

International Civil Aviation Organization

INFORMATION PAPER



ICAO

Eighteenth Meeting of the Meteorological Information Exchange Working Group (MET/IE WG/18)

Tenth Meeting of the Meteorological Services Working Group (MET/S WG/10)

Web-conference, 27 to 31 July 2020

Agenda Item 3 : Monitoring of meteorological information exchange

STATUS AND PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF IWXXM IN THAILAND

(Presented by Thailand)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the status of the implementation of the ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange Model (IWXXM) in Thailand.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Amendment 78 to Annex 3 has been applicable since 8th November 2018, which recommends the routine OPMET (METAR & TAF) and non-routine OPMET (SPECI, AIRMET, SIGMET, Volcanic ash advisory information, Tropical cyclone advisory information and Space weather advisory information) should be disseminated in IWXXM until 4th November 2020, and also makes IWXXM a standard, in addition to the TAC, from 5th November 2020.

1.2 Adopting the role of a national OPMET centre (NOC), Thai Meteorological Department has been collecting all national OPMET data from 34 airports in Thailand, generating bulletins in both TAC and IWXXM formats, and sending these OPMET data by using AMHS X.400 to Bangkok ROC and Bangkok RODB since October 2019.

1.3 This paper provides an update on the progress towards the implementation of IWXXM in Thailand.

2. DISCUSSION

Generation of IWXXM Messages

2.1 Thailand has been generating METAR, SPECI, TAF and SIGMET in IWXXM format in parallel with Traditional Alphanumeric Codes (TAC) format. Thai Meteorological Department (TMD), acting as a national OPMET Centre (NOC), has installed the new system to generate METAR, SPECI, TAF and SIGMET in IWXXM version 2.1.1 since October 2019. With the latest announcement of IWXXM version 3.0.0 for operational use by WMO in November 2019, Thai Meteorological Department has deployed the IWXXM version 3.0.0 for METAR, SPECI and TAF in the beginning of January 2020. However, the SIGMET is continued to generate in IWXXM version 2.1.1 and expected to be implemented in version 3.0.0 before 5th November 2020.

2.2 Bangkok ROC and Thailand NOC successfully exchanged METAR/SPECI, TAF and SIGMET in IWXXM version 2.1.1 since October 2019.

Test Efforts

2.3 Bangkok ROC and Thailand NOC successfully tested the exchange of IWXXM messages using AMHS with File Transfer Body Part (FTBP) in XML file format through VPN in December 2018. The test demonstrated the feasibility to exchange IWXXM messages through VPN and also allowed States to validate the generation and receiving of IWXXM messages.

Future Plans

2.4 Bangkok ROC will be ready to launch the trial operation in IWXXM version 3.0.0 with NOCs in the area of responsibility, and other ROCs, from August 2020.

2.5 Bangkok ROC and Thailand NOC plan to test the exchange of IWXXM messages in version 3.0.0 by September 2020.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information contained in this paper.
