



Study Note

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

SEVENTH MEETING

Offenbach, Germany, 11 to 13 April 2018

Agenda Item 4: SIGMET related documentation

REGIONAL SIGMET GUIDE TEMPLATE UPDATE

(Presented by the WAFC London)

SUMMARY

The upcoming release of Amendment 78 to Annex 3 and changes requested at METP/2 necessitate changes to be made to the Regional SIGMET guide template. The required document changes are presented in this paper.

Action by the METP-WG/MOG is in paragraph 3

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This paper provides the opportunity for the group to review changes proposed for the regional SIGMET guide template document. The changes take into account the Amendment 78 to Annex 3 update, changes requested by METP/2 and updates made to the EUR SIGMET Guide (Doc014).

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The proposed update to the Regional SIGMET Guide Template is included as Appendix A. Additions to the text are shown in grey shading, whilst deleted text is shown with ~~strikeout~~ in a red font. The following adjustments have been taken into account;

2.1.1 Amendment 78 to Annex 3, applicable from November 2018 contains a selection of changes relating to SIGMET coding. Key changes include the following:

- The addition of TEST and EXERCISE descriptors
- The addition of a descriptor to specify a hazard within a specified distance of a radioactive release event.

- The introduction of NO LONGER EXP to signify the end of a hazardous phenomena

2.1.2 METP-WG/MOG4 action 4/WAFS10 requested that the SIGMET matters identified by the METP/2 be investigated and adjusted in the documentation.

2.1.2.1 METP/2 Decision 8/3 states: “That, the term ‘APRX’ should be removed from the regional SIGMET guide template and not recommended for use”. It has been replaced with ‘WI’ as suggested in METP/2 SN6006 from which the request to remove the term ‘APRX’ stemmed from.

2.1.2.2 METP/2 Decision 8/5 requested that the following changes were made:

- a) the sequence number for all SIGMET messages types (WS, WV and WC) for one flight information region;
- b) the location of phenomenon given at the beginning of SIGMET with reference to the beginning of validity period;
- c) SIGMET cancellation and the remaining time of the original period of validity; and
- d) The deletion of the abbreviation “LCA” as the term is not used in SIGMETs

2.1.3 Additional information and guidance published in EUR Doc014, the EUR SIGMET and AIRMET guide, updated on 21 December 2017

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 The Regional SIGMET Guide Template as presented in Appendix A contains the changes described above. The METP-WG/MOG is invited to formulate the following draft action:

Action 7/xx — 2018 Update to the Regional SIGMET Guide Template

That the meeting approves the proposed changes to the Regional SIGMET Guide Template (in Appendix A to SN30), to be presented to METP/4 for final approval and publication.

3.2 Future input into the Regional SIGMET Guide template is sought from other regions to share experiences and knowledge. The ad hoc group responsible for the maintenance of this document should include participants from a range of ICAO regions. The METP-WG/MOG is invited to assist in formulating the following draft action:

Action 7/xx – Regional SIGMET Guide Template Update for 2019

That an ad hoc group [Rapporteur, xxxx, xxxx, xxxx] is formed to update and maintain and maintain the Regional SIGMET guide template taking into account SIGMET changes proposed at METP/4, METG28 and other ANPG regional meetings.

3.3 The group is also invited to consider whether it is appropriate to have individual regional SIGMET guides. A single SIGMET guide would be easier to manage and update, and would maintain consistency across all regions. The overall responsibility for this document would need to be determined. The METP-WG/MOG is invited to formulate an appropriate action to present at METP/4.

Action 7/xx – Consolidation of Regional SIGMET Guides

That the METP-WG/MOG prepares a working paper to MET/4 proposing that the regional SIGMET guides (and regional SIGMET Guide Template) are consolidated into a single document which is used by all states.

4. ACTION BY THE METP-WG/MOG

4.1 The METP-WG/MOG is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) Assist in formulating the actions discussed in paragraphs 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3.