



International Civil Aviation Organization

**FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS/NAVIGATION/SURVEILLANCE
AND METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP OF
APANPIRG (CNS/MET SG/14)**



Jakarta, Indonesia, 19 – 22 July 2010

Agenda Item 10: Regional Implementation of International Tropical Cyclone Watch (ITCW)

UPDATES ON TROPICAL CYCLONE ADVISORIES AND SIGMET

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper provides updates on Tropical Cyclone Advisories and SIGMET, in particular, those related to Amendment 75 to Annex 3 and extension of WC SIGMET test to the MID Region.

This paper relates to

Strategic Objectives:

- A. Safety – Enhance global civil aviation safety
- D. Efficiency – Enhance the efficiency of aviation operations

Global Plan Initiatives:

- GPI-18 Aeronautical information
- GPI-19 Meteorological Systems

1. Introduction

1.1 Developments with regards to tropical cyclone advisories and SIGMET associated with Amendment 75 to Annex 3 are discussed. In addition, an extension of the WC SIGMET test to the MID Region for the next WC SIGMET test to be conducted 10 November 2010 is discussed.

2. Discussion

2.1 To facilitate the MID MET SG/2 draft Conclusion 2/4 that calls for the inclusion of MID Meteorological Watch Offices (MWOs) who are recipients of tropical cyclone advisories from the Tropical Cyclone Advisory Centre (TCAC) New Delhi to participate in the ASIA/PAC WC SIGMET test. This test will occur on 10 November 2010 at 0200 UTC for the ASIA/PAC Region as determined by the OPMET/M TF/8 meeting (23-25 March 2010, Bangkok). Test Tropical Cyclone Advisories will be disseminated by TCAC New Delhi at 0200 UTC for Meteorological Watch Offices (MWO)s in the ASIA/PAC Region and 0800 UTC on 10 November 2010 for MWOs in the MID Region that receive advisories from TCAC New Delhi. This change was reflected in paragraph 3.2 of Appendix J to the SIGMET Guide amended June 2010. Furthermore, FASID Table MET 3A, Tropical Cyclone Advisory Centres, has been updated (approved amendment proposal APAC 10/6,

March 2010) to include MWOs from the MID Region who are recipients of tropical cyclone advisories from TCAC New Delhi (*italics used to denote MWOs outside the ASIA/PAC Region*). TCAC New Delhi was also informed of the extension of WC SIGMET test at the Thirty-Seventh Session on WMO/Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Panel on Tropical Cyclones (15-19 February, Phuket).

2.2 Amendment 75 to Annex 3 implements tropical cyclone advisories in graphical form that includes the horizontal extent of gale force winds and frequent cumulonimbus (CB) to accommodate the users. The recommended method of dissemination is Portable Network Graphic (PNG) utilizing the Internet (enabling clauses in Amendment 75 to Annex 3). This method of dissemination is in parallel with WAFS SIGWX forecast backup and volcanic ash advisories in graphical form and is noted as cost effective due to the off-the-shelf decoding software available. The use of XML is envisioned in due time. An example of a tropical cyclone advisory in graphical form is given in the **Attachment**.

2.3 Amendment 75 to Annex 3 provides clarity to no-named tropical disturbances that are forecasted to become cyclones as they will be designated as NN (instead of NIL) for both tropical cyclone advisories and SIGMET to avoid confusion by the users. Also note that the forecast time in the second line of the SIGMET message will be included for all SIGMET type messages (which include WC SIGMET). Other changes associated with Amendment 75 to Annex 3 are discussed in Agenda Item 15.

3. Action required by the Meeting

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information in this paper.

CNS/MET SG/14-WP/13
Attachment

