



International Civil Aviation Organization

**NINTH MEETING OF THE ASIA/PACIFIC OPMET MANAGEMENT
TASK FORCE (OPMET/M TF/9)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 21 – 23 March 2011

Agenda Item 3a: Review of regional guidance material on OPMET exchange:

ROBEX Handbook

REVIEW UPDATES TO THE ROBEX HANDBOOK

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper provides proposed updates to the ROBEX Handbook and requests input from the meeting to make additional proposals.

This paper relates to:

Strategic Objectives:

C. Sustainability

Global Plan Initiatives:

GPI-18 Aeronautical information

GPI-19 Meteorological Systems

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The ROBEX Handbook was last amended in August 2010 which included changes associated with Amendment 75 to Annex 3 applicable 18 November 2010, and in particular, the role of Meteorological Watch Offices (MWO) in collecting and distributing AIREPs received by voice communication. Since AIREPs by voice communications is no longer required, MWOs are no longer required to collect and distribute via bulletins these AIREPs and thus Table D to the ROBEX Handbook is obsolete. A reminder on distribution of special-reports was provided in Section 9 of the ROBEX Handbook. The ROBEX Handbook can be accessed at http://www.bangkok.icao.int/edocs/robex2004_e12.pdf.

2. PROPOSED ROBEX HANDBOOK UPDATES

2.1 The proposed ROBEX Handbook updates based on information received from States, meetings and real time monitoring are provided in the **Attachment** for review.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to review the proposed updates to the ROBEX Handbook and provide any additional proposed changes to be included in the next amendment.

ROBEX HB - list of updates (for 2011 amendment) – updated 10 Feb 2011

Black text – change made in draft version

Red text – waiting on response

Purple text – need to consult meeting/States

General

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Text

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Table A (METAR)

- SAPS31 NFFN: shaded aerodromes NSFA, NSTU, NTAA and NWWW to denote available on HF VOLMET
- SAPS31 NFFN and SAPS32 NFFN: both contain NFNA, NSFA, NSTV, NTAA and NWWW – one entry could be removed – requested Fiji to determine which bulletin – 29 sep 2010 – no response yet
- SANG31 YBBN: add AGGM (need coordination Brisbane and Solomon Is.)
- SASB31 VCCC: should we add VRMG?

Table B (FT TAF)

- FTNG31 YBBN: add AGGM (need coordination Brisbane and Solomon Is.)

Table C (ROBEX exchange of METAR and TAF compared with ASIA/PAC FASID Table MET 1A)

- Updated location indicator for Nauru (ANYN)
- updated non-AOP aerodromes State entry from Cook Islands to Fiji for NFNA
- relocated NSFA from non-AOP to AOP aerodrome section for Samoa
- relocated NSAP from AOP aerodrome to non-AOP aerodrome section for Samoa (and updated associated text for both – ital for non-AOP and non ital for AOP – in tables A, B and C)

Appendix D – ROBEX Collection and Dissemination of AIREP Bulletins

- will be removed in amendment 2011 and appendices reordered

Appendix E – Use of WMO Abbreviated Heading

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Appendix I – ROBEX Focal Points

- updated focal point for
