



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 12: Implementation of the issuance of OPMET (TAF, METAR, SPECI) Exchanges

1) review of OPMET/M TF/10 meeting

OPMET MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE REPORT

(Presented by the Chair of the OPMET Management Task Force)

SUMMARY

This paper provides a summary of the tenth meeting of the OPMET Management Task Force (OPMET/M TF/10) held in Bangkok, Thailand from 17-19 April 2012 and provides an update of the Work Plan for the group.

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-18 Aeronautical information

GPI-19 Meteorological Systems

1. Introduction

1.1 The Tenth Meeting of the OPMET Management Task Force (OPMET/M TF/10) was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 17 to 19 April 2012 and was attended by 48 experts from 16 States and ICAO. The meeting overlapped with the Second Meeting of the Meteorological Advisories and Warnings Implementation Task Force (METWARN/I TF/2) on 19 April to review SIGMET issues.

1.2 The full report of the OPMET/M TF can be accessed at the following website:
http://www.bangkok.icao.int/cns/meeting.do?method=MeetingDetail&meeting_id=145

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2. Discussion

2.1 General topics of discussion included: a review of the Workplan; the status and progress of OPMET deficiencies; the implementation of World Area Forecast Centre (WAFC) Internet File Service (WIFS); OPMET availability and regularity, including monitoring and backup procedures; implementation of the 30-hour TAF; update of related OPMET guidance documents; and information exchange using Extensible Markup Language (XML). A summary of the meeting is provided in **Attachment 1**.

2.2 SIGMET tests were conducted for WC, WV and WS SIGMET on 08, 15 and 22 November 2011 respectively. A summary of the findings and outcomes of the tests are provided in a separate paper.

2.3 Agreed Actions from the OPMET/MTF/10 are provided in **Attachment 2** and the meeting is encouraged to provide progress on these actions.

2.4 The Work Plan document (see **Attachment 3**), including Task Team, Terms of Reference, Work Program, Communication Strategies, Performance Framework Form, Milestones and Work Plan, was reviewed by the OPMET/M TF/10 meeting. The meeting proposed a number of updates (refer OPMET/M TF/10 Report for exact details of changes from previous Work Plan) as follows:

2.4.1 The composition of the Task Force to consist of RODBs, WAFS Provider States, regional VAACs, SIGMET Test & ROBEX Focal Points and IATA.

2.4.2 Clarification of the delivery methods for the Work Plan, Status & Milestone Reports and Task Force Reports contained in the Communication Strategies.

2.4.3 Revised wording in the Work Program, Performance Framework Form, Milestones and Work Plan components of the document.

2.4.4 Inclusion of SIGMET tests, VAAC backup tests, IROG backup tests and RODB monitoring procedures.

2.5 The meeting may consider adopting the following draft Decision.

Draft Decision 16/x – OPMET Management Task Force Work Plan

That, the OPMET/M TF Work Plan document be updated to:

- a) specify RODBs, WAFS Provider States, regional VAACs, SIGMET Test & ROBEX Focal Points and IATA in the composition of the Task Force;
- b) clarify the delivery methods for the Work Plan, Status & Milestone Reports and Task Force Reports contained in the Communication Strategies;
- c) revise the wording in the Work Program, Performance Framework Form, Milestones and Work Plan components of the document as proposed by the OPMET/M TF/10 meeting; and
- d) Include SIGMET tests, VAAC backup tests, IROG backup tests and RODB monitoring procedures.

3. Action by the Meeting

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper;
- b) provide updates to the list of agreed actions; and
- c) review the OPMET/M TF Work Plan, suggest changes and consider the adoption of the related Decision.

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Attachment 1 - OPMET/M TF/10 Summary**Introduction**

The 10th meeting of the ICAO Asia/Pacific OPMET Management Task Force (OPMET/M TF/10) was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 17 to 19 April 2012. The meeting was attended by 48 participants from 16 States and ICAO. A conjoint session with the second meeting of the Meteorological Advisories and Warnings Implementation Task Force (METWARN/I TF/2) was held on the last day, 19 April 2012, to discuss SIGMET issues. Peter Dunda, ICAO, provided the secretariat and Sue O'Rourke was elected Chair.

Review of OPMET/M TF Terms of Reference

Proposed changes to the Work Plan document (i.e. Task Team, Terms of Reference, Work Program, Communication Strategies, Performance Framework Form, Milestones and Work Plan) include:

- specifying the composition of the Task Force to consist of RODBs, WAFS Provider States, regional VAACs, SIGMET Test & ROBEX Focal Points and IATA;
- clarifying the delivery methods in the Communication Strategies for the Work Plan, Status & Milestone Reports and Task Force Reports;
- revising the wording in the Work Program, Performance Framework Form, Milestones and Work Plan components of the document; and
- including SIGMET tests, VAAC backup tests, IROG backup tests and RODB monitoring procedures.
- Refer (**OPMET/M TF/10 Action agreed 10/1**).

Review of follow-up action

- Follow-up actions to OPMET/M TF/9 (Mar 2011) and APANPIRG/22 (Sep 2011) require further clarification and input (**OPMET/M TF/10 Action agreed 10/2**).
- SIGMET monitoring of non-participating States in SIGMET tests, remained outstanding and required renewed attention (**OPMET/M TF/10 Action agreed 10/3**).

OPMET Deficiencies

The APANPIRG list of meteorological (MET) deficiencies was provided to the meeting. There is still concern over the lack of SIGMET in the Region. The main discussion included:

- Indonesia has signed a Letter of Agreement with Air Traffic Services and the Meteorological Watch Offices (MWOs) to information flow on volcanic activity.
- Concern was raised in the meeting about the ability of States such as Papua New Guinea to issue SIGMET on behalf of Nauru and the Solomon Islands when they also have meteorological deficiencies for SIGMET.
- ICAO will seek clarification that Nepal has established a bilateral agreement with a neighbouring State for the provision of SIGMET.
- Only limited SIGMETs are being received from Lao PDR so the SIGMET-related deficiency will remain at this stage.
- Kiribati, Nauru and the Solomon Islands have deficiencies in the provision of briefing and flight documentation, but this should also include access and training in World Area Forecast Centre (WAFc) products.
- New Zealand has recently assisted Solomon Islands to install an automatic weather station which may assist with corrective action for their METAR deficiency.

30-hour TAF

- Detailed monitoring of the implementation of the 30-hour TAF remains an ongoing requirement in addition to clarification and justification on criteria for 30-hour TAF through feedback from IATA (**OPMET/M TF/10 Action agreed 10/4**).

WAFS Implementation

- Washington WAFS has successfully implemented the World Area Forecast System (WAFS) Internet File Service (WIFS) and will cease the satellite broadcast (ISCS-G2) at 04Z on 1 July 2012. At the time of the meeting, of the 30 satellite broadcast (ISCS) users identified, 24 have already registered to use WIFS, 3 have declined the WIFS service, but only 10 States have successfully demonstrated operational use of the WIFS. It should also be noted that the gridded data (GRIB1) products will cease as of Nov 2013 and as of July 2012 the WAFCs will make the new gridded data format (GRIB2) products available ahead of GRIB1 products. (**OPMET/M TF/10 Action agreed 10/5**).

OPMET Exchange and Monitoring

- The Inter-regional OPMET Gateway (IROG) Bangkok plans are to relay all Asia/Pacific OPMET data to IROG Pretoria from 2 May 2012 (**OPMET/M TF/10 Action agreed 10/6**).
- OPMET monitoring in Dec '11 and Jan '12 by Bangkok, Singapore and Tokyo Regional OPMET Databanks (RODBs) indicated significant improvement in the OPMET availability with 4 aerodromes not producing TAF and METAR (compared with 18 in Jan 2011), only 10 aerodromes for which no METAR were produced (compared with 19 in Jan 2011) and only 7 aerodromes for which no TAF were produced (compared with 11 in Jan 2011).
- In some cases the location information in the ROBEX Handbook does not accurately indicate the number of messages per day to be expected from those locations and therefore the compliance reported was inaccurate. There were also differences in the availability of OPMET reported by RODBs which needs further investigation.
- An RODB backup exercise conducted by RODB Bangkok and RODB Singapore on 5 April 2012 indicated a rate of transmission was 99.11% with average transit time less than 3 minutes. A small number of METAR bulletins not received will be investigated (**OPMET/M TF/10 Action agreed 10/10**).

OPMET Guidance Material

- The Asia/Pacific guidance material (ie. SIGMET Guide, ROBEX Handbook, Asia/Pacific Interface Control Document and OPMET related FASID tables) require annual review to ensure procedures and information are up-to-date. Proposed updates were presented at the meeting. (**OPMET/M TF/10 Action agreed 10/7 and 10/8**).
- The SIGMET Guide update schedule is proposed in the reviewed Work Plan of OPMET/M TF (Milestone/Activity 9). Proposed updates to be included in the next update include APANPIRG/22 Conclusion 22/44 to include an example to report a situation when no ash is expected in the forecast section of a SIGMET. Updates for SIGMET Guide focal points were provided in the meeting and a new Appendix to the SIGMET Guide was proposed for VAAC backup procedures.

XML

- Australia provided the meeting with information on ICAO's Meteorological Aeronautical Requirements and Information Exchange Project Team (MARIE-PT) activities in relation to information exchange and Extensible Markup Language (XML). The MARIE-PT will work in close collaboration with the WMO Task Team on Aviation XML (TT-AvXML) where the ICAO focus is on requirements and standards, while WMO will provide the expertise for developing the schemas for XML.

TCAC

- Indonesia presented information to the meeting concerning the possibility for providing Tropical Cyclone Advisories in the Jakarta Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre area of responsibility. Formal development of such a proposal would be non-trivial and require consideration by APANPIRG and ultimately by the Air Navigation Commission.

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SIGMET Tests

- SIGMET tests were conducted for tropical cyclone (WC), volcanic ash (WV) and other phenomena (WS) SIGMET on 08, 15 and 22 November 2011 respectively. There was increased State and MWO participation, as well as an increase in the number of SIGMETs issued, compared to the previous test. All RODBs participated in the tests. Most SIGMET test errors were due to incorrect formatting or headers and a significant proportion of the errors were attributed to Australia, which was working to implement remedies. States will be advised of SIGMET test errors and the required remedial action by State Letter, as proposed in the revised Work Plan document for the OPMET/M TF.
- Some issues relating to addressing and transmission of advisory test messages to Indonesia, resulting in non-issuance of test SIGMETs by Jakarta and Ujung Pandang, required follow-up with States (**OPMET/M TF/10 Action agreed 10/11**).
- Concern was raised with regards slow progress in some respects to improve SIGMET issuance, despite 7 years of SIGMET tests. A small working group may be appropriate to investigate SIGMET test issues including why some MWOs cannot or do not issue SIGMETs.

VAAC Backup Test

- A Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre (VAAC) backup test between Darwin and Tokyo was conducted on 18 January 2012. Results indicated a number of issues including: low response rates, which may be attributed in part to the limited lead-up time (only 2 days) given by the State Letter and in part to the inability of smaller aviation clients to receive AFTN messages; delayed transmission of messages in the test; messages not available on the VAAC websites; and incorrect header information in test messages by VAAC Darwin. (**OPMET/M TF/10 Action agreed 10/12**). It was agreed that the procedures would be reviewed and included in the SIGMET Guide and that testing would occur annually in September for Darwin, Tokyo and Wellington VAACs.

Next meeting

- Next meeting (OPMET/M TF/11) tentatively scheduled in the last week of March 2013 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Attachment 2 - OPMET/M TF Agreed Actions

Status on **8 July 2012**

✓ = completed

No.	Title/Action	Follow-up action (target/ completion dates in brackets)
10/1	<p>Updates to Work Plan. That, the Secretariat will update the Work Plan document on the website with updates provided by the meeting and present the updated Work Plan document to the CNS/MET SG/16 meeting.</p>	<p>Secretariat ✓ WP for CNS/MET SG/16 Drafted (Jul 2012)</p>
10/2	<p>Updates to Follow-up Action Reports. That, the Secretariat will update the working papers on follow-up action to OPMET/M TF/9 and APANPIRG/22 with updates provided by the meeting, ICAO and States.</p>	<p>Secretariat ✓ WP/3 & WP/5 on OPMET/M TF/10 website Revised, updated and uploaded to website. Email notification to TF meeting participants. (May 2012)</p>
10/3 Also 9/4	<p>SIGMET Monitoring for non-participating States in 6 SIGMET tests. That, RODB Singapore and RODB Brisbane (need confirmation in coordination with ICAO) monitor the issuance of SIGMET for the following States: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Sri Lanka noting that PNG arranges for SIGMET issuance by Port Moresby for PNG, Solomon Islands and Nauru.</p>	<p>RODB Singapore and RODB Brisbane Monitor SIGMET (period to be determined in consultation with Secretariat) by PNG, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh In progress. Email sent to Australia and Singapore with suggested plan. RODBs (SIN/BNE) advised plan is under development. Report to RO WP for OPMET/M TF/11</p>
10/4 Also 9/7	<p>Verify authenticity of aerodromes selected for OPMET data requirements and selected for 30-hour TAF. That, feedback is sought from IATA to justify the selection of aerodromes where 30-hour TAF is required (typically AOP).</p>	<p>Secretariat / IATA In progress (revised – July 2012)</p>
10/5	<p>WIFS implementation. That, the Secretariat contacts States with no WIFS registration, and/or States with registered WIFS users but no demonstrated usage, and provide assistance where required to establish those States' capability for operational use of WIFS (e.g, determine the Status of Fiji in relation to access of WAFS products).</p>	<p>Secretariat (with US assistance) Follow-up with required States In progress. Fiji accesses WAFS products through link to Australia. Reminder Emails sent (31 May & 1 Jun) to WIFS contacts regarding State Letter and questionnaire. (revised – July 2012)</p>
10/6	<p>Improve OPMET exchange between ASIA/PAC and AFI region. That, the Secretariat, in conjunction with IROG Bangkok, formulates required actions to improve OPMET exchange</p>	<p>Secretariat/IROG Bangkok Determine required action In progress. Emailed Thailand (30 Jun) to confirm IROG</p>

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	between ASIA/PAC and AFI region.	Bangkok procedures updated (as per WP/19) to relay all required ASIA/PAC bulletins to IROG Pretoria. (revised – July 2012)
10/7	Update OPMET related FASID Tables. That, the Secretariat compiles a proposal for amendment to OPMET related FASID Tables with proposal information provided by Indonesia the meeting.	Secretariat/Indonesia In progress Proposal for Amendment (May 2012)
10/8	Update ROBEX Handbook in relation to OPMET monitoring. That, the Secretariat includes the following information in the next proposed ROBEX HB update: a) updated information on the availability of OPMET messages, as provided by States; and b) clarification of standard monitoring references to be used for the measurement of performance indices.	Secretariat/States/RODBs ✓ WP for CNS/MET SG/16 Drafted (July 2012)
10/9	Follow-up on OPMET monitoring issues. That, RODBs include follow-up information on issues arising from discussions at OPMET/M TF/10, including: a) unexpected results for compliance and availability as measured by RODB Tokyo, which may be software related; and b) missing bulletins in OPMET monitoring.	RODBs WP for OPMET/M TF/11 In progress (February 2013)
10/10	Follow-up on RODB backup trials. That, RODBs follow up on issues arising from discussions at OPMET/M TF/10, including: METAR bulletins from India not successfully routed due to not being received via AFTN.	India/RODBs In progress Determine required action (revised – July 2012)
10/11	SIGMET test 2011 AFTN errors. That, the Secretariat contacts VAAC Darwin to confirm that correct AFTN addresses are used for WIII and WAAA in the advisory test messages template.	Secretariat Email to VAAC Darwin In progress. Emails sent to Indonesia and VAAC Darwin (3 Jul) to confirm correct AFTN addresses. Responses confirmed correct AFTN addresses are used. Indonesia & VAAC Darwin will test AFTN circuit on date(s) tbc. (revised – July 2012)
10/12	VAAC backup test header errors. That, the Secretariat contacts VAAC Darwin to request replacement of the header YMMC with YPDM.	Secretariat Email to VAAC Darwin In progress. Email sent (3 Jul). Response indicated due setup of AFTN dissemination network, VAA relabeled from YPDMYMYX to YMMCYMYX, however corrective action expected by end Jul; will notify ICAO RO. (revised – July 2012)

Attachment 3 - OPMET/M TF Work Plan

1. TASK TEAM		
The OPMET/M TF is made up of members from States representing the 5 regional RODBs (Singapore, Bangkok, Brisbane, Tokyo & Nadi), the WAFS Provider States (UK and USA), the 3 regional VAACs (Darwin, Tokyo, Wellington), SIGMET Test & ROBEX Focal Points and IATA.		
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2. DESCRIPTION

Objective	Increase OPMET availability and reliability needed for flight planning (efficiency) and in-flight re-planning (safety).
Benefits	Increase in safety and efficiency (time and fuel savings).
Terms of Reference	Under guidance from the ICAO Secretariat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review the OPMET exchange schemes in the ASIA/PAC and MID Regions and develop proposals for their optimization, taking into account the requirements by the aviation users and the current trends for global OPMET exchange; ○ Develop standardized quality control, monitoring and management procedures related to ROBEX exchange and other exchanges of OPMET information; ○ Regularly update the regional guidance material related to OPMET exchange; ○ Liaise with other groups dealing with communication and/or management aspects of the OPMET exchange in ASIA/PAC and other ICAO Regions (ASIA/PAC ATN Implementation Coordination Group, BMG EUR Region, CNS/MET SG MID Region, SADISOPSG).
Work Program	The work to be addressed by the ASIA/PAC OPMET Management Task Force (OPMET/M TF) includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Examine of new and existing requirements for OPMET exchange in ASIA/PAC and MID regions and assess the feasibility of satisfying these requirements, taking into account the availability of the data; ○ Keep the ROBEX scheme and other OPMET exchange schemes under review and prepare proposals for updating and optimizing the schemes; ○ Review and update of the procedures for inter-regional OPMET exchange and ensure the availability of the required ASIA/PAC and MID OPMET data for the satellite broadcast SADIS and WAFs Internet File System WIFS; ○ Review and amendments to the regional guidance material on OPMET exchange; to ensure that guidance material contains procedures for the exchange of all required OPMET data types: SA, SP, FT, WS, WC, WV, FK, FV, UA; ○ Conduct trials and develop procedures for quality control, monitoring and management of the OPMET exchange; to foster implementation of quality management of OPMET data by the ROBEX centres and the RODBs; ○ Report on deficiencies in the format and dissemination of meteorological advisories and warnings; ○ Monitor in coordination with ATM 1C Group, the transition to an alternative code (i.e. XML) for OPMET exchange; ○ Conduct regular regional SIGMET and VAAC backup tests; ○ Develop quality control guidance material and to promote implementation of quality control for OPMET management.

3. COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES				
Description	Target Audience	Delivery Method	Frequency / Date	Responsibility
Work Plan	Task Force Members	Document via email & OPMET/M TF Mtg	As required but reviewed at least quarterly	Chair
General correspondence	Task Force Members	Email	As required	Task Force Members
Task Force Meeting	Task Team Members	Meeting	As required, supplemented by teleconference	Chair
Status & Milestone Reports	ICAO Secretariat and Task Team Members	Report via email & WP at OPMET/M TF Mtg	At least half-yearly	Chair
Task Force Report	All Asia/Pac States	Working Paper at MET SG	Yearly	Chair
4. PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK FORM (PFF)				
Tasks	Time Frame	Responsibility	Status	Milestone
Task 1: Improve the availability of OPMET data	Ongoing	OPMET/M TF	In progress	1, 2, 3
Task 2: Improve timeliness and regularity of OPMET exchange	Ongoing	OPMET/M TF	In progress	4
Task 3: Identify gaps in processes, procedures and OPMET exchange	Ongoing	OPMET/M TF	In progress	5, 6, 7
Task 4: Review and update regional guidance material related to OPMET data	Ongoing	OPMET/M TF & RO	In progress	8, 9
Task 5: Identify OPMET data requirements	Ongoing	OPMET/M TF	In progress	10
Task 6: Facilitate and monitor the migration to AIM and new MET codes (e.g. XML)	2012-2016	OPMET/M TF & IATA	In progress	11
Task 7: Review the RODB structure	tbc	OPMET/M TF & RO		12
5. MILESTONES				
Milestone	Accountability	Dates	Status	
Milestone 1: Achieve 95% (90%) or greater OPMET availability for AOP (non-AOP) aerodromes at RODBs.	RODBs	Annually Jan		
Milestone 2: Achieve 95% (90%) or greater OPMET availability for AOP (non-AOP) aerodromes at SADIS and WIFS	IATA	Annually Jan		
Milestone 3: Increase OPMET availability for South Pacific and participate in SIGMET test analysis (RODB Nadi)	RODB Nadi	Apr '13		
Milestone 4: Report on OPMET timeliness and regularity	IATA/RODBs	Annually Mar		
Milestone 5: SIGMET Tests conducted, analysed and report complete.	Focal Point	Annually Jul		
Milestone 6: VAAC Back-up Tests conducted, analysed and report complete.	VAAC Backup Focal Points	Annually Jul		

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Milestone 7: IROG Back-up Tests conducted, analysed and report complete.	Bangkok RODB	Annually Mar		
Milestone 8: RODB Monitoring procedures updated in ROBEX Handbook	Secretariat	Sep '12		
Milestone 9: Update ROBEX Handbook ROBEX HB, ICD & SIGMET Guide	Secretariat	Annually Sep		
Milestone 10: TAF requirements for Asia/Pac Region complete.	Secretariat	Jun '12		
Milestone 11: Report to OPMET M/TF on global developments relating to new OPMET exchange (ie. XML).	Secretariat	Annually Mar		
Milestone 12: RODB structure review complete.	OPMET/M TF	tbc		
6. WORK PLAN				
Activity / Milestone	Accountability	Predecessors	Date	Status
Activity 1: Increasing OPMET availability at RODBs (95 and 90% for AOP and non-AOP aerodromes)				
Activity 1.1: Perform real time monitoring if required	All RODB	-	If required	
Activity 1.2: Monitor RODB OPMET reception.	RODBs	-	Annually Dec - Jan	
Activity 1.3: Score against FASID Table MET 1A and 2A.	RODBs	1.2	Annually Jan	
Activity 1.4: Report results and deficiencies to the OPMET/M TF meeting.	RODBs	1.3	Annually Mar	Proposed 25-27 Mar '13
Activity 1.5: Advise States of OPMET deficiencies.	Secretariat	1.4	Annually Apr	
Milestone 1: Achieve 95% (90%) or greater OPMET availability for AOP (non-AOP) aerodromes at RODBs.	RODBs	1.4	Annually Jan	
Activity 2: Increasing OPMET availability at SADIS/WIFS (95 and 90% for AOP and non-AOP aerodromes)				
Activity 2.1: Monitor SADIS/WIFS OPMET reception.	IATA	-	Annually Jan	
Activity 2.2: Score against FASID Table MET 1A and 2A.	IATA	2.1	Annually Feb	
Activity 2.3: Report results and deficiencies to OPMET/M TF meeting.	IATA	2.2	Annually Mar	Proposed 25-27 Mar '13
Activity 2.4: Inform States and/or WAFCS of OPMET availability deficiency.	Secretariat	2.3	Annually Apr	
Milestone 2: Achieve 95% (90%) or greater OPMET availability for AOP (non-AOP) aerodromes at SADIS and WIFS	IATA	2.3	Annually Jan	
Activity 3: Increasing OPMET availability in South Pacific				
Activity 3.1: Monitor OPMET reception of RODB Nadi.	RODBs	-	Dec - Jan '13	
Activity 3.2: Measure against requirements	RODB Nadi/ Secretariat	3.1	Feb '13	
Activity 3.3: Report to OPMET/M TF	RODB Nadi	3.2	Mar '13	Proposed 25-27 Mar '13

Activity 3.4: Address any availability deficiencies.	RODB Nadi/ Secretariat	3.3	Apr '13	
<i>Milestone 3: Increase OPMET availability for South Pacific and participate in SIGMET test analysis (RODB Nadi)</i>	<i>RODB Nadi</i>	<i>3.4</i>	<i>Apr '13</i>	
Activity 4: Improving OPMET timeliness and regularity				
Activity 4.1: Monitor OPMET timeliness and regularity	IATA/ RODBs	-	Annually Jan	
Activity 4.2: Report State irregularities to OPMET/M TF	IATA/ RODBs	4.1	Annually Mar	Proposed 25-27 Mar '13
Activity 4.3: Inform States of compliance	Secretariat	4.2	Annually Apr	
<i>Milestone 4: Report on OPMET timeliness and regularity</i>	<i>IATA/RODBs</i>	<i>4.2</i>	<i>Annually Mar</i>	
Activity 5: SIGMET Tests				
Activity 5.1: State Letter regarding SIGMET Tests	Secretariat		Annually Sep	
Activity 5.2: Conduct WC SIGMET Tests	RODBs	5.1	Annually 1 st Wed in Nov	Scheduled 7 Nov '12
Activity 5.3: Conduct WV SIGMET Tests	RODBs	5.1	Annually 2 nd Wed in Nov	Scheduled 14 Nov '12
Activity 5.4: Conduct WS SIGMET Tests	RODBs	5.1	Annually 3 rd Wed in Nov	Scheduled 21 Nov '12
Activity 5.5: Collate and analyse test data	RODBs	5.2 – 5.4	Annually Jan	
Activity 5.6: Report to OPMET M/TF	SIGMET Focal Points	5.5	Annually Mar	Proposed 25-27 Mar '13
Activity 5.7: Advise States of SIGMET deficiencies	Secretariat	5.6	Annually Apr	
Activity 5.8: Report on SIGMET Test Results to MET SG.	Chair	5.7	Annually Jul	Proposed 14-17 May '13
<i>Milestone 5: SIGMET Tests conducted, analysed and report complete.</i>	<i>SIGMET Focal Points</i>	<i>5.7</i>	<i>Annually Jul</i>	
Activity 6: VAAC Backup Tests				
Activity 6.1: Review VAAC Backup Test procedures	TF and VAACs		Jul '12	
Activity 6.2: VAAC Backup Procedures in SIGMET Guide	Secretariat	6.1	Sep '12	
Activity 6.3: State Letter regarding VAAC Backup Tests	Secretariat	6.1	Annually Jul	
Activity 6.4: Conduct VAAC Backup Tests	VAACs	6.3	Annually Sep	Scheduled 19 Sep '12

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Activity 6.5: Collect test results and send to VAAC Backup Test Focal Point	RODBs	6.4	Annually Sep	
Activity 6.6: Analyse Test results	VAAC Backup Focal Points	6.5	Annually Nov	
Activity 6.7: Report to OPMET M/TF	VAAC Backup Focal Points	6.6	Annually Mar	Proposed 25-27 Mar '13
Activity 6.8: Advise relevant States, VAACs and RODBs of any deficiencies.	Secretariat	6.7	Annually Apr	
Activity 6.9: Report to MET SG.	Chair	6.8	Annually Jul	Proposed 14-17 May '13
Milestone 6: VAAC Back-up Tests conducted, analysed and report complete.	VAAC Backup Focal Points	6.8	Annually Jul	
Activity 7: IROG Backup Tests				
Activity 7.1: Identify requirement for IROG backup testing for IROG Tokyo	Secretariat	-	Jul '12	
Activity 7.2: Review IROG Backup Test procedures.	Singapore & Bangkok RODBs	-	Sep '12	
Activity 7.3: IROG Backup Procedures in ROBEX Handbook.	Secretariat	7.2	Sep '12	
Activity 7.4: Identify list of MET Bulletins to monitor.	Singapore & Bangkok RODBs	-	Annually Feb	
Activity 7.5: Conduct IROG Backup Tests	Singapore & Bangkok RODBs	7.2	Annually Feb	
Activity 7.6: Collect test results	Singapore & Bangkok RODBs	7.5	Annually Feb	
Activity 7.7: Analyse Test results	Singapore & Bangkok RODBs	7.6	Annually Feb	
Activity 7.8: Report to OPMET M/TF	Bangkok RODB	7.7	Annually Mar	Proposed 25-27 Mar '13
Milestone 7: IROG Back-up Tests conducted, analysed and report complete.	Bangkok RODB	7.8	Annually Mar	
Activity 8: Asia/Pac RODB Monitoring procedures				
Activity 8.1: Review ROBEX Handbook Appendix A & B table structure to include columns for Hours of Operation and Issue Times.	Chair	-	May '12	
Activity 8.2: Letter to ROBEX Centres requesting confirmation that ROBEX Handbook Appendix A, B & C has the correct information regarding the Bulletins. Including Hours of Operation and Issue Times of METAR and TAF.	Secretariat	8.1	May '12	
Activity 8.3: Review monitoring procedure in ROBEX Handbook.	All RODBs	-	Jul '12	
Activity 8.4: RODBs to indicate differences in procedures and resolve these differences.	All RODBs	8.3	Aug '12	

Activity 8.5: Changes to RODB monitoring procedures and updates to Appendix A, B and C in ROBEX Handbook.	Secretariat	8.2 & 8.4	Sep '12	
<i>Milestone 8: RODB Monitoring procedures updated in ROBEX Handbook</i>	<i>Secretariat</i>	8.5	<i>Sep '12</i>	
Activity 9: Keeping guidance material current (ROBEX Handbook, ICD, SIGMET Guide)				
Activity 9.1: Request updated guidance material information from States	OPMET/M TF Secretariat		Annually May	
Activity 9.2: Draft amendment for review at MET SG	Secretariat	9.1	Annually Jul	Proposed 14-17 May '13
Activity 9.3: Issue amendment to ROBEX HB, ICD & SIGMET Guide	Secretariat	9.2	Annually Sep	
Activity 9.4: ROBEX Handbook, ICD & SIGMET Guide updated in accordance with Amendment 76 to Annex 3	Secretariat & OPMET/M TF	-	Sep '13	
<i>Milestone 9: Update ROBEX Handbook ROBEX HB, ICD & SIGMET Guide</i>	<i>Secretariat</i>	9.3	<i>Annually Sep</i>	
Activity 10: TAF requirements				
Activity 10.1: Review requirement for 30-hr TAF in Asia/Pac Region.	Secretariat	-	Jun '12	
Activity 10.2: Review requirement for non-AOP aerodromes in Asia/Pac Region.	Secretariat	-	Jun'12	
<i>Milestone 10: TAF requirements for Asia/Pac Region complete.</i>	<i>Secretariat</i>	10.1 & 10.2	<i>Jun '12</i>	
Activity 11: New OPMET Exchange Formats				
Activity 11.1: Monitor migration to AIM and new OPMET codes (ie. XML).	Secretariat	-	Annually Mar	
Activity 11.2: Participate in XML trials where required.	RODBs	-	As required	
<i>Milestone 11: Report to OPMET M/TF on global developments relating to new OPMET exchange (ie. XML).</i>	<i>Secretariat</i>	11.1 & 11.2	<i>Annually Mar</i>	
Activity 12: Review RODB Structure				
Activity 12.1: Review RODB structure taking into account: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Capability; o Message structure (XML); o Delivery methods (internet, ATN); o New Products (ie. ATM requirements). 	OPMET/M TF	-	tbc	
<i>Milestone 12: RODB structure review complete.</i>	<i>OPMET/M TF</i>	12.1	<i>tbc</i>	