



*International Civil Aviation Organization*

**FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE ASIA/PACIFIC  
METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE WORKING GROUP  
(MET/IE WG/14)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 7 – 9 March 2016

**Agenda Item 2: Review of follow-up from previous meetings**

**REVIEW OF FOLLOW-UP FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

**SUMMARY**

This paper presents an overview of follow-up action to the thirteenth meeting of the Regional OPMET Bulletin Exchange Working Group (ROBEX WG/13), held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 16 to 18 March 2015

**1 INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Available, reliable and compliant OPMET (operational meteorological) information is a key enabler for air traffic efficiency (pre-flight planning) and safety (in-flight re-planning).

1.2 The purpose of the Meteorological Information Exchange Working Group (MET/IE WG), formerly known as the Regional OPMET Bulletin Exchange Working Group (ROBEX WG), is to support the Meteorology Sub-group (MET SG) of the Asia/Pacific Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APANPIRG) through the completion of tasks aimed at improving the availability, reliability and compliance of OPMET in the Asia/Pacific Region in support of increased efficiency and safety of the global air traffic system.

1.3 This paper reviews the status of follow-up on task lists generated by previous meetings of the MET/IE WG (ROBEX WG).

**2 DISCUSSION**

**Follow-up from ROBEX WG/13**

2.1 The thirteenth meeting of the ROBEX WG (ROBEX WG/13), held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 16 to 18 March 2015, developed a task list of 7 action items contributing towards the overall work plan and objectives of the group (Appendix D to the Report of ROBEX WG/13 refers). An updated copy of the ROBEX WG/13 task list, indicating the current status of follow-up to the 7 action items, and suggested revisions to the time frames of some of the actions, is provided at **the Attachment** to this paper.

**Action item 13/1: List of WIFS accounts and approving officials**

2.2 The list of WIFS accounts and approving officials in the APAC Region was last published based on updates provided by States on 13 May 2015 and the updated list was promulgated to the WIFS Provider State. The list is now also available on the ICAO Asia and Pacific Office web site (<http://www.icao.int/apac/pages/default.aspx>), by following the link to “APAC eDocuments” and scrolling down the page to the “MET” heading. WIFS user States should regularly review their information in the list and immediately notify the ICAO Asia and Pacific Office whenever an update to the list is required.

2.3 The status of this action item may be considered as completed.

**Action item 13/2: Draft revisions to the guidance for OPMET monitoring**

2.4 Preliminary draft revisions to the guidance for OPMET monitoring are provided for further review and development by the group in the ROBEX Handbook updates proposed in WP/19 (to MET/IE WG/14). However, the draft revisions to address the specific requirements in ROBEX WG/13 Decision 13/2 have not yet been presented to the MET SG. The last update of the ROBEX Handbook (October 2015), which was endorsed at MET SG/19, did include additional explanatory information and guidance for OPMET monitoring related to: (i) Compliance Index, (ii) Availability Index and (iii) Regularity Index, which was provided by Thailand, in Appendix H to the ROBEX Handbook.

2.5 As the preliminary draft revisions have not been reviewed, the status of this action item may be considered as being in progress and the target and time frame revised to a presentation of draft updates of the guidance material at MET/ SG/20 (June 2016).

**Action item 13/3: Realignment of the locations in corresponding OPMET bulletins**

2.6 The last update of the ROBEX Handbook (October 2015) included the realignment of the locations in METAR and TAF OPMET bulletins compiled by ROBEX Centre Brisbane, as proposed by Australia, i.e., SAAU31/FTAU31, SAAU32/FTAU32, SAAU33/FTAU33, SAAU34/FTAU34 and SAAU35/FTAU35. Thailand proposes realignment of the locations in METAR and TAF OPMET bulletins compiled by ROBEX Centre Bangkok in WP/05 (to MET/IE WG/14), which could be incorporated in the next update of the ROBEX Handbook. Further alignment of the locations in METAR and TAF OPMET bulletins compiled by APAC ROBEX Centres is proposed in the ROBEX Handbook updates in WP/19 (to MET/IE WG/14).

2.7 As there are some proposals to realign the locations in corresponding OPMET bulletins still to be reviewed, the status of this action item may be considered as being in progress and the target and time frame revised to a presentation of draft updates of the OPMET bulletins at MET/ SG/20 (June 2016).

**Action item 13/4: Capacity building workshop to facilitate planning and implementation of digital exchange of aeronautical meteorological information**

2.8 The ROBEX WG/13 Draft Conclusion 13/4 – *Capacity building workshop to facilitate planning and implementation of digital exchange of aeronautical meteorological information*, was adopted by MET SG/19 (Draft Conclusion 19/15 refers) and subsequently by APANPIRG/26 (Conclusion 26/56 refers). Plans for the capacity building workshop are further discussed in WP/11 (to MET/IE WG/14).

2.9 The status of this action item may be considered as completed.

**Action item 13/5: Current status of planning and implementation of IWXXM**

2.10 The current status of planning and implementation of digital exchange of meteorological information using IWXXM (by Asia/Pacific States) was discussed at MET SG/19 in papers presented by Australia (WP/12 and IP/23 to MET SG/19 refer) and Hong Kong, China (WP/24 to MET SG/19 refers). In order to monitor progress on this issue, MET SG/19 formulated Draft Conclusion 19/14 — *IWXXM and AMHS Survey*, which was subsequently adopted by APANPIRG/26 (Conclusion 26/55 refers). Further discussion on the survey and its outcomes is provided in WP/06 (to MET/IE WG/14).

2.11 The status of this action item may be considered as completed.

**Action item 13/6: Draft revisions to the ROBEX Handbook to address the specific requirements in ROBEX WG/13 Decision 13/6**

2.12 Preliminary draft revisions are provided for further review and development by the group in the ROBEX Handbook updates proposed in WP/19 (to MET/IE WG/14). The revisions clarify the procedure for OPMET data to be relayed to the SADIS and WIFS gateways under the ROBEX scheme, though additional work is still to be done to address the issue of duplication of information in the ROBEX Handbook and the associated interface control document (ICD).

2.13 As the preliminary draft revisions have not been reviewed, and are not yet completed, the status of this action item may be considered as being in progress and the target and time frame revised to a presentation of draft updates of the ROBEX Handbook at MET/ SG/20 (June 2016).

**Action item 13/7: Regional guidance material related to the issuance of routine TAF at intervals of three (3) hours**

2.14 Follow-up action on this item is yet to commence.

**3. ACTION REQUIRED BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the information contained in this paper and discuss any relevant matters as appropriate;
- b) Consider the action items 13/1, 13/4 and 13/5 as completed;
- c) Consider the action items 13/2, 13/3 and 13/6 as in progress; and
- d) Review and set new time frames for the action items 13/2, 13/3, 13/6 and 13/7.

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**ROBEX WG/13**  
**Task List**

Adapted from Appendix D to the Report of ROBEX WG/13

(Highlighted text indicates updated information)

ACTION ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TIME FRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	STATUS	REMARKS
13/1	Post the list of WIFS accounts and approving officials in the APAC Region on the ICAO Regional Office web site ( <a href="http://www.icao.int/apac/pages/default.aspx">http://www.icao.int/apac/pages/default.aspx</a> ), e.g., with a link to APAC eDocuments.	June 2015	Secretariat	COMPLETED	Related to ROBEX WG/13 Decision 13/1
13/2	Draft revisions to the guidance for OPMET monitoring (e.g., in the ROBEX Handbook and IATA OPMET monitoring practices) to address the specific requirements in ROBEX WG/13 Decision 13/2 and present to MET SG/20.	June 2016	Secretariat and ROBEX WG	IN PROGRESS	Related to ROBEX WG/13 Decision 13/2
13/3	Consider the feasibility of realigning the locations in corresponding METAR (SA) and TAF (FT) bulletins and report to MET SG/20.	June 2016	Secretariat and ROBEX WG	IN PROGRESS	Related to ROBEX WG/13 Decision 13/3
13/4	Forward the Draft Conclusion 13/4 – <i>Capacity building workshop to facilitate planning and implementation of digital exchange of aeronautical meteorological information</i> , to MET SG/19 for further consideration.	July 2015	Secretariat and Chair (ROBEX WG)	COMPLETED	Related to ROBEX WG/13 Draft Conclusion 13/4

ACTION ITEM	DESCRIPTION	TIME FRAME	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	STATUS	REMARKS
13/5	Present a WP to MET SG/19 on the current status of planning and implementation by States (including Fiji/RODB Nadi), and their needs and requirements to support planning and implementation of IWXXM.	July 2015	Secretariat and ROBEX WG	COMPLETED	Related to ROBEX WG/13 Decision 13/5
13/6	Draft revisions to the ROBEX Handbook to address the specific requirements in ROBEX WG/13 Decision 13/6 and present to MET SG/20.	June 2016	Secretariat and ROBEX WG	IN PROGRESS	Related to ROBEX WG/13 Decision 13/6
13/7	Investigate feasibility of including provisions in the regional guidance material related to the issuance of routine TAF at intervals of three (3) hours; present draft material to MET SG/20.	June 2016	Secretariat and ROBEX WG	To begin	Related to ROBEX WG/13 Decision 13/7

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