



International Civil Aviation Organization

**Middle East Air Navigation Planning and
Implementation Regional Group**

**Sixteenth Meeting (MIDANPIRG/16)
(Kuwait, 13 – 16 February 2017)**

Agenda Item 5.2.2: Specific air navigation issues

UAE ATC Campaign

(Presented by United Arab Emirates)

SUMMARY

This paper presents information on the initiative of the UAE to promote the ATC profession & raise society's awareness of the immense work of the aviation system that is mostly goes unseen by the general public.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The ATC Campaign began early in 2011, with goals and objectives to promote for the UAE's General Civil Aviation Authority National ATC Training Program which began in 1998. Most of the team members are fellow ATCOs who are participating in different events across the country from their own time to raise awareness of the ATC profession. Many visits occurred to schools in all level from primary to high schools, universities & colleges has been visited as well by participating in their career days. Later the CNS department has participated in this campaign to attract specific needs for the department by sampling different candidates from different visits to education shows & career fairs.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 As a support of the ICAO's Next Generation of Aviation professionals and to strengthen the UAE's civil aviation sector the ANS of GCAA has established the ATC Promotional Campaign with the aim to raise awareness of the work of the aviation sector in the UAE in general & ATC in particular. The audience was not only potential candidates but it expanded to the whole nation between nationals & residents who are from more than 200 nationalities from around the world.

2.2 The team began with passionate ATC professionals who wanted to educate the public of the unseen hard work is being done without being noticed by the different parts of the aviation system in order for each passenger to reach their destination safely & transit the UAE airspace with ease and comfort, those members were armoured with their love of what they do and by the GCAA motto: "UAE Skies in Safe Hands".

2.3 The ATC Campaign team was visiting schools across the nation from one border to another, educate students and faculty of the ATC profession by providing presentations and explaining how the air traffic is steam-lined smoothly in imaginary pathways in the skies above them. Also another goal was to plant a seed in those students' hearts hoping this seed will grow and create an individual with love & passion for aviation and would like to invest their future in such rare profession.



2.4 Visits extended also to different colleges and universities in the UAE. Both genders were targeted and from different fields or majors as well. What we were looking for is passionate individuals who have the desire and aptitude to become Air Traffic Controllers. So we have been in cooperation with tens of universities in the UAE. The campaign team has participated in tens of career fairs and such. This was represented later in the type and amount of candidates we get through. From getting candidates with almost zero knowledge of aviation the image has changed and the type of candidates we receive now is educated and informed about the ATC profession who got to know the existence of this profession through the teams' participations in those events.

2.5 Participations also extended to different air shows and aviation events that gets held in the UAE. The team has always been available at the Dubai Air Show, Abu Dhabi Air Expo, Al Ain Air Championship, etc.



2.6 The UAE federal Government has announced 2015 to be the year of innovation in order to encourage each individual in the society to be innovative and come up with ways & methods to facilitate ways of living and make the governmental services away from its rigid way and introduce it in a modern image that follows the current trends and reach the service-seeker before they intend to seek it even. Afterwards it was decided that an annual innovation week will be held each year to keep the innovative spirit alive. Mohammed Al Zaabi who is an Air Traffic Services Instructor in the Sheikh Zayed Air Navigation Centre (SZC) designed and created an events was called "The Future of Emirates in the ANSP". With cooperation with Abu Dhabi Education Council a number of schools has been invited to the visit the SZC and play the role of an ATC in our simulator. A dedicated simulator exercise was tailor-made to cater for the students' capabilities. The students were taken in tour around the premises and got to know how the SZC works and how the ATC services is being provided & how the maintenance and operation of the different equipment is being handled. After that they were taken to one of our classrooms in the training section and got a brief on basic aviation knowledge such as radio telephony, very little ICAO airline designators & location indicators and few information about aircraft performance and finally few tips on how to interact with the Radar system and the frequency



radios. Also we were able to get some of the UAE's historic aviation pieces from Al Mahatta Museum in Sharjah which is a dedicated aviation museum which houses many pieces of related aviation equipment and machinery. It also hosts the very first aircraft to land in the UAE back in the day. By the end of the events we have annotated the names and contact of those who showed good aptitude and who might be a potential candidates from our training program, and they were asked to give us a visit once they graduate where a job might be waiting from them.



2.7 In the recent years the results of the ATC Campaign were seen and other SZC departments such as CNS needed certain professionals with certain skills & qualifications. So they joined the ATC Campaign team and got busy finding their specific needs through filtering candidates from the participations in different Career fairs.

2.8 Also the UAE GCAA has initiated a campaign called "Future Aviators" which also works closely with ministry of education and host number of students during their spring & summer breaks to educate them about the aviation industry where students are being taken to visit different control towers, approach and area centres, they also visited STRATA factory in Al Ain which manufactures different aero-structures for different aircraft manufacturers around the world.



❖ H.E. Saif Al Suwaidi –Director General- GCAA, along with participants in the event.



❖ Students get to know the process of CNS and equipment.



❖ During simulator preparation to guide students how to communicate with pilots.



- ❖ While briefing the students on the operations of the radar, voice equipment & the Arrival Manager.



- ❖ Full on-on-one demonstration of routing clearances, climbs & descents and system operations.