



International Civil Aviation Organization

**THE TENTH MEETING OF ASIA/PACIFIC OPMET MANAGEMENT
TASK FORCE (OPMET/M TF/10)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 17 – 19 April 2012

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

a) ROBEX Handbook

ELIMINATION OF METAR NIL ENTRY IN ROBEX HANDBOOK

(Presented by Pakistan)

SUMMARY

ROBEX centers collect METAR messages from the aerodromes in their area of responsibility and compile METAR bulletins, according to **Appendix A of Robex Handbook**.

ROBEX centers determine a cut-off time for the reception of METAR from the stations in their area of responsibility. At the cut-off time, the ROBEX centre compile METAR bulletin(s) containing all prescribed aerodromes, indicating any missing METAR with “NIL”

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Those automated systems generating METAR bulletins, compile data containing all prescribed aerodromes indicating any missing **METAR with “NIL”** after the cut of time, as per existing procedures in ROBEX Handbook. This information is automatically stored in the data bases world over.

1.2 On receipt of the METAR NIL entry in the different automated systems such as automated ATM system and other flight planning service providers, previous latest METAR available in the system is over written and no data is available till such time the new METAR is received.

1.3 The data capable aircrafts when request the Met data of any location through any service provider, get NIL entry for the location who’s data was overwritten by NIL entry.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The existing procedure of ROBEX Handbook may be revised and the **METAR NIL** entry for the stations who’s METAR is not received should be removed.

2.2 The software of the concerned systems may be revised accordingly by the ANSP's.

OR

2.3 The software of the New system with met data base be revised to accommodate and do not remove the previous data on receipt of METAR NIL entry.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to review the existing procedure in the ROBEX HANDBOOK for METAR Bulletin's NIL entry.
