



*International Civil Aviation Organization*

**MIDANPIRG/19 and RASG-MID/9 Meetings**

*(Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 14-17 February 2022)*

---

**Agenda Item 5.8: Air Navigation Planning and Implementation - CNS**

**COMMUNICATIONS MATTERS**

*(Presented by the Secretariat)*

**SUMMARY**

This paper presents actions taken to establish the MID IP Network, in particular through joining the NEWPENS Project. The paper provides also an update on the progress made to operate AMHS Network between ICAO EUR/NAT and MID Regions.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

**REFERENCES**

- MIDANPIRG/18 Report
- AMC platform

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The ICAO Middle East Region recognised the need to create cost-effective, robust and secured network for all ground to ground ATM Application and capable to respond to future Air Traffic requirements in a timely manner. A common Regional IP backbone can facilitate data sharing in a secured way and create a shared Network for all ATM stakeholders.

1.2 The Implementation of the MID IP Network will be an enabler for the successful implementation of many ASBU Threads, for example FICE, SWIM, DATM, COMI,...etc.

**2. DISCUSSION**

*Establishment of MID IP Network*

2.1 The meeting may wish to recall that MIDANPIRG/18 agreed, through Conclusion 18/37, that the ICAO MID Office, with the support of concerned Sates, initiate discussions with EUROCONTROL, in order to explore the possibility of joining the PENS project as an alternative solution for establishing a MID IP Network.

2.2 As a follow-up to the MIDANPIRG Conclusion 18/37, ICAO MID Regional Office initiated discussions with EUROCONTROL through correspondences and virtual meeting with support of the CNS SG & MIDAMC STG Chairmen. It was agreed that as a first step, a list of interested States to join the New PENS

would be sent to the Service Provider (British Telecom) to check the technical possibility of providing connectivity service and discuss our request with the New PENS governance body.

2.3 ICAO MID Office issued a State Letter (ME 3/2.2.1 – 21/084) dated 2 June 2021 requesting MID States to confirm their interest to join the EUROCONTROL IP Network Project (New PENS) and provide letter of intent/agreement in principle subject to further consultation with concerned parties. In this regards, Eight (8) States (Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia and UAE) confirmed their interest to join the EUROCONTROL IP Network Project (New PENS).

2.4 EUROCONTROL and ICAO MID Office agreed on the need to organise awareness session to inform MID States about the technical and institutional frameworks of the IP Network Project (NEW PENS) and provide an overview of the New PENS Project operating model, architecture, governance and key concept. A New PENS Webinar was organised on 10 November 2021.

2.5 The coordinates of National IP points of interested States have been provided to EUROCONTROL so that the Service provider (British Telecom) study the technical possibility of extending the service to the MID Region. However, the approval of the EUROCONTROL Member States to expand the NewPENS service is a pre-requisite. Currently, EUROCONTROL is reviewing the expressions of interest by some MID States to join NewPENS, and is considering the integration within the NewPENS institutional and contractual framework.

#### *AMHS Network with EUR/NAT Region*

2.6 Egypt and Lebanon are the entry/exit points with ICAO EUR/NAT Regions, the inter-regional connections with Cyprus and Greece have been migrated completely to AMHS with Egypt. Lebanon and Cyprus are in final stage of migrating to AMHS. Accordingly, the AMHS Network with ICAO EUR/NAT has been established with sufficient redundancy taking into consideration the existence of others bilateral AMHS connections.

2.7 The AMHS Network between the two Regions will provide the required inter-regional communication infrastructure to Regional OPMET Centre (ROC).

2.8 Furthermore, it will facilitate the operation of extended AMHS service and exchange of the advanced data format, like XML based data (ex. IWXXM) between the two Regions.

### **3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the progress in establishing the MID IP Network and invite States that have not confirmed their interest to do so; and
- b) note the progress made toward the operation of extended AMHS services between ICAO MID and EUR/NAT Regions.