International Civil Aviation Organization

WORKING PAPER

ASIA AND PACIFIC (APAC) TWENTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE WORKING GROUP (MET/IE WG/24)

Nadi, Fiji, 21 to 24 April 2026

Agenda Item 7: Future Work Program and Terms of Reference

INDIA'S PERSPECTIVE ON FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME AND TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR METEOROLOGICAL INFORMATION EXCHANGE IN APAC

(Presented by India Meteorological Department)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the India Meteorological Department (IMD)'s input on the future work programme and the review of the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the MET/IE WG. It highlights priorities including the transition to digital meteorological information exchange using IWXXM, implementation of SWIM, strengthening quality management, capacity building, and ensuring data security. The paper emphasizes the need to update the ToR to address evolving technological requirements, define roles, and establish effective monitoring mechanisms. The meeting is invited to note the information and consider the proposed approach.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The India Meteorological Department (IMD) recognizes the importance of the Meteorological Information Exchange Working Group (MET/IE WG) in facilitating the timely and accurate exchange of meteorological information across the APAC region. With evolving digital technologies, increasing air traffic, and the ongoing adoption of SWIM and IWXXM standards, it is essential to review and enhance the Group's future work programme and Terms of Reference (ToR) to ensure efficiency, interoperability, and data quality.

1.2 This paper presents India's perspective on priority areas for the MET/IE WG, including the ongoing transition to digital meteorological information exchange, strengthening quality management, capacity building, and regional collaboration. While pilot implementations of IWXXM and early SWIM services have commenced, full operationalization across all products and States remains a work in progress. The paper also highlights the need to update the ToR to reflect technological developments, clearly define roles and responsibilities, and establish effective monitoring mechanisms to support safe and efficient aviation operations.

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2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The India Meteorological Department (IMD) recognizes the critical role of the MET/IE

WG in standardizing and enhancing meteorological information exchange across the APAC region. The increasing adoption of digital frameworks such as the ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange Model (IWXXM) and System Wide Information Management (SWIM) requires a coordinated regional approach to ensure interoperability, data consistency, and operational efficiency. Pilot implementations of IWXXM and SWIM-compliant services have already been initiated in India and some other APAC States; however, integration with legacy systems, full operational deployment, and real-time dissemination remain ongoing challenges.

2.2 To address these challenges, the future work programme should prioritize the continued phased transition to IWXXM-based digital products, development of interoperable SWIM services, and enhancement of monitoring mechanisms for data quality and timeliness. Capacity-building initiatives are also critical to equip technical and operational personnel with the skills necessary to implement, validate, and maintain these systems effectively. IMD also emphasizes the need to review and update the Terms of Reference (ToR) to reflect technological advancements, define responsibilities clearly, and provide mechanisms for structured monitoring and reporting. A phased, coordinated approach, combining regional collaboration, technical trials, and continuous evaluation, will strengthen meteorological information exchange in the APAC region and support safe and efficient aviation operations.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

a) Note the information contained in this paper;

b) Consider the proposed priorities for the future work programme; and

c) Review and update the Terms of Reference of the MET/IE WG in line with evolving technological and operational requirements.

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