



International Civil Aviation Organization

**NINTH MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS/NAVIGATION/SURVEILLANCE AND
METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP OF APANPIRG
(CNS/MET SG/9)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 11–15 July 2005

**Agenda Item 14: Review of deficiencies in the CNS and MET fields
2) Status of Met deficiencies (APANPIRG Deficiency List)**

**MET SPECIAL IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT FOR
THE PACIFIC**

(Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY

The paper provides information on the ICAO Special Implementation Project, Enhancement of meteorological service for aviation in the Pacific, which has been approved for 2005.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Attachment contains the project description for the ICAO Special Implementation Project, Enhancement of meteorological service for aviation in the Pacific. The project has been approved by the ICAO Council for execution during 2005.

1.2 It time for the SIP is tentatively scheduled for 5 to 16 September 2005. ICAO Regional Office has coordinated with the Fiji Meteorological Service (FMS) the possibility of conducting a seminar on aviation meteorology during the SIP. Preliminary coordination with the WMO on this matter has been carried out.

2. ACTION BY THE MEETING

2.1 The meeting is invited to note the information provided in this paper and advice the Secretariat on any issues to be included for discussion in the SIP programme.

**ENHANCEMENT OF METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE FOR AVIATION IN THE PACIFIC
SPECIAL IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT FOR THE PACIFIC REGION**

SUMMARY

- Project:** Missions to some States in the PAC Region and providing on-site assistance to the meteorological authorities in the implementation of the ICAO provisions on the meteorological service for international air navigation.
- Objective:** To eliminate deficiencies in the provision of meteorological service for international air navigation by the PAC States and to enhance the level of implementation of the Annex 3 SARPs and the regional facilities and services specified in the ASIA/PAC ANP.

1. NEED FOR THE PROJECT

1.1 Meteorological (MET) service for aviation in the Pacific (PAC) Region is of crucial importance for the safety of air transport operations, particularly with the advent of frequent tropical cyclones in that part of the region. However, it is noted with concern that MET deficiencies have persisted over a long period of time in several States, e.g. Kiribati, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea. Although these deficiencies have been drawn to the attention of the States from time to time, there appears to be little or no attempt to eliminate these deficiencies, perhaps because of a lack of expertise in some cases. In recent years, frequent reports have been received from the users (IATA) regarding shortfalls of operational meteorological (OPMET) data from PAC States. At the same time, the available OPMET data (aviation routine weather reports (METAR), terminal aerodrome forecasts (TAF)) contain errors and discrepancies and, consequently, create problems for the users. Urgent measures are also needed to standardize the formats of the meteorological bulletins (APANPIRG Conclusion 15/37 refers).

1.2 Providing assistance to Pacific States through the regular programme missions is practically impossible due to budgetary constraints. Because of distances involved, representatives from MET authorities/providers of the Pacific States are usually unable to attend the regional MET meetings held in Bangkok, such as the annual meeting of the CNS/MET Sub-group of APANPIRG, due to the high travel costs associated with such attendance. As a result, the liaison with the MET authorities of the PAC States is particularly difficult.

1.3 The provision of MET services in the Pacific Region is subject to bilateral and multilateral agreements among PAC States. However, information on such agreements is not always forwarded to the ICAO Regional Office and therefore we are not aware of the arrangements. These arrangements need to be reviewed and the regional air navigation plan (ANP) needs to be updated as appropriate.

2. **SCOPE OF THE PROJECT**

2.1 The main objective of the SIP is to provide assistance to the MET authorities of the PAC States to eliminate any deficiencies in the provision of meteorological service to international air navigation and to enhance the level of implementation of the Annex 3 SARPs and the regional facilities and services specified in the ASIA/PAC ANP. Special attention would be given to the standardization of the format of meteorological messages and bulletins by strictly following the formats set up by ICAO and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

2.2 The current arrangements for the provision of meteorological services by the PAC States would be reviewed and a proposal for their enhancement and harmonization would be developed, as necessary. Specific advice would be provided on the improvement of the coordination between the MET authority/provider and the corresponding civil aviation administration, ATS providers and COM operators.

2.3 Deficiencies related to the use of the world area forecast system (WAFS) products, the provision of SIGMET service, and the content and quality of flight documentation would also be addressed. Specific problems related to means of communication would be studied with a view to providing advice on suitable technical solutions and alternatives.

2.4 Advantage should also be taken to explore the warning system in place for tsunamis to find out whether such a system could be of use for aerodrome warnings in this and other regions concerned.

3. **DURATION OF THE PROJECT**

3.1 The final format of the SIP would be decided after consultation with the States concerned, particularly Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu. However, it is envisaged that an expert would visit some of these States and hold discussions on site, followed by a seminar for all States, hosted by one of the States concerned.

3.2 The duration of the SIP would be approximately six weeks.

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