6 ICAO-WMO Cooperation

ICAO and the World Meteorological Organization have long-standing working arrangements[11] designed to record the understanding reached between the two organizations to delineate their respective sphere of activities in the field of aeronautical meteorology, to provide machinery for their collaboration when necessary and to give guidance for the conduct of meetings of representative bodies and the Secretariats of the two organisations.

An evolving MET information service delivery context could lead to a revised understanding of the various roles and responsibilities in the aeronautical MET domain between WMO and ICAO, to meet the end-user expectation of receiving authorized fit-for-purpose aeronautical MET information.

The separation of concern between ICAO and WMO[12] reflected in updated working arrangements should lead, for instance, to a similar approach adopted between ICAO and standardisation organisations. Consequently, specifications external to ICAO (in this case developed and maintained by WMO) are simply referenced in the ICAO provisions. The standardisation organisation itself however refrains from replicating the requirements for such a specification in their formal documentation that then becomes subject of their approval process. This approach completely removes the need to duplicate provisions in formal documentation by the two organizations, as is currently the norm.

[11] The working arrangements are not falling within the category of formal interagency agreements referred to in Article XVII of the Agreement between the United Nations and ICAO, or Article XIV of the Agreement between the United Nations and WMO.

[12] In the context of the white paper, an ICAO originated document, the roles and responsibilities of WMO and its Members should be understood in the context of four key capabilities WMO as an organisation and through its Members provides:

1) Centre of Expertise; providing the required expertise and capabilities to enable aeronautical MET service provider to deliver their services, primarily focusing on Least Developed Countries (LDCs);

2) Standardisation Organisation; acting as a standardisation organisation for all issues related to meteorology including aeronautical meteorology;

3) Core Infrastructure Provider; managing and enabling the WMO Members to operate and evolve their core, and a collective, MET infrastructure in support of aeronautical meteorology, and;

4) Aeronautical MET Function Provider; managing and enabling these WMO Members that operate an ICAO Aeronautical Meteorology Function.