



*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 2: Review:**

**a) current status of OPMET exchange in the region**

**ISCS-G2 CONTRACT TERMINATION ON 1 JULY 2012**

(Presented by USA WAFS Provider State)

**SUMMARY**

This Working Paper informs the existing International Satellite Communication System-2nd Generation (ISCS-G2). The ISCS-G2 contract expires on 1 July, 2012. Current ISCS users need to register with the World-Areas Forecast System (WAFS) Internet File Service (WIFS) to obtain an account and password to access WAFS products and OPMET data. Information on how to register can be found at WIFS support web site at <http://www.aviationweather.gov/wifs>.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 Background**

1.1.1 The United States (U.S.) as a WAFS Provider State provides global dissemination of WAFS products and OPMET data via the International Satellite Communication System (ISCS) in accordance with the decision formulated at International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Communications/Meteorology (COM/MET) Divisional Meeting in April 1982.

1.1.2 The current satellite contract for ISCS-G2 will be terminated on 04:00z 1 July, 2012. This contract cannot be extended.

1.1.3 The U.S. in maintaining its obligations to ICAO as a WAFS Provider State, has developed and deployed the replacement for ISCS. This replacement is the WIFS where authorized users can access WAFS products and OPMET data via the Public Internet.

1.1.4 The U.S. WAFS Provider State 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 Meeting. The U.S. WAFS Provider State has also been coordinating closely with ICAO Regional MET Officer to reach out to all ISCS users to transition to WIFS before ISCS is terminated.

## 1.2 WIFS Coordination in ASIA/PAC region

1.2.1 The Asia/Pacific ICAO Regional Office in supporting the U.S WAFS Provider State has issued several State Letters on the need for States to transition to WIFS before ISCS is terminated to ensure that States maintain their ability to access WAFS products and OPMET data as part of their obligations in providing Flight Document Folders in accordance with Annex 3. The following letters were distributed:

- 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

1.2.2 ICAO has requested that States that have not registered or who are registered but are not using WIFS in place of ISCS respond no later than 27 April on the status of their transition efforts. (State Letter T 4/9.5:AP040112 (MET)). The U.S. WAFS Provider State is looking forward to update the information provided by the States.

## 2. DISCUSSION

2.1 As indicated in the State Letters, The ISCS-G2 satellite broadcast will be terminated at the end of 04:00z 1 July 2012.

2.2 As of 4-April-2012, the following ISCS users have failed to provide feedback to the U.S. WAFS Provider State as to their intention to transition to WIFS. As they are yet to register, they will not have access to WAFS Products or OPMET data as of 1 July 2012:

ISCS Location	Point of Contact	Updated Information
Bali, Indonesia	Syamsul Huda <a href="mailto:agus.wahyu@bmgk.go.id">agus.wahyu@bmgk.go.id</a>	Updated information was provided to Bali by Zulkarnain Zulkarnain, current WIFS and ISCS User (February 2012)
Cebu, Philippines	No contact information	Updated information was provided to Cebu by Rolymer Canillo's office (February 2012)
Vanuatu	Williams Worwor	Only one response from Willima Worwor was from July 2011 indicated of planned registration soon. Has not responded to emails since July 2011.

2.3 These users are invited to advise the U.S. WAFS Provider State if they wish to continue to have access to the Washington WAFS suite of products as defined in Annex 3. If they wish to continue to have access these services they need to take immediate action to register online. They can find the online registration form, and all related WIFS information, (including the WIFS Users Guide) at the WIFS web site at <https://www.aviationweather.gov/wifs/>. On the other hand, if these users have elected not to participate, the U.S. WAFS Provider State would greatly appreciate correspondence from these respective States that they are no longer interested and the WAFS Provider State will remove them from the list of User States and notify ICAO.

2.4 WIFS Coordination Point of Contact in U.S. WAFS Provider State

For all ISCS-G2 transition to WIFS environment, please direct all your correspondence to:

Mr. Hoang N. Tran  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Mail Stop: AJM-3122800 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20591  
Phone: +1 (202) 493 5995  
Email: [hoang.tran@faa.gov](mailto:hoang.tran@faa.gov)

**3. RECOMMENDATION**

3.1 The meeting is invited to review the list of ISCS Users that have not registered and taking appropriate actions such as to consider making a recommended Conclusion to APANPIRG through CNS/MET Subgroup to assume that these four remaining ISCS users have other arrangement to receive WAFS product and OPMET data or are no longer in operation if no response is received by 27 April 2012.

**4. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

4.1 The group is invited to consider the proposed recommendation for adoption

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