



International Civil Aviation Organization

**SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS/NAVIGATION/SURVEILLANCE AND
METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP (CNS/MET SG/16) OF APANPIRG**

Bangkok, Thailand, 23 – 27 July 2012

Agenda Item 8: World Area Forecast System (WAFS)

3) ISCS/WIFS & SADIS/SADIS Secure FTP

ISCS-G2 CONTRACT TERMINATION ON 1 JULY 2012

(Presented by the United States of America – WIFS Provider State)

SUMMARY

This Working Paper informs the group of the termination of the International Satellite Communication System (ISCS) service, as the ISCS 2nd Generation (ISCS-G2) contract expired on 1 July, 2012.

This paper relates to –

Strategic Objectives

A: Safety - *Enhance global civil aviation safety*

C: Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of Air Transport - *Foster harmonized and economically viable development of international civil aviation that does not unduly harm the environment*

Global Plan Initiatives:

GPI-19 Meteorological Systems

GPI-22 Communication infrastructure

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The United States (U.S.) has provided a satellite broadcast service to support the distribution of WAFS products and OPMET data since the decision of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Communications/Meteorology (COM/MET) Divisional Meeting in April 1982.

1.2 The current satellite contract for ISCS-G2 ceased as of 04:00z 1 July 2012. This contract had already been extended from 2010 to support the transition of ISCS users to the replacement internet-based service.

Agenda Item 8 (3)

23/07/12

1.3 The U.S. presented a working paper at the APANPIRG CNS/MET SG-13 in July 2009 outlining the options and the process to select WIFS. The US also presented various working papers to the Eight, Ninth, and Tenth APANPIRG OPMET Management Task Forces and the Fourteenth and Fifteenth CNS/MET Sub Group Meetings in response to concerns about security and quality of service.

1.4 Over the last two years, the U.S. has been coordinating with all existing ISCS users in the region through email, letters, and face-to-face meeting at the OPMET/M Task Forces and CNS/MET SG meetings. The U.S. has been keeping the ICAO Regional MET Officer of the up-to-date status of the transition of the ISCS users in the APAC region to WIFS, as well as and the efforts by the U.S .to reach out to all ISCS users.

1.5 The Asia/Pacific Regional Office has since distributed three State Letters:

- a) State Letter T.4/8.4, T 4/8.4.1:AP073/10 (MET), Dated 10 May 2010 Informing Member States and current users of ISCS the planned replacement of ISCS-G2 with WIFS.
- b) State Letter T.4/8.4 & T 4/8.5:AP149/10 (MET), Dated 27 September 2010 Requesting Member States and current ISCS-G2 Users to update their Point of Contact for WIFS Transition Coordination.
- c) State Letter T 4/9.5:AP040112 (MET), Dated 20 March 2012 Migration from the International Satellite Communication System to the WAFS Internet File Service

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 As indicated in the State Letters, The ISCS satellite broadcast was terminated at 04:00z 1 July 2012, as planned.

2.2 The status of the Asia/Pacific regional WIFS users is being reported in an IP (titled “WIFS User Access Status) also being presented by the U.S. at this meeting. That paper documents those ISCS users that successfully transitioned to WIFS; those that are still in process of transitioning to WIFS; those that were able to leverage the SADIS FTP services, along with the list of new users that are accessing WAFS products for the first time.

2.3 There is a small number of Asia/Pacific regional ISCS users that responded that they did not want a WIFS account. This set of users is documented in a Working Paper titled “APAC Users that Declined to use WIFS”, that is also being presented by the U.S. at this meeting.

2.4 WIFS Point of Contact in USA

For all issues related to WIFS operations, please direct all your correspondence to:

WIFS Help Desk

Email: wifs.admin@noaa.gov

Phone: +1 (877) 280-2811

3. ACTION BT THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) recognize that the ISCS service has been terminated effective 1 July 2012, and that WIFS now provides access, to all approved users, to the WAFS products and OPMET data; and
- c) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate
