CANSO ANNOUNCES UAE DECLARATION
Joint Middle East Airspace Study to Optimise Airspace Structure &
Address the Region’s Capacity Challenges

CANSO, the Global Voice of ATM, issued on 20th January its UAE Declaration, a statement announcing plans to undertake a Joint Middle East Airspace Study and develop a co-ordinated approach to optimising the region’s airspace structure.

The declaration was developed by the Association’s Middle East CEO Co-ordination Committee (MEC3) and endorsed at a High Level Meeting on 17th January. It recognises the critical role aviation plays in the economic prosperity of the Middle East and beyond, while drawing attention to the importance of addressing air transport capacity challenges.

The High Level Meeting attracted leaders from many of the region’s aviation stakeholders, including ANSPs, CAAs, airlines, airports, and the military. Industry bodies such as AACO, IATA, ICAO and JATCA also took part.

Speaking from the CANSO Middle East Conference in Abu Dhabi, CANSO Director General Graham Lake said, “The Joint Middle East Airspace Study represents a further step toward improving operational efficiency, and safeguarding the economic well-being of the region. It builds on the valuable work already undertaken by ICAO and ANSPs by taking a collaborative regional approach to measuring performance, identifying areas for improvement, and developing solutions to address the Middle East’s capacity challenges. As well as representing a major milestone in delivering the region’s RED SEA Vision to ‘Realise, Enhance and Develop Seamless Efficient Airspace’, the study marks a significant step forward in facilitating further connectivity with other growing aviation regions, such as Africa and Europe. Work is currently underway to develop the scope of the Study, which will be completed in March, while the final findings will be presented at our Middle East Conference in Cairo, Egypt one year from now.”

The seven pillars of the high-level strategy are: Safety Enhancement; Airspace Management; Customer Consultation; Regional H Development; CNS/ATM Improvement and Institutional Transformation.
Participants of the High Level Meeting included representatives from the following organisations: CAA Bahrain, CAA Oman, CAA Syria, CARC Jordan, Dubai Air Navigation Services, GACA Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, NANSC Egypt, ADAC, Abu Dhabi Department of Transport (DoT), Dubai Airports, Emirates, Etihad, Serco, Iran Airports Company, Royal Jordanian Air Force, Saudi Arabian Airlines, AACO, IATA, ICAO, and JATCA.