

International Civil Aviation Organization

MIDANPIRG Air Traffic Flow Management Task Force

Ninth Meeting (ATFM TF/9) (Dubai, UAE, 27 February 2025)

Agenda Item 2: Regional Framework

OUTCOMES OF THE ICAO APAC/MID ATFM AND FF-ICE SEMINAR 2025

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the outcomes of the ICAO APAC/MID ATFM and FF-ICE Seminar 2025.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

REFERENCES

- ICAO APAC/MID ATFM and FF-ICE Seminar 2025

1. Introduction

1.1 The meeting may wish to recall the MIDANPIRG/21 Conclusion 21/20:

MIDANPIRG CONCLUSION 21/20: MID FF-ICE WORKSHOP 2024-2025

That the FF-ICE Workshops be conducted in 2025, with the support of the ATFM TF and the relevant Subgroups to address the FF-ICE planning and implementation in the MID Region.

1.2 Additionally, the meeting may wish to highlight the advanced benefits of the FF-ICE implementation and its requirements, and the need to develop a transition plan for the cessation of the ICAO 2012 Flight Plan to ensure readiness of States, ANSPs and operators in the MID Region for a smooth transition to FF-ICE.

2. DISCUSSION

- 2.1 The meeting may wish to note that the ICAO APAC MID ATFM FF-ICE Seminar 2025 was conducted successfully hosted by the General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in Dubai from 23 to 26 February 2025 and attended by 154 participants from APAC and MID States and international organizations.
- 2.2 The Seminar provided comprehensive background information on the ATFM and FF-ICE, including the requirements and the prerequisites, services and planning phases. In addition, the Seminar provided a forum for sharing experiences, lessons learned and perspectives from the States/ANSPs and airspace users with a highlight on cross-border solutions.

- 2.3 The Seminar was apprised of the ongoing work concerning the amendments of the ICAO provisions and guidance material related to ATFM and the cessation of ICAO 2012 Flight Plan.
- 2.4 The meeting may wish to note the new amendment of ICAO provisions and guidance material related to ATFM is expected, accordingly there is a need to review the current MID ATFM Plan
- 2.5 The meeting may wish to note that the Seminar stressed that the States should take necessary measures to support and foster the implementation of ATFM at National level. The meeting also highlighted that the promulgation of ATFM Regulations and development of National Concept of Operations were key elements for the establishment of the ATFM Service.
- 2.6 The meeting may wish to review the outcomes of the ICAO APAC/MID ATFM and FF-ICE Seminar 2025 at **Appendix A**.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to:
 - a) note the outcomes of the Seminar at Appendix A; and
 - b) encourage the States to support the activities of the ASM WG related to the development of the FF-ICE transition plan.

Outcomes of the

ICAO APAC/MID ATFM and FF-ICE Seminar 2025 (Dubai, UAE, 23 – 26 February 2025)

- 1. The Seminar was hosted by the General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in Dubai from 23 to 26 February 2025 and attended by 154 participants from APAC and MID States and international Organizations.
- 2. The Seminar provided comprehensive background information on the ATFM and FF-ICE, including the requirements and the prerequisites, services and planning phases. In addition, the Seminar provided a forum for sharing experiences, lessons learned and perspectives from the States/ANSPs and airspace users with a highlight on cross-border solutions.
- 3. The Seminar was apprised of the ongoing work concerning the amendments of the ICAO provisions and guidance material related to ATFM and the cessation of FPL 2012.
- 4. The Seminar recalled the benefits of trajectory-based operations (TBO) and relationships between its key enablers (ATFM, SWIM, FF-ICE, Data Link).
- 5. The Seminar noted the importance of optimizing the airspace to enhance efficiency and increase capacity through the implementation of more efficient longitudinal separation, enhanced civil-military cooperation and flexible use of airspace, free route airspace, to meet growing air traffic demand.
- 6. The Seminar acknowledged that the level of preparedness to implement ATFM and FF-ICE would differ across various States and ICAO Regions. The Seminar stressed the importance of a well-prepared and coordinated implementation of these initiatives in order to achieve more substantial and immediate benefits on regional and global levels.
- 7. There is a strong need to expand the training and knowledge sharing among all stakeholders to support the planning and implementation of ATFM and FF-ICE.
- 8. The Seminar reminded of the critical importance of engaging all stakeholders at an early stage in planning the implementation of ATFM and FF-ICE.
- 9. The Seminar recalled the requirement of the PANS-ATM concerning the use of information services for the implementation of FF-ICE.
- 10. The Seminar recalled the importance of States taking necessary measures to support and foster the implementation of ATFM at the national level, which is essential for any sub-regional and regional solutions. It was highlighted that promulgating necessary ATFM civil aviation regulations and the development of a National ATFM Concept of Operations, among others, are key elements for the establishment of the ATFM Service.
- 11. The Seminar noted that the main enabler for effective ATFM service is strategic and operational capacity determination, accordingly, States must take necessary measures to determine these capacities.
- 12. The Seminar noted that the majority of the States indicated that the target date for the cessation of the ICAO 2012 Flight Plan could be met between 2032 2034.

- 13. Active participation and contributions in regional ATFM and FF-ICE meetings are essential to ensure harmonized procedures.
- 14. The Seminar observed that there is a need to establish a regional target date to terminate the mixed-mode operations.
- 15. The Seminar noted the necessity for a broader work programme to enhance the planning and synchronization of the development and execution of all pertinent TBO enablers, particularly the implementation of FF-ICE and ATFM.
- 16. The Seminar noted that the APAC FF-ICE Ad Hoc Group and MID ASM Working Group would draft the FF-ICE regional transition plan, for their respective Region, for further review by the ATM SGs and endorsement by APANPIRG and MIDANPIRG.
- 17. The Seminar noted the benefits of integrating A-CDM into ATFM implementation.
- 18. ATFM post-operations analysis to be conducted as appropriate and data are shared to identify bottlenecks and areas for improvement.
- 19. The Seminar received with appreciation an offer from CANSO to further support the training and knowledge sharing on ATFM implementation.
- 20. Participants appreciated the value of joint events and invited ICAO to organize more joint events to support inter-regional cooperation and harmonization.