International Civil Aviation Organization

Twentieth Meeting of the ICAO Aeronautical Information Services – Aeronautical Information Management Implementation Task Force (AAITF/20)

Chitose, Japan, 9 – 13 June 2025

Agenda Item 4: AIS-AIM Updates

AMENDMENT 44 TO ANNEX 15

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents information on Amendment 44, which reflects recommendations from METP/5 concerning the development of space weather information services. The requirement to issue NOTAMs for space weather has been removed to avoid confusion, and the content of advisories has been standardised based on input from States and industry. A related proposal to exclude space weather from the scope of NOTAMs has been circulated to States for comment, noting that some States have recorded related differences in GEN 1.7 of their AIPs. The exchange of space weather information has also been addressed by the MET/SG, resulting in regional guidance published in the Asia/Pacific ROBEX Handbook, available on the ICAO APAC eDocument website.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Amendment 44 to the *International Standards and Recommended Practices, Aeronautical Information Services* (Annex 15 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation) was adopted by the Council at the fourteenth meeting of its 234th Session on 2 April 2025.

1.2 The Council resolved that Amendment 44 to the extent it becomes effective, will become applicable on 27 November 2025, except for any part concerning which a majority of Contracting States have registered their disapproval.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Amendment 44 is consequential and arises from recommendations from the fifth meeting of the Meteorology Panel (METP/5) concerning the development of space weather information service. The space weather -related NOTAM requirement is deleted to avoid confusion and the information in the advisories, based on advice from States and industry, has been standardized.

2.2 The presentation of the Amendment 44 to Annex 15 is as follows:

ANNEX 15

TO THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION

. . .

CHAPTER 6. AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION UPDATES

. . .

6.3.2 NOTAM

. . .

6.3.2.3 A NOTAM shall be originated and issued concerning the following information:

. . .

~~*w) observations or forecasts of space weather phenomena, the date and time of their occurrence, the flight levels where provided and portions of the airspace which may be affected by the phenomena;*~~

. . .

Editorial Note.— Renumber subsequent sub-paragraphs accordingly.

2.3 As noted above, a proposal to exclude space weather from the scope of NOTAM issuance has been circulated to States for comment. In light of the fact that some Member States have included this item under *GEN 1.7 – Differences from ICAO Standards, Recommended Practices and Procedures* in their AIPs, this information is provided for awareness and reference.

2.4 The exchange of space weather information has been discussed by the MET/SG, and regional guidance, Asia Pacific ROBEX Handbook, has been developed and made available on the ICAO APAC eDocument website. The following is an extract from the regional guidance pertaining to space weather.

9. DISSEMINATION OF SPACE WEATHER (SWX) ADVISORIES

9.1 Message Routing – Originating Region

<u>Space Weather Advisory Centre (SWXC)</u>

9.1.1 The SWXCs are the data originator. They produce the SWX Advisories in TAC form and in IWXXM form. They will send the SWX Advisories to their associated NOCs.

<u>National OPMET Centre (NOC)</u>

9.1.2 The role of the NOC is to gather OPMET messages, compile national data into bulletins, validate the bulletin structure and distribute them according to the regional distribution schema. As necessary, the NOC associated with the SWXC (the Originating NOC) will add the Bulletin (WMO) header and send it to all other SWXCs. The Originating NOC will also send the SWX Advisories to its associated ROC via the AFS and will distribute, or make available via agreed State briefing services, the SWX Advisories to users within its national area of responsibility (AOR).

<u>Regional OPMET Centre (ROC)</u>

9.1.3 An originating ROC is responsible for the collection of the SWX Advisories from the originating NOC and for the validation of the SWX Advisories' message format. The originating ROC will then disseminate the SWX Advisories, via AFS, to the IROGs, RODBs, and all other ROCs within its Region, and to SADIS/WIFS.

Inter-Regional OPMET Gateway (IROG)

9.1.4 The IROGs in the originating Regions are responsible for the collection of the SWX Advisories and dissemination of the SWX Advisories to their partner IROGs in other Regions.

9.2 Message Routing – Receiving Region

Inter-Regional OPMET Gateway (IROG)

9.2.1 The receiving IROG is responsible for the collection of the SWX Advisories and dissemination of the SWX Advisories to its associated ROCs and RODBs in its Region.

Regional OPMET Centre (ROC)

9.2.2 A ROC will receive SWX Advisories from other Regions via its associated IROG. In turn, the ROC will distribute the SWX Advisories to all its associated NOCs.

National OPMET Centre (NOC)

9.2.3 The NOC will distribute the SWX Advisories, or make them available via agreed State briefing services, to users within its national area of responsibility (AOR). The distribution may be via a "Push" service (e.g. AFTN, AMHS), a "pull" service (e.g. an internet-based briefing service) or by other methods agreed to within the State.

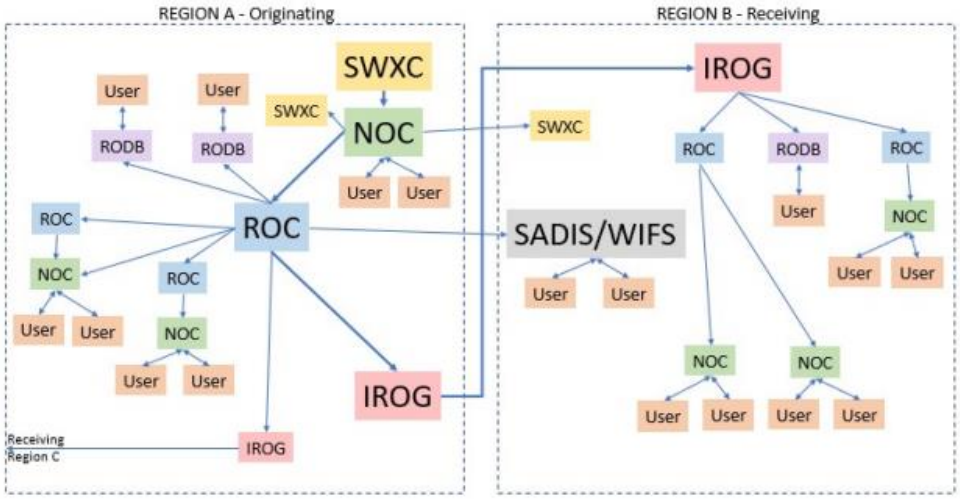
9.3 Data Access

User

9.3.1 Users are responsible for arranging access to SWX Advisories through their associated NOC or SADIS/WIFS.

Regional OPMET Date Bank (RODB)

9.3.2 RODBs should provide the capability for users to interrogate information, such as SWX Advisories, through the AFS.



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 matters as appropriate.

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