



International Civil Aviation Organization

Eight Meeting of the Communications/Navigation/Surveillance and Meteorology Sub-Group (CNS/MET SG/8) of APANPIRG

Bangkok, Thailand, 12-16 July 2004

Agenda Item 8: Review of the implementation of WAFS

MORE EFFICIENT OPERATIONAL WAFS

(Presented by China)

SUMMARY

This paper puts forward some proposals for more efficient operational WAFS.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 With the application of WAFS products to the aviation users, especially the users in developing countries, the safety, regularity and efficiency of flight operations were enhanced greatly. The final phase of WAFS will be implemented in July 1, 2005 when the T4 SIGWX charts and Wind/Temperature charts will be replaced by BUFR data and GRIB data respectively in the light of decision of the MET Divisional Meeting in Montreal in SEP 2002. At same time, it is required to decrease WAFS VSAT operational cost by WAFS Users.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 It is proposed that the WAFS VSAT system should be in stable condition for a relative long time to avoid expensive cost of hardware and/or software update to the best ability for the sake of decreasing WAFS VSAT operational cost. It is also proposed that software updating could be completed by patch package, which will be obtained easily via Internet and/or other public communication methods to improve default of software.

2.2 It should be considered that Personal Computer may be used instead of Workstation in WAFS VSAT system for convenient maintenance and decreasing operational cost.

2.3 It is proposed that the special hardware, which is used for communication interface, should be independent of computer in WAFS VSAT system in order that computer maintaining is convenient.

2.4 It is required that BUFR encoding and decoding package should be accessed easily via public communication method, such as internet.

2.5 It is very necessary to reinforce training in WAFS operation, maintenance, GRIB/BUFR encoding and decoding and other applications by WAFS providers and manufacturers in order that WAFS users can use more efficiently operational WAFS products. Especially, the single

and/or several users could obtain training while the application is offered and training cost could be negotiated between training users and training provider.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to agree with the proposals in this paper.
