



International Civil Aviation Organization

MIDANPIRG/21 & RASG-MID/11 Meetings

(Abu Dhabi, UAE, 4 – 8 March 2024)

Agenda Item 4.2: Outcome of SEIG/5 meeting

PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME: THE EXPERIENCE OF THE UAE

(Presented by UAE/GCAA)

SUMMARY

- This paper presents the experience of the UAE GCAA with the establishment and implementation of Psychoactive Substances Management Programme (PSMP) regulation.

REFERENCE

- Manual On Prevention of Problematic Use of Substance in the Aviation Workplace Doc 9654-AN/945

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The use of psychoactive substances within the aviation industry poses a significant risk to safety and operational integrity. This working paper aims to introduce regulations within the GCAA framework to address the management of psychoactive substances, emphasizing prevention, detection, and intervention strategies.

1.2 The objective of the PSMP regulation is to establish guidelines that ensure an effective management of psychoactive substances within the aviation industry, safeguarding the well-being of aviation personnel and promoting a safe operating environment.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The regulation developed by the UAE GCAA has can be considered as a solid regulatory framework detailing prevention and education measures, testing and detection procedures, intervention and rehabilitation protocols, and addressing confidentiality and privacy concerns.

2.2 The PSMP regulation applies to all individuals holding safety-sensitive positions within the civil aviation sector, including but not limited to pilots, air traffic controllers, maintenance personnel, and ground crew.

2.3 Topics covered by the PSMP regulation include:

2.4 Implementation of measures to prevent the use of psychoactive substances in safety-sensitive positions and develop educational programs to raise awareness of the risks associated with psychoactive substance use.

2.5 Definition of protocols for testing procedures to detect psychoactive substance use and establish criteria for mandatory testing in safety-sensitive positions.

2.6 Definition of procedures for intervention in cases of psychoactive substance use and promote rehabilitation programs for affected personnel.

2.7 Issues of confidentiality and privacy in the context of testing and intervention and ensure that the rights of individuals are respected throughout the process.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) discuss the presented regulations and provide feedback and recommendations for improvement; and
- c) agree on the use of the proposed Psychoactive Substance Management Program (PSMP) regulations for the establishment of international guidelines related to the implementation of a PSMP.