



International Civil Aviation Organization

MIDANPIRG/22 & RASG-MID/12 Meetings

(Doha, Qatar, 4 – 8 May 2025)

Agenda Item 5.3: ANS (AIM, PBN, AGA-AOP, ATM-SAR, CNS and MET)

UAE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW NOTAM SERIES “C”

(Presented by United Arab Emirates / General Civil Aviation Authority)

SUMMARY
This paper presents the UAE’s initiative to implement a dedicated NOTAM series to enhance efficiency in NOTAM distribution and identification. This initiative is in alignment with ICAO SARPS, ensures compliance with ICAO guidelines, and improves clarity and accessibility for airspace users.
REFERENCE
- ICAO Doc 8126
- ICAO DOC 10066

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This paper delves into the UAE’s experience in preparing and implementing of a new NOTAM Series “C”, aimed at enhancing the categorization of low-level activities. The paper focuses on the implementation of Series C for low-level activities like UAS operations, fireworks, and laser activities, exploring the mechanisms employed by the UAE to ensure a seamless transition. Offering practical insights, this paper contributes valuable knowledge to support the effective implementation and operational use of new NOTAM Series to effectively support the aviation community.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 ICAO References

- Doc 10066, Chapter 5, paragraph 5.2.5.2.3:

“All NOTAM shall be divided in series based on subject, traffic or location or a combination thereof, depending on end-user needs. NOTAM for aerodromes allowing international air traffic shall be issued in international NOTAM series.”

- ICAO Doc.8126, Chapter 6, paragraph 6.1.4:

"A State may employ more than one NOTAM series to facilitate distribution and identification by users. The assignment of NOTAM series should follow a logical and consistent system to avoid confusion."

2.2 Challenges: The planning and implementation team conducted a statistical analysis to identify key challenges faced by the UAE NOF in NOTAM dissemination. The primary challenges

include:

- a) A significant increase in UAS activities NOTAMs
- b) The NOTAM checklists exceeded the ICAO-mandated 1,800-character limit, necessitating manual splitting of the checklist NOTAM, thus increasing workload and risks of human error.
- c) NOTAM overload to international operators where operations at 400 feet and below mostly affect local traffic.

2.3 Evaluation of Requirements: A comprehensive review of ICAO guidelines and best practices was conducted to assess the necessary procedural and technical adjustments for implementing a new NOTAM Series.

2.4 Coordination with the Regulator: The implementation of a new NOTAM Series was discussed with the national regulator to obtain inputs and approval.

2.5 Presentation at National AIM Technical Committee meeting: The idea of a new NOTAM series was introduced and discussed in detail at the National forum where AIM technical issues are discussed.

2.6 Management of Change: The process was conducted to ensure safety and quality requirements are met, identify any risks, and prepare mitigations.

2.7 Stakeholders engagement: Coordination was undertaken with NOTAM originators to ensure their understanding of a new series and to proactively address any potential challenges that may arise from the transition.

2.8 Internal System Adjustments: Identified key changes and their impact on current NOTAM issuance procedures, updated NOTAM processing systems to incorporate new NOTAM Series functionality.

2.9 NOTAM Team Training: A dedicated training session was conducted for the NOTAM team to brief them on the introduction of new NOTAM Series and the associated procedural modifications.

2.10 Promulgation to airspace users: The plan was notified in advance via AIC which provided guidelines on the correct use of the new NOTAM Series, clarity for stakeholders on the implementation and application of the new series.

2.11 On January 1, 2025, the UAE International NOTAM Office implemented a new NOTAM series designated as Series C to be used for NOTAMs related to:

- a) UAS Operations
- b) Fireworks
- c) Laser Activities

2.12 These NOTAMs are specifically applicable to operations at 400 feet AGL and below, outside any published Control Zones (CTR), Aerodrome Traffic Zones (ATZs), and for aerodromes without a defined controlled airspace, outside a circular area of radius 5 NM from the ARP.

2.13 The UAE has adopted a systematic approach to implement the new NOTAM Series “C”, ensuring compliance with ICAO standards while enhancing operational efficiency and clarity in aeronautical information dissemination.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the UAE's experience in the implementation of NOTAM series C and consider such approaches where suitable.

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