



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

MIDDLE EAST OFFICE

**REPORT OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE MID REGION FLIGHT PROCEDURE
PROGRAMME STEERING COMMITTEE**

(MID FPP SC/6)

(Virtual, 20 August 2024)

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PART I - HISTORY OF THE MEETING

1. PLACE AND DURATION

1.1 The Sixth meeting of the MID Region Flight Procedures Programme Steering Committee (MID FPP SC/6) was held virtually, on 20 August 2024, using MS Teams platform.

2. OPENING

2.1 The meeting was opened by Mr. Saqr Obaid Al Marashda, Manager Airspace Management GCAA-UAE and Chairman of the MID FPP Steering Committee, who welcomed all the participants to the MID FPP SC/6 meeting. He emphasized that the main subject to be addressed by the meeting, is the financial sustainability and the future of the MID FPP.

2.2 Mr. Mohamed Smaoui, Deputy Regional Director of the ICAO Middle East Office, welcomed all participants to the meeting. He emphasized that the MID FPP has been a 'success story,' proving to be a valuable solution for assisting States with Performance-Based Navigation (PBN). However, he acknowledged the financial challenges currently facing the program and suggested that the meeting discuss potential options for ensuring its continuation, as the current business model is no longer sustainable. Mr. Smaoui reminded participants that the DGCA-MID/7 meeting had already concluded that it is not feasible to maintain the project under the existing model, which includes the recruitment of a MID FPP Manager through the ICAO CDI Bureau. He also recalled that through Conclusion 7/2, the DGCA-MID/7 agreed that the ICAO MID Office and the MID FPP Steering Committee should explore alternative business models, with a focus on capacity-building activities, and review the MID FPP's funding mechanism.

3. ATTENDANCE

3.1 The meeting was attended by a total of twenty-nine (29) participants from nine (9) States (Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Oman, Sudan, UAE and Yemen), (2) Organizations/industries (United ATS and APAC FPP). The list of participants is at **Attachment A**.

4. OFFICERS AND SECRETARIAT

4.1 Mr. Radhouan Aissaoui, Regional Officer Information Management and Acting MID FPP Manager, was the Secretary of the meeting supported by Mr. Mohamed Smaoui, Deputy Regional Director (DRD).

5. LANGUAGE

5.1 Discussions were conducted in English and documentation was issued in English.

6. AGENDA

6.1 The following Agenda was adopted:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Agenda Item 1: | Adoption of the Provisional Agenda |
| Agenda Item 2: | MID FPP achievements and challenges |
| Agenda Item 3: | Future of the MID FPP and Programme Sustainability |

Agenda Item 4: Future Work Programme

6.2 The documentation and presentation delivered during the meeting are available on the ICAO MID Office website at: <https://www.icao.int/MID/Pages/2024/MID%20FPP%20SC6.aspx>

7. CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS – DEFINITION

7.1 The Sixth meeting of the MID Region Flight Procedures Programme Steering Committee (MID FPP SC/6) records its actions in the form of Conclusions and Decisions with the following significance:

- a) **Conclusions** deal with matters that, according to the Group’s terms of reference, merit directly the attention of States, or on which further action will be initiated by the Secretary in accordance with established procedures; and
- b) **Decisions** relate solely to matters dealing with the internal working arrangements of the Group and its Sub-Groups.

8. LIST OF CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS

CONCLUSION 6/1: MID FPP SUSTAINABILITY

PART II: REPORT ON AGENDA ITEMS**REPORT ON AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1.1 The subject was addressed in WP/1 presented by the Secretariat. The meeting reviewed and adopted the Provisional Agenda as at Para 6 of the History of the Meeting.

REPORT ON AGENDA ITEM 2: MID FPP ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT

MID FPP Achievements since its establishment

2.1 The subject was addressed in WP/2, presented by the Secretariat.

2.2 The meeting noted that the MID FPP has offered a broad spectrum of services i.e., initial/advanced/RNP AR (online & onsite) PANS OPS classes, PBN 3-course package for database coding, design, and charting/AIP promulgation, PBN operational approval, PBN airspace design workshops, GBAS/SBAS webinar as well as IFPD and Airspace & Route consultancy projects.

2.3 The meeting acknowledged that, although relatively short time in operations, MID FPP has demonstrated that it is a viable solution to support States in regard of PANS-OPS related trainings and projects as well as in implementation assistance for Performance Based Navigation PBN regulatory and service provisions.

2.4 The Matrix at **Appendix 2A**, consolidating all MID FPP activities accomplished and ongoing during the Year 2024, summarizes MID FPP Achievements and Activities Report since its establishment in 2022.

2.5 The meeting recalled that the membership of the MID FPP includes the following States and Organizations/Industries:

- **Active States:** Iran, Iraq, Kuwait in addition to the Host State (UAE)
- **User States:** Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Oman, Syria and Yemen
- **Donor States:** Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE. In this respect, the meeting recalled with appreciation that without the voluntary contributions from Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Saudi Arabia, the MID FPP could have not been established:
 - Qatar contribution (CAD 100,000 # USD 72,000)
 - Saudi Arabia total contributions (USD 166,250)
 - UAE contribution (USD 49,938 initially allocated to MAEP).
- **Donor Organization:** United ATS (contributed USD 20,000 in 2022 and USD 20,000 in 2023).

MID FPP Activities Report 2024

2.6 The meeting took note of the Programme activity during 2024. The MID FPP through its dedicated experts, is conducting routes/airspace and procedure design projects e.g., Yemen, Iraq covering end to end IFPD quality assurance steps in purview of the IFPs approval by State Authority.

2.7 The Table below is consolidating all MID FPP activities accomplished and ongoing during the Year 2024:

MID FPP Activities Report 2024		
Service	Activity Description	Status
	Establishment of one (1) RNAV 5 route within Saana FIR.	Finalized
	Instrument Flight Procedures Design (IFPD) for Kirkuk International	In progress

Project Consultancy	Airport (ORKK).	
	Conduct Safety Activities & Support of the Regulatory Approval for existing Instrument Procedures (SID, STAR, IAPs) at Sulaymaniyah International Airport (ORSU).	In progress
	Support of the Regulatory Approval for the existing Instrument Procedures at Erbil International Airport (ORER).	In progress

2.8 The meeting noted with appreciation the support and experts contribution provided by the Donor Organisation (UATS) for the survey data collection and critical obstacles & nav aids signal analysis for the Kirkuk IFPD project.

MID FPP Challenges

2.9 The meeting recalled that the MID FPP SC/5, recognized that MID FPP financial status is critical and agreed that, regardless of the demonstrated technical effectiveness of the Programme, the future of the MID FPP is at risk and there might be a need to reconsider its business model.

2.10 The meeting recalled that the MID FPP business model is based on cost-recovery mechanism (non-profit). The programme is managed by a Manager recruited through ICAO CDI Bureau (CDIB). The Programme financial sustainability is ensured through a combination of the following sources: (1) revenue generation services and activities (projects & trainings), (2) Active States' & Donor contributions and (3) voluntary contributions and donations (sponsorship, in-kind & financial contributions, experts).

2.11 The meeting was informed of the MID FPP Financial Status Report as at 17 August 2024, which shows an available fund of USD 22,800. The Table below provides more details on the payment received in 2024 as well as the pending arrears:

Fund available as of 17 Aug 24		Payments received In 2024		Arrears 2022 & 2023		Pending fees in 2023-2024	
US\$ 22,800	Kuwait State	Active	20,000	Iran Active State	20,000	Iraq ENAC training of GCANS	6400
	Jordan		1,785				
	UAE		6,400	PANS OPS online classes (Iran)	9,000	IFPD Projects (Erbil and Kirkuk)	4800 + 28000
	Iraq		6,375				
	Kuwait		800				
Total	22800	Total	35,360	Total	29,000	Total	42,200

2.12 The meeting noted that after 1 Jan 2024, some pending fees were received amounting to USD 35,360, in particular from Kuwait, Erbil and Kirkuk projects and payment of fees for the PBN 3-courses from Iraq, Jordan and UAE.

2.13 It was highlighted that the primary challenge facing the programme has been financial in nature. The existence of payment arrears and the limited number of Active States have exerted considerable pressure on MID FPP operations. Insufficient funding and support have failed to meet the necessary thresholds required for the sustainability of the MID FPP, to cover at least the salary of the MID FPP manager.

MID FPP SC/6
Report on Agenda Item 2

2.14 The meeting recognised that the financial shortfall has become a persistent barrier, hindering progress and impacting the achievement of the programme's objectives. In light of these challenges, the meeting agreed that it has become evident that there is a pressing need to reassess and revise the existing MID FPP business model. By developing a more resilient and adaptable framework, the programme could better align with its long-term goals. This strategic shift is essential to ensure the continued success and stability of the programme moving forward.

REPORT ON AGENDA ITEM 3: FUTURE OF THE MID FPP AND PROGRAMME SUSTAINABILITY

3.1 The subject was addressed in PPT/5 presented by the APAC FPP Coordinator and WP/3 presented by the Secretariat.

APAC FLIGHT PROCEDURE PROGRAMME

3.2 The meeting was apprised of the APAC FPP journey in particular, history, achievements and evolution of the programme through 5 phases; and thanked the APAC FPP Coordinator, Mrs. Ying Liu for sharing the APAC FPP experience.

3.3 The meeting was informed that a group of Civil Aviation Administrations in the Asia-Pacific Region, including the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) as the host State, with the assistance of ICAO, established the Flight Procedure Programme (FPP) in 2010.

3.4 The meeting noted in particular that the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) as the host State is providing full support to the APAC FPP, as follows:

- a) providing on secondment as in-kind assistance, one FPP Coordinator with considerable experience in flight procedure design and validation, Performance Based Navigation and administrative management.
- b) nominating following in-kind qualified expert/s as required:
 - i. One Flight Procedure Design Instructor with substantial instructor experience;
 - ii. One Flight Procedure Design Instructor with substantial experience in quality assurance;
 - iii. One Information Technology Specialist; and
 - iv. One Administrative Assistant.
- c) providing suitable office(s) with office furniture as agreed by CAAC and suitably equipped classroom(s) for FPP training courses held in China as agreed by CAAC.

MID FPP SUSTAINABILITY

3.5 During the discussion of WP/3 presented by the Secretariat on the future/sustainability of the MID FPP, the meeting recalled that the subject was addressed by MIDANPIRG/21, Abu Dhabi, UAE f4 - 8 March 2024 and the DGCA-MID/7 meeting, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 19 - 20 May 2024.

3.6 The meeting noted that MIDANPIRG/21 acknowledged the effectiveness and benefits of the MID FPP, affirming its viability as a valuable solution to assist States in the domains of PANS-OPS and PBN.

3.7 The meeting noted that MIDANPIRG/21, through Conclusion 21/9, directed the ICAO MID Office to conduct a survey on the subject, analyse the replies/feedback received and recommend options for consideration by the DGCA MID/7 meeting, where a final decision on the future of the Programme should be made.

3.8 The meeting was apprised of the results of the survey conducted by the ICAO MID Office on 27 March 2024 via State letter (Ref: AN 6/33 – 24/047), seeking States' insights and opinions on the future of the Programme. The key outcomes of this survey are as follows:

- From the 15 MID Members, 9 States have replied to either some or to all questions. Saudi Arabia indicated that for the moment they could not provide any specific reply since they are

not a member of the MID FPP Steering Committee. No reply was received from 6 States.

- The replies indicate that 7 MID States are for the continuation of the MID FPP and they are also planning or currently a User State or Active State of MID FPP. 2 States have indicated explicitly that they are not in favour of continuing the programme. The number of “Active States” is still the same (Iran, Iraq and Kuwait; and UAE as the Host State).
- States believe that the continuation of the MID FPP needs the change of its current business model, however only 2 States plan to support the implementation of the new business model.

3.9 The meeting noted that the DGCA-MID/7 meeting was apprised of the outcomes of the MID FPP SC/5 and MIDANPIRG/21 meetings related to the MID FPP sustainability, as well as the results of the survey conducted by the ICAO MID Office on the subject. Accordingly, the DGCA-MID/7 meeting agreed that it is impossible to continue the project with the same Business Model (recruitment of a MID FPP Manager through the ICAO CDI Bureau and cost-recovery mechanism (non-profit)). The DGCAMID/7 also agreed, through Conclusion 7/2, that the ICAO MID Office and the MID FPP SC further explore possible options for the continuation of the MID FPP with a different business model, focusing only on capacity-building activities and that the MID FPP Funding Mechanism be revised.

3.10 Based on all the foregoing, and considering the coordination undertaken by the ICAO MID and the MID FPP SC Chairman as well as the experience of other FPPs, the meeting agreed that the ICAO MID Office circulate a formal letter to all member States, seeking for a volunteer State to host the MID FPP and provide the necessary support for the management of the programme (provision of a MID FPP Manager and necessary facilities and tools) and a new MID FPP ProDoc and Hosting Agreement should be developed. It was also agreed that if no State volunteers to host the MID FPP and provide necessary support, the final recourse would be to close the programme. Accordingly, the meeting agreed to the following Conclusion:

CONCLUSION 6/1: MID FPP SUSTAINABILITY

That:

- a) *the ICAO MID Office circulate a State Letter to all member States, seeking for a volunteer State to host the MID FPP and provide the necessary support for the management of the programme (provision of a MID FPP Manager and necessary facilities and tools); and*
- b) *the continuation of the MID FPP with a different business model would require the development of a new MID FPP ProDoc and Hosting Agreement.*

REPORT ON AGENDA ITEM 4: FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME

4.1 The subject was addressed in WP/4 presented by the Secretariat.

4.2 The meeting agreed that the MID FPP SC/7 should be held during Q4-2024, tentatively end of November/beginning of December 2024, in order to review the results of States' replies to the State Letter to be issued by the ICAO MID Office related to the future/sustainability/hosting of the MID FPP.

APPENDICES

MID FPP Operations: Y2022 until (to date) 2024							
Programme Framework	Pool of Experts	Courses Diversity	No.	Participants	Revenues (invoiced) *	Free Services (Activity: Attendees/Total Value)	Involved States/Entities
4 Active States Kuwait, Iran, Iraq and UAE (host) 6 User States 1 Donor Industry (UATS) 3 Donor States KSA, UAE and Qatar 6 Steering Committee	19 (7 States)	PANS OPS Initial (6-week)	2	59 (Y2022)	\$95,455 (Y2022)	PANS OPS M1: 1 pers/ \$2,000	Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Sudan, UAE, Yemen, APAC FPP, APAC/Pakistan United ATS, ICAO MID
		PANS OPS modules (virtual)	5			PANS OPS M2: 1 pers/ \$2,000	
		RNP AR Workshop	1			PANS OPS M3: 1 pers/ \$2,000	
		PANS OPS OJT	1				
		PBN Oversight (ENAC)	2			Airspace Design Workshop (ENAC): 1 pers/ \$2,000	
		PBN DB coding & Interrelation & OPS Approval	8	+	\$121,039 (Y2023)	PBN Interrelationship S1: 2/ \$4,000	
		Airspace Design Workshop (ENAC)	1	+	\$55,600 * (YTD2024)	PBN Interrelationship S2: 4/ \$8,000	
		CCO/CDO Workshop (ICAO)	1	+		PBN Interrelationship 2024: 1/\$2,000	
		Airspace Consultancy Project	4	+		PBN PD workshop for ATC: 1/\$800	
		IFPD/Regulatory Project	4	9 (YTD2024)		Airspace Project FIR Sanaa: \$3,000	
		GBAS/SBAS Webinar	1				
		PBN Airspace Design Workshop	1				
		Airspace Design TMA Optimization (ENAC)	2				
		PBN Design for ATC (APAC FPP)	1				
TOTAL	19	PANS OPS & PBN courses, Workshops, Webinar, IFPD/ASP project consultancy services	34	167	\$272,094	\$25,800	14

* Note: Revenues are reflecting only the amounts that have been invoiced by ICAO CDI Bureau (ex TCB).

ATTACHMENT A

List of Participants

State / Organization	First Name	Last Name	Job title
MID States			
Bahrain / MTT	Muhammad	Buzayed	A/Chief AIM & Airspace Planning
Bahrain / MTT	Ali	Almutaie	Aeronautical Cartographer
Egypt	Ali	Tammam	Egyptian Civil Aviation Authority
Egypt/NANSC	Ahmed	Samy Nazir	Director of Aeronautical chart Department
Egypt/NANSC	Wael	Abdelghafar Ibrahim	Procedure designer
Egypt/NANSC	Hany	Mohamed Fathy	Aeronautical Information Manager (R&D directorate)
Egypt	Taha	Mohamed	Procedures designer
Iraq	Ziadoon	Hasan	Approach controller
Iraq	Laith	Hassan	AIS inspector
Iraq	Zaid	Ali	ACC procedure manager
Iraq	Fadhel	Gatea	Ats manager
Iraq	Ahmed	Saadi	
Iraq	Mudhar	Thamer	
Libya	Emad	Elqaddfai	AIS OFFICER
Libya	Mustafa	Ali	Acc supervisor
Libya	Kamal	Alahjel	
Libya	Salahddin	Elfezzani	Procedure Designer
Libya	Hasan	Salem	ANS Inspector
Kuwait/ANSP	Faisal	Alasousi	Superintendent of ATC
Kuwait	Ahmad	Almoussa	Air traffic management
Oman	Rashid	AlKasbi	
Sudan	Yasir	Abdalla	CHIEF OF IFPD
UAE GCAA	Saqr	Almarashda	MID FPP SC Chairman
Yemen	Younis	AbdelKhader	Director General AN
Yemen	Ashhab	Omar	
Yemen	Samara	Ahmed	
Yemen	Abdulla		CNS ANS

Organisations/Industries

United ATS	Sorin Dan	Onitiu	IFP Chief Design
ICAO APAC	Ying	Liu	FPP Coordinator
ICAO MID	Mohamed	Smaoui	Deputy Regional Director
ICAO MID	Radhouan	Aissaoui	Regional Officer Information management (IM)
ICAO MID	Manal	Wissa	Technical Assistant
ICAO MID	Ahmed	Shaker	Technical Assistant
ICAO MID	Ayman	Ramadan	ICT

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