7 Mr. Dean highlighted that as there was no data submitted by MID States, the NOTAMeter tool was used to extract PERM NOTAM data valid on 31 July 2021. Baseline date was set as 01 Jan 2021 and all NOTAM issued prior to that date were counted i.e. 87. PERM NOTAM data valid on 08 August 2021 was checked against previous month's NOTAM that did not exist in the August data. This meant that 16 NOTAM were either cancelled, replaced or incorporated. Reduction is just 18%, which is lower than the set target of 30%.

3.4.8 The NOTAMeter tool was used also to extract PERM NOTAM data valid on 31 July 2021. Baseline date was set as 01 Jan 2021 and all NOTAM issued after that date were listed i.e. 141. PERM NOTAM data valid on 08 August 2021 was checked against previous month's NOTAM that did not exist in the August data. This showed that 42 NOTAM were either cancelled, replaced or

incorporated and 99 were still valid. So far 17 NOTAM have crossed the set target of PERM NOTAM to be cancelled or included in IAIP within 6 AIRAC cycles/months.

3.4.9 A call was placed upon all our Member States to share the data with AI go-team in order to accurately measure the progress toward the intended result in the MID region.

3.5 *MID States action plans, experiences and challenges*

3.5.1 The meeting noted with appreciation the presentations provided by Libya and I.R.Iran and thanked them for taking such an active part in this webinar.

3.5.2 Mrs. Narges Assari from Iran (CAO.IRI) AIM provided a presentation of Iran experience with reduction of long term NOTAM and plan to eliminate all old/very old NOTAM to support ICAO initiative of NOTAM improvement.

3.5.3 Mr. Hasan Salem, Chief of Tripoli AIS, delivered a presentation on Libya action plan, experiences and challenges and particularly how Tripoli AIS managed to eliminate the 19 very old NOTAMs.

3.5.4 MID States were encouraged to share plans, actions taken, experiences and challenges during the next webinars.

3.6 *Any Other Business*

3.6.1 It was pointed out that the third and last ICAO MID webinar of this year on NOTAM improvement was initially planned for 14 October 2021 and since the AIM SG/8 will be held in mid-September and a progress on NOTAM improvement will be presented during the AIM SG/8 [meeting](#), it is proposed to postpone the last webinar to the 1st Dec 2021 (two weeks before the global event). An invitation will be sent by email and registration is not required to join the webinar.

3.6.2 It was noted that Webinar Material including States presentations is available : <https://www.icao.int/MID/Pages/2021/NOTAM%20Improvement%20Webinar.aspx>

3.6.3 It was also noted that The ICAO HQ is organizing the ICAO SARPs Compliance Training Week 13-17 Sep 2021. The SARPs Compliance Training Week aims at raising awareness at the necessity for States to maintain their compliance with ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs). The course aims to enable Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) senior and middle managers to plan, manage and continuously monitor the implementation of ICAO SARPs in their States. States were encouraged to take part in that major training event.

4. **CLOSING**

4.1 The Webinar was closed by Mr. Aissaoui Radhouan, who thanked participants for their attendance and invited all MD States to share plans, actions taken, experiences and challenges during the next regional webinars using the standard template.

4.2 The next webinar will take place on 1 December 2021.

ICAO MID NOTAM Improvement Webinar
(16 August, 08:00 – 09:30 UTC)
List of Participants

16 August 2021

State Org/Industries	Contact	Title
Egypt	Mr. Ayman Emam Ibrahim	AIS General Manager
	Mr. Younan Emil	Director of briefing service
	Mr, Osama Ahmed Ali Taha	Director of NOTAM
	Ms. Jehan Hassan Abd Elghany	AIS Inspector
Iran	Mrs. Narges Assari	AIS Expert-in-charge
	Mr. Mohammad Sadeghi	Expert-in-charge of Static Data
	Ms. Sotoudeh Nikmanesh	ATC Expert
	Mr. Mohammad Motaghian	AIS Expert
Iraq	Mr. Munthana Khalid Mohammed	NOTAM Office
	Mr. Ali Waleed	AIS – HQ
Jordan	Mr. Tarik Mohammed Al-Rabee	Aeronautical Info. Services Officer
	Mr. Hamzah Dafi Hassan Bany	AIS Office
	Mr. Najah Abdallah Alriyashi	AIS Officer
	Mr. Munther Farhan Al Qaisi	AIS Office/AIM Focal Point
	Mr. Ra'ed Ghazawi	ANS Inspector
	Mr. Tareq Okleh Al Momani	AIS Officer
	Mr. Mahmoud M. Al-Rimini	AIS Officer
Kuwait	Mr. Mohamed Alenezi	Chief of AIS
Lebanon	Mr. Bassem Nasser	Chief of AIS
Libya	Mr. Hassan Salem	AIS Officer
	Mr. Said Azabi	AIS Officer
Oman	Mr. Jaffer Abdul Amir Moosani	AIM Director
	Mr. Said Musallam Al-Tamini	AIS Chief
	Mr. Faisal Hamed Al.Bousaidi	Aeronautical Data Management Officer
	Mr. Harith Said Al-Harhi	Aeronautical Data Management Officer
	Ms. Samiya Salim Al-Battashi	Aeronautical Data Management Officer
Saudi Arabia	Mr. Hadi A. Alghamdi	Manager of Saudi Aeronautical Information Publication
	Mr. Ibrahim Alshaya	Aeronautical Charts Supervisor
	Mr. Imed ben Saad	AFP and AIM Expert
	Ms. Hind Abdulaziz Almohaimed	AIP Specialist

State Org/Industries	Contact	Title
	Mr. Mohamed A. Ben Abdessalem	AIM Strategy Specialist
	Mr. Abdullah Alharthi	NOTAM Supervisor
	Mr. Muhammad Al-Juhani	Flight Procedure Designer Inspector
Syria	Ms. Ghadeer Hussieno	Head of AIS Section
UAE	Mr. Victor Fernandes	Analyst – NOTAM AIM
	Mr. Faisal Ambalath Thazhathethil	Associate Analyst – NOTAM
	Mr. Ronmark Bulanadi Managuit	Associate Analyst – NOTAM
	Mr. Alcon Francisco Nunes	Associate Analyst – NOTAM
	Mr. John Nicolau Fernandes	Associate Analyst – NOTAM
	Mr. Sripathi Babu Kilari	Associate Analyst – NOTAM
	Mr. Theyab Ali M. Al Shamsi	National Service
AACO	Mr. Walid Al Hoss	Manager Economics and Technical Department
	Mr. Manal Fares	Economics & Technical Dept
IATA	Ms. Lindi-Lee Kirkman	Manager Safety Flight Operations ATM Infrastructure Focus
ICAO	Mr. Radhouan Aissaoui	RO/IM
	Mrs. Manal Wissa	Programme Analysis Associate