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| ICAOBIG | International Civil Aviation Organization  **Study Note** | |  | | --- | | METP-WG/MOG/4-SN/XXX  13/04/18 | |  | |

**MEETING OF THE METEOROLOGY PANEL (METP)**

**WORKING GROUP ON MET REQUIREMENTS AND INTEGRATION  
 (WG-MRI)**

**FOURTH MEETING**

**Washington, DC, 9-10 May 2018**

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| **Agenda Item** | **3: New MET requirements** |  |
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**GRIDDED DATA ABOVE FL530**

(Presented by the WAFC Provider States)

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| **SUMMARY** |
| At present, the upper limit to WAFC wind and temperature data is FL530. The METP WG-MRI is invited to determine future requirements that may arise from aviation users operating up into the stratosphere.  Action by the METP WG-MRI is in paragraph 4. |

1. **Introduction**
   1. This paper provides the opportunity for the group to assist in determining whether there is a future requirement for the WAFCs to provide wind and temperature gridded data above flight level (FL) 530.
2. **DISCUSSION**
   1. Having attended the Second Global Air Navigation Industry Symposium (GANIS/2) the WAFCs recognise that there is increased commercial activity in the stratosphere. This includes high altitude drones and balloons, and the transit of commercial space flights to and from the mesosphere.
   2. Users are believed to be accessing meteorological information including winds and temperature from a variety of sources to meet their planning and operational needs.
   3. Up until 2007 the WAFCs provided wind and temperature gridded data for FL600 (70hPa). Since then the upper limit to wind and temperature is FL530 (100hPa), and there is no plan to increase this at present. The native model used in the creation of WAFC London gridded data has an 80km “lid” therefore data could potentially be provided throughout the stratosphere.
   4. The WAFC Providers are seeking guidance on whether there is a requirement to produce this high altitude data. Assistance is sought from the METP WG-MRI to establish any specific requirements for this data, and to assess the user need.
3. **Conclusion**
   1. The METP WG-MRI is invited to formulate the following draft action:

**Action 4/xx — Wind and Temp data above FL530**

That the METP-WG/MRI investigate if there is any requirement for the WAFCs to produce wind and temperature gridded data above FL530.

1. **ACTION BY THE METP WG-MRI**
   1. The METP WG-MRI is invited to:
2. note the information contained in this paper; and
3. consider the draft action proposed in 3.1.