



International Civil Aviation Organization

**NINETEENTH MEETING OF THE METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP
(MET SG/19) OF APANPIRG**

Bangkok, Thailand, 3 – 6 August 2015

Agenda Item 3: Review outcomes from other ICAO groups

REVIEW OF MET SG/18

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents a summary of the Eighteenth Meeting of the Meteorology Sub-group (MET SG/18) of the Asia and Pacific Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APANPIRG).

1. Introduction

1.1 The Eighteenth Meeting of the Meteorology Sub-group (MET SG/18) of the Asia and Pacific Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APANPIRG) was held in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) – Regional Sub Office (RSO) in Beijing, China from 18 to 22 August 2014.

1.2 A copy of the report from MET SG/18, as well as all related meeting documentation, is available at the following website: <http://www.icao.int/APAC/Meetings/Pages/2014-METSG18.aspx>.

2. Discussion

2.1 Outcomes from MET SG/18 discussions included a total of 6 Draft Conclusions that deal with matters that, according to APANPIRG terms of reference, require the attention of States, or action by the ICAO in accordance with established procedures, and 4 Decisions that relate solely to matters dealing with the internal working arrangements of the MET SG. For quick reference, these are copied below:

Draft conclusion 18/2 – Follow-up to APANPIRG/24 decisions and conclusions

Draft Conclusion 18/4 – Improvement of OPMET data format

Draft conclusion 18/6 – Initiatives to reduce deficiencies in SIGMET information

Draft Conclusion 18/7 – Improvement of OPMET data availability for AOP aerodromes, and for non-AOP aerodromes listed in FASID Table MET 2A

Draft conclusion 18/8 – Establishment of a volcanic ash exercises steering group in the APAC region

Draft conclusion 18/9 – APAC MET/ATM seminar

Decision 18/1 – Follow-up to MET SG/17 decisions

Decision 18/3 – Status of OPMET provision in Bhutan

Decision 18/5 – Updates to the requirements for WIFS of APAC States

Decision 18/10 – Contact information for approving officials in WIFS user States

2.2 After the conclusion of MET SG/18, the MET SG chairperson and the secretariat noted that 2 of the Draft Conclusions (18/2 and 18/6) related solely to matters dealing with the internal working arrangements of the MET SG and therefore it was not necessary to consider those any further for adoption as APANPIRG Conclusions. Therefore, no further action was necessary with respect to Draft conclusion 18/2 and with respect to Draft conclusion 18/6 it was decided that the initiatives already underway by the Meteorological Hazards Task Force (MET/H TF) of the MET SG were intended to investigate options and implement viable solutions to reduce SIGMET deficiencies in the APAC Region as a matter of urgency.

2.3 The remaining 4 Draft Conclusions (18/4, 18/7, 18/8 and 18/9) were later presented to APANPIRG/25 for consideration and are discussed further in MET SG/18 – IP/04.

2.4 With respect to MET SG/18 Decision 18/1, no further action is necessary.

2.5 With respect to MET SG/18 Decision 18/3, the Secretariat reminded Bhutan of the need to provide information on the status of implementation of OPMET in Bhutan, especially in view of the importance of OPMET availability and reliability in support of safe, timely and cost effective international aviation in the region (State letter Ref.: T 4/3.2.3:AP-MET0005/15, dated 6 March 2015, refers). Subsequent discussions have taken place in March 2015 between the Secretariat and relevant authorities in Bhutan to assist Bhutan in assessing the status of implementation of OPMET.

2.6 With respect to MET SG/18 Decisions 18/5 and 18/10, the Secretariat requested States to review the FASID Table MET 6 – *Primary Internet-based Service in the ASIA/PAC Region for the Provision of WAFS Forecasts and OPMET Information*, and confirm that it accurately reflects State's requirements especially where the primary Internet-based service is indicated to be WIFS, and to provide updated contact details for the *List of WIFS accounts in the ASIA/PAC Regions* (State letter Ref.: T 4/9.5- AP038/15MET, dated 5 March 2015, refers). In response, updates were received from 10 States: Bangladesh, Fiji, Hong Kong (China), New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Solomon Islands and Thailand.

3. Action by the Meeting

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information contained in this paper.
