



International Civil Aviation Organization

**FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE ASIA/PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL
INFORMATION EXCHANGE WORKING GROUP
(MET/IE WG/15)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 20 – 22 March 2017

Agenda Item 6: Guidance material related to meteorological information exchange

CHANGES TO ROBEX HANDBOOK
(Presented by India)

SUMMARY

This paper presents minor changes to ROBEX Handbook, Twelfth Edition 2004 (Amended – 03 December 2015) in regard to OPMET data exchange from India.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The ROBEX Handbook, Twelfth Edition 2004 (Amended – 03 December 2015) provides the OPMET data exchange. However, a few minor changes have been noticed despite earlier deliberations in the CNS/MET SG/14 of APANPIRG meeting held during 19-22 July 2010 and further correspondences thereon to correct such issues.

2. DISCUSSION

ROBEX Collection and Dissemination of METAR (SA) Bulletins

2.1 Under Table A (page A-8 of ROBEX Handbook (2004, e12, 3Dec2015), VANP and VOTV have been marked as 0040-2340hrs operations. As these stations issue round the clock METARs, the restricted operational hours may be changed as round the clock by removing *.

2.2 The station VOHY under the same Table A at page A-8 which is a non-AOP as accepted by IATA vide item 12.2.2. of the minutes of CNS/MET SG/14 of APANPIRG meeting, July 2010 (Quote : *additional aerodromes such as VOHS (AOP) and VOHY (non AOP), which was accepted by IATA.* :Unquote). Moreover, as VOHS with 24hrs operation has been included in ROBEX in lieu of VOHY vide item 12.2.1 of the said minutes of CNS/MET SFG/14 of APANPIRG July 2010 (Quote : *India has included VOHS under ROBEX scheme in lieu of VOHY:* Unquote), the restricted watch hour of VOHY is considered redundant. The entry pertaining to VOHY may be removed.

It may be mentioned that VOBL with 24hrs operations had been included in lieu of VOBG during the same time when green field airports at VOBL and VOHS were put into operations during 2007, VOBG had been removed on a similar line of action.

2.3 In page A-7 of Table A of ROBEX Handbook (2004, e12, 3Dec2015), VNKT is supposed to transmit its METAR to VECC at HH+00 and HH+30. However, despite periodic reminders, VNKT continues to take its observations only at HH+20 and HH+50 and transmitting them

as per this observation timing only. This defeats the very purpose of OPMET bulletin compiled at VECC as HH+20 and HH+50 are beyond the bulletin compilation timings and hence crucial OPMET is unavailable to the users resulting in user complaints received at VECC. VNKT may be suitably advised to take observations at HH+00 and HH+30 and transmit to VECC as per approved schedule of dissemination timings.

ROBEX COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF LONG TAF (FT) BULLETINS

2.3 Under Table B (page B-7 of ROBEX Handbook (2004, e12, 3Dec2015), VOHY has been included. As stated earlier, VOHY is a non-AOP and has limited domestic non-scheduled operations only for which VOHS issues 9hrs TAF for this AMS at VOHY. The VOHY entry in this Table at page B-7 may have to be removed.

ROBEX SCHEMATIC DIAGRAM

24. VQPR disseminates its METAR through AFTN only and has no direct connectivity with VABB. The METAR bulletin incorporating METAR issued by VQPR is prepared at VECC and not by VABB. Hence, VQPR may be delinked from VABB and connected to VECC.

3. ACTION REQUIRED BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this papers; and
- b) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.
