



Sixth Meeting of CNS/MET Sub-Group of APANPIRG

Bangkok, Thailand, 15 – 19 July 2002

Agenda Item 10a): Review implementation of the ISCS and SADIS

GRIB – BUFR TRAINING

(Presented by the United Kingdom)

SUMMARY

The first training seminar was carried out successfully for West and Central African States in March 2002. It is anticipated that a seminar for users in the ASIA/PAC region will take place towards the end of 2002 in Bangkok. After States have received training in the use of GRIB and BUFR visualisation software, it will become the responsibility of these States to ensure that they have the necessary software to use these data formats in an operational capacity.

1. Introduction

1.1 Conclusion 6/13 from the SADISOPSG tasked the SADIS provider to work with WMO, ASECNA and ICAO in establishing training seminars to enable SADIS users to successfully utilise GRIB and BUFR encoded products.

2. Discussion

2.1 In collaboration with ICAO, state letters have been sent out to ascertain the current requirements that States may have to ensure that they have the ability to receive, decode, visualise and manipulate GRIB and BUFR encoded products. The results that have been received have enabled the SADIS provider to determine which States require training to ensure that they can successfully use the products in an operational capacity, and which venues would be most suitable to ensure maximum participation at training seminars.

2.2 Following considerable assistance from ASECNA in ascertaining the requirements of each SADIS State in West and Central Africa, the first training seminar was carried out in Niamey during March 2002. The event was widely viewed as a success and its format is likely to become the standard for subsequent events in other regions of the world. It is now considered that the training is complete for those States that completed the Niamey training seminar.

2.3 It has been less easy in other regions of the world to establish the training requirements of each State. This has resulted in slower progress being made in establishing dates and venues for the other proposed training seminars. It is now imperative that effort is made to arrange suitable training to serve SADIS users in all the remaining states including the ASIA/PAC region. A second seminar will take place in the AFI region, possibly in South Africa, to ensure all African states who remain untrained and who require training are given the opportunity. Seminars for users in the EUR and MID region have not been proposed at the time of writing, but there is clearly a need for an event in both of these regions. It is anticipated that a seminar for users in the ASIA/PAC region will take place towards the end of 2002 in Bangkok. The joint WMO /Met Office Aviation Seminar has just taken place at the college in Reading, UK. All delegates who attended were given demonstrations

of the new software on two of the software packages to give them hands-on experience of what is commercially available.

2.4 After States have received training in the use of GRIB and BUFR visualisation software, it will become the responsibility of these States to ensure that they have the necessary software to use these data formats in an operational capacity. In fact, SADISOPSG/7 Conclusion 7/13 has tasked ICAO to remind all SADIS users of their responsibility to obtain the latest versions of GRIB and BUFR visualisation software from their software vendor. All of the workstation manufacturers are working towards producing GRIB and BUFR software modules that are fully compliant with the SADIS software functionalities that were stated as essential by SADISOPSG/6. Once full compliance is reached, States should be encouraged to approach their software vendor with a view to purchase.

3. **Action**

3.1 The SADIS provider requests that notice is taken by the group of the responsibility that States have in obtaining up to date GRIB and BUFR visualisation software from their software vendor.
