



**WORKING PAPER**

**MEETING OF THE METEOROLOGY PANEL (METP)  
WORKING GROUP MOG**

**FIRST MEETING**

**Gatwick, London, United Kingdom, 8 to 11 September 2015**

**Agenda Item 3: Matters relating to SADIS**

**3.3.2: Operational efficacy of the SADIS – 2014/15**

**OPERATIONAL EFFICACY ASSESSMENT 2014/2015, AND PROPOSAL FOR 2015/2016  
OPERATIONAL EFFICACY QUESTIONNAIRE**

(Presented by the SADIS Provider State)

**SUMMARY**

This paper contains statistics and analysis related to the replies to the 2014-2015 SADIS operational efficacy questionnaire. Any issues raised will be presented to the METP-WG/MOG for review and action, as appropriate.

Action by the METP-WG/MOG is in paragraph 6.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The group will note that the ninth meeting of the Satellite Distribution System Operations Group<sup>1</sup> (SADISOPSG/9<sup>2</sup>) agreed that there was no need for the Secretariat to circulate copies of the completed efficacy questionnaires to the SADISOPSG Operational Efficacy Assessment Team. It was concluded that, in lieu of the original copies, the tabulated summary of the replies prepared by the Secretariat would suffice for the team to prepare the necessary statistics (SADISOPSG Decision 9/3 refers).

1.2 In addition, the group will recall that SADISOPSG/18<sup>3</sup> formulated Decision 18/5 whereby a revised content of the SADIS operational efficacy questionnaire was to be used for future consultations with States.

1.3 The information provided in this paper has been extracted from the tabulated format which was supplied by ICAO to the SADIS Provider on 6 August 2015.

<sup>1</sup> Now disbanded, though extant decisions/conclusions relating to provision of the SADIS service are understood to remain in force until formally modified or recinded.

<sup>2</sup> 1 to 4 June, 2004; Dakar, Senegal

<sup>3</sup> 29 to 31 May, 2013; Dakar, Senegal

## 2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The meeting will be disappointed to note that this year showed a decrease in the number of States responding to the questionnaire. This year's response of 45 is significantly less than that of 2014 (60).

2.2 Of the 45 users who responded, 36 (80 per cent) have SADIS 2G VSAT receivers, and 42 (93 per cent) have Secure SADIS file transfer protocol (FTP) servers. 38 (84 per cent) have access via both VSAT and FTP. In view of the multiple systems in use by some of the respondents, the number of units employed amounts to 57 VSAT SADIS 2G receivers and 75 Secure SADIS FTP systems.

## 3. SUMMARY OF RESPONSES

3.1 **SADIS 2G SERVICE PROVISION (questionnaire number is in square brackets. Last year's figures are italicized in brackets)<sup>4</sup>**

- a) 89 per cent (*90 per cent*) indicated that there were no SADIS 2G signal quality problems.
- b) 97 per cent (*95 per cent*) reported good availability of upper-air data in the GRIB2 code form;
- c) 97 per cent (*95 per cent*) of States reported good availability of SIGWX data in the BUFR code form;
- d) 97 per cent (*85 per cent*) of States reported good availability of OPMET messages; and
- e) 97 per cent (*90 per cent*) of States reported a good overall assessment of the VSAT.

### 3.2 SECURE SADIS FTP SERVICE PROVISION

- a) 95 per cent (*95 per cent*) indicated that there were no Secure SADIS FTP service quality problems;
- b) 95 per cent (*95 per cent*) reported good availability of upper-air data in the GRIB2 code form;
- c) 98 per cent (*95 per cent*) of States reported good availability of SIGWX data in the BUFR code form;
- d) 95 per cent (*85 per cent*) of States reported good availability of OPMET messages; and
- e) 95 per cent (*95 per cent*) of States reported a good overall assessment of the SADIS FTP service.

### 3.3 VISUALISATION OF WAFS SIGWX FORECASTS

---

<sup>4</sup> In previous years, values have been rounded to the nearest 5%. For this and future efficacy reports, the values will be rounded to the nearest 1%.

- a) 86 per cent (*80 per cent*) of States reported that they are able to produce WAFS SIGWX charts from the BUFR code form which are compliant with the SADISOPSG software criteria; and
- b) 86 per cent (*80 per cent*) of States are using the SIGWX charts in PNG format.

### 3.4 SADIS PROVIDER SUPPORT (SERVICE DESK AND ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGES)

- a) 25 per cent (*20 per cent*) of States used the 24-hour Met Office Service Desk. Of these, 92 per cent (*100 per cent*) reported a satisfactory level of assistance; and
- b) 96 per cent (*95 per cent*) of States considered that the service administrative messages were adequate.

## 4. ANALYSIS OF THE RESPONSES

4.1 The group will be pleased to note that the perceived quality of the service remains very high. The number of users indicating that **there were no problems with the SADIS 2G signal** was 89% and this is comparable to the previous year's 90%. It was encouraging to note that the availability of GRIB2 data, SIGWX BUFR data and OPMET messages was 97% in all instances, and in all cases an improvement on the previous year (by more than 12% in one instance). The number of users assessing the SADIS 2G service as good 'overall' increased from 90% to 97%.

4.2 With regard to Secure SADIS FTP, the number of users reporting that **there were no problems with the Secure SADIS FTP** remained the same as the previous year, at 95%. Availability of GRIB2 data, SIGWX BUFR data and OPMET messages remained comparable or better than the previous year at 95% to 98%. The overall assessment for Secure SADIS FTP remained the same as last year, at 95%.

4.3 With regard to the expected cessation of SADIS 2G - which at the time of presenting the questionnaire in December 2013 was expected in November 2019, not the revised cessation date of 31 July 2016 - 34 (76%) responded that they were aware and had plans to migrate. 5 (11%) indicated that they had no plans to migrate, and 6 (13%) did not comment.

## 5. EFFICACY QUESTIONNAIRE FOR 2015-2016

5.1 Having reviewed the 2014-2015 Efficacy Questionnaire (<http://www.icao.int/safety/meteorology/sadisopsg/Lists/SADIS%20EFFICACY%20SURVEY%2020142015/NewForm.aspx>), it is considered that it remains appropriate for the 2015-2016 period. It is acknowledged that the SADIS 2G service will be withdrawn on 31 July 2016, and in its current form the questionnaire does ask about each State's preparedness for the withdrawal of SADIS 2G and their migration to Secure SADIS FTP.

5.2 Even though it is likely that the next METP WG-MOG meeting at which the efficacy of the SADIS Service is discussed will be after the cessation of SADIS 2G, for due diligence it is considered appropriate to permit States to comment on the SADIS 2G service for as long as it is in service.

5.3 For the 2016-2017 Efficacy Questionnaire all SADIS 2G references will be required to be removed.

## **6. CONCLUSION**

### **6.1 Responses to 2014/2015 Efficacy Questionnaire**

6.1.1 Based on the responses received and the summary presented above, the group may wish to reiterate its satisfaction with the quality of SADIS service, which is considered “good” by a clear majority of users and since the number of States with serious difficulties with their SADIS very small aperture terminal (VSAT) receivers and Secure SADIS file transfer protocol (FTP) servers has remained small.

6.1.2 The group, including the International Air Transport Association (IATA), may wish to agree that, in the light of comments received, the SADIS 2G satellite broadcast and the Secure SADIS FTP service continued to meet the operational requirements during the period under review (namely 2014/2015) and to formulate the following conclusion accordingly:

#### **Conclusion 1/xx — Annual statement of operational efficacy of SADIS 2014/2015**

That the Chair of the METP-WG/MOG be invited to inform the Chair of the SCRAG that the SADIS continued to meet the operational requirements during the period 2014/2015.

### **6.2 Proposed 2015/2016 Efficacy Questionnaire**

6.2.1 The group is invited to agree that, at this stage, there is no need to undertake a further revision of the questionnaire, other than editorials reflecting the applicable period. The group is invited to formulate the following decision accordingly:

#### **Decision 19/xx — 2015/2016 SADIS operational efficacy questionnaire**

That the questionnaire used in the 2015/2016 consultation with States/users on the operational efficacy of the SADIS (i.e. the SADIS 2G satellite broadcast and the Secure SADIS FTP service) be unchanged.

## **7. ACTION BY THE METP-WG/MOG**

7.1 The METP-WG/MOG is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) decide on the draft conclusion and decision proposed for the group's consideration.

— END —