

International Civil Aviation Organization

ICAO

**Eighth Meeting of Aeronautical Communication Service Implementation Co-ordination Group of APANPIRG (ACSICG/8)**

Video Tele-Conference, 21 – 23 June 2021

- Agenda Item 5:** Review and update the AMHS/ATN Implementation Status  
5.2 Report on the readiness status of AMHS to support IWXXM

**FIJI'S READINESS STATUS OF AIR TRAFFIC SERVICE MESSAGE HANDLING SYSTEM ("AMHS") TO SUPPORT IWXXM TRAFFIC**

(Presented by Fiji/Fiji Airports)

**SUMMARY**

This information paper updates the status of Fiji's AMHS readiness to support IWXXM traffic and its upgrade plan to implement IWXXM services.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The exchange of ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange Model ("IWXXM") messages between States/ Administrations has been adopted for operations since 5 November 2020.
- 1.2 The need of File Transfer Body Part ("FTBP") and Interpersonal Message (IPM) Heading Extension ("IHE") for the exchange of IWXXM messages is required and each AMHS message (including FTBP) of up to 4MB is permitted, to meet IWXXM guidelines.

**2. DISCUSSION**

- 2.1 Fiji commissioned its existing Comsoft AMHS system in 2010. The AMHS system supports both the Basic and the Extended ATS message service. Currently the Basic ATS Message services is used for the exchange of AFTN message.
- 2.2 The AMHS supports Extended ATS message services and the MTA is able to transmit FTBP up to 1 MB via both P1 and P3. Fiji has successfully conducted IWXXM testing with Brisbane on AMHS using FTBP in September, 2020. While the AMHS support Extended ATS message services using FTBP, the ROBEX system does not support IXWWM services.
- 2.3 Due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on our business, Fiji Airports plans to conduct a staged approach on the AMHS & ROBEX system. It is planned to upgrade its ROBEX system (Comsoft OMBX) in 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2022 to support IWXXM services using the Frequentis SmartWeather system and also upgrade the AMHS system (Comsoft AIDA-NG) in third Quarter of 2023 for the MTA to transmit each AMHS message (including FTBP) up to 4Mb via both P1 and P3 as required in IWXXM guidelines.

**Agenda Item 5.2**

21 – 23/06/21

2.4 Fiji is a designated Regional OPMET Centre (ROC) for the Pacific region and also one of the five APAC regional OPMET Databank (RODB), the Nadi ROC & RODB was not able to comply with the ICAO mandate to implement IWXXM by 05 November, 2020. However, it was agreed in the Pacific Island Aviation Weather Services Panel under the Pacific Meteorological Council that Wellington ROC will be providing the TAC to IWXXM translation center for the TAC ROBEX bulletin generated by Nadi ROC for the Pacific region as an interim solution until Nadi ROC is capable to implement IWXXM. This interim solution has been operational from January, 2021 and Wellington ROC is generating the IWXXM bulletin and distributing the bulletin as per the ROBEX handbook while the Nadi ROC & RODB is still disseminating and storing the TAC OPMET data.

25 As part of the AMHS upgrade, Fiji Airports has also discussed with Frequentis Comsoft our AMHS System supplier on the best solution to implement the AMHS – SWIM transition and mixed environment operations.

**3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) discuss any relevant matter as appropriate

-----  
-----