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THIRTIETH MEETING OF THE METEOROLOGY
SUB-GROUP (MET SG/30)

Bangkok, Thailand, 20 - 24 July 2026

Agenda Item 3: Air Navigation Deficiencies**IMPROVEMENT IN IWXXM TRANSLATION FOR PHILIPPINE AERODROMES
IN HONG KONG OPMET BULLETIN**

(Presented by Hong Kong, China)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the resolution of a temporary TAC-to-IWXXM translation issue that affected METAR timeliness for ten Philippine aerodromes in Hong Kong's OPMET bulletins in November 2025. It also provides latest improved compliance status based on May 2026 monitoring data, which successfully demonstrates improved OPMET timeliness performance.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Regional OPMET Centre (ROC) Hong Kong is responsible for the collection and dissemination of OPMET bulletins for aerodromes in the Philippines according to the ROBEX Scheme as defined in the APAC ROBEX Handbook. ROC Hong Kong also provides TAC-to-IWXXM translation services for OPMET data of Philippine aerodromes based on a bilateral agreement.

1.2 OPMET Performance Indices monitoring conducted in November 2025 showed lower timeliness of IWXXM OPMET statistics for the ten Philippine aerodromes included in Hong Kong's OPMET bulletins. This paper provides the investigation results and updated status regarding the IWXXM OPMET statistics for these Philippine aerodromes.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 During the OPMET monitoring period of November 2025, a performance discrepancy was identified in the IWXXM METAR data for the ten Philippine aerodromes:

- IWXXM METAR: Availability was above 95% (0.95), but timeliness¹ fell below the threshold of 0.95, ranging between 0.89 and 0.93.
- IWXXM TAF: Both availability and timeliness were successfully exceeding 0.95.

2.2 Hong Kong, China conducted a technical investigation following the identification of the decrease in timeliness in November 2025. The investigation confirmed that the lower timeliness for

¹ The proportion of METARs successfully received at a RODB within 10 minutes after the scheduled observation time.

IWXXM METARs was caused by a temporary interruption in the TAC-to-IWXXM translation services on 8 November 2025, resulting in delayed dissemination of some IWXXM METARs. To prevent recurrence and to enhance the overall resilience of the translation process, targeted system changes and software optimisations have been implemented.

2.3 To verify the effectiveness of the system and software enhancements, IWXXM METAR timeliness statistics were analysed for the period during 1 to 31 May 2026. This analysis was conducted using reception logs provided by the Regional OPMET Data Bank (RODB) Bangkok and RODB Singapore.

2.4 The timeliness results for May 2026, as summarised in Table 1 below, confirm that the timeliness of IWXXM METARs for all ten Philippine aerodromes now exceeds the 0.95 threshold.

Table 1: Timeliness of IWXXM METARs for Philippine aerodromes in May 2026

Aerodrome	Bulletin	ROC	Timeliness (RODB Bangkok)	Timeliness (RODB Singapore)
RPLB	LAHK33	VHHH	0.98	0.98
RPLC	LAHK32	VHHH	0.98	0.98
RPLI	LAHK33	VHHH	0.98	0.98
RPLL	LAHK32	VHHH	0.98	0.98
RPMD	LAHK33	VHHH	0.98	0.98
RPMR	LAHK33	VHHH	1.00	0.99
RPMZ	LAHK33	VHHH	0.98	0.98
RPVK	LAHK33	VHHH	0.99	0.99
RPVM	LAHK32	VHHH	0.98	0.98
RPVP	LAHK33	VHHH	0.99	0.98

2.5 Based on the successful resolution of the translation service issue and the verified compliant performance of all ten aerodromes, the issue of lower timeliness of IWXXM METARs of Philippine aerodromes identified in November 2025 has been fully resolved.

2.6 Hong Kong, China expresses its sincere appreciation to Thailand and Singapore for their valuable cooperation and support in providing the OPMET monitoring data necessary to complete this verification.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) consider the May 2026 IWXXM METAR timeliness statistics as the latest compliance status for the Philippine aerodromes, which addressed the findings from the November 2025 OPMET monitoring.
