



International Civil Aviation Organization

**EIGHTH MEETING OF THE ASIA/PACIFIC OPMET MANAGEMENT
TASK FORCE (OPMET/M TF/8)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 23 - 25 March 2010

**Agenda Item 3a: Review of regional guidance material on OPMET exchange:
ROBEX Handbook**

REVIEW OF THE UPDATES TO THE METAR AND TAF BANGKOK BULLETINS

(Presented by Thailand)

SUMMARY

This paper provides information on the proposal to update the METAR and TAF of Bangkok bulletins which are collected and disseminated by Bangkok ROBEX centre/RODB Bangkok

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 OPMET/M TF/7 reported that Viet Nam proposed to add a new AOP aerodrome, VVPB (HUE/PHUBAI), as an entry in the FASID Table MET 1A, which enabled the TAF provision to commence by 01 August 2009. In addition, Lao PDR proposed to include four new AOP aerodromes, VLLB (LUANG PRABANG), VLLN (LUANG NAMTHA), VLPS (PAKSE) and VLSK (SAVANNAKHET), to Bangkok TAF bulletin (18-hour TAF with issuance times at 0500/1100/2300UTC).

2. THE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE DATA FROM VIETNAME AND LAO PDR

2.1 Bangkok receives 24-hour TAF, replaced every 18-hour, for two international aerodromes, namely VVNB and VVDN, and 30-hour TAF, replaced every 18-hour, for VVTS international aerodrome. The new 24-hour TAF for the new AOP aerodrome, VVPB, with issuance times at 0500/1100/1700/ 2300 is also received daily since 01 August 2009.

2.2 Bangkok receives H+00 and H+30 METAR from Viet Nam at the new AOP aerodrome ,VVPB, daily since 01 August 2009

2.3 Bangkok does not receive TAF for the four new AOP aerodromes as VLLB, VLLN, VLSK and VLPS from Lao PDR. Real-time monitoring of TAF provision and updates from VLVT confirms that Lao PDR provides the 18-hour TAF 3 times/day with issuance time at 0500/1100 and 2300UTC.

3. PROPOSED METAR AND TAF BULLETINS UPDATES

3.1 Bangkok plans to update METAR and TAF bulletins as follows:

- VVPB will be added in SAAE31, effective on 1 April 2010.
- VVPB will be added in FTAE32, effective on 1 April 2010
- To avoid the Bulletin's low performance index in availability and regularity, Bangkok plans to include VLLB, VLLN, VLSK and VLPS as a member in the Thailand Bulletin when the aerodromes proves that they can send information on a regular basis. In addition, Bangkok RODB will include all Lao PDR's aerodromes including the VLVT in the TAF Bulletin FTAE33. Upon doing so, VLVT will be removed from FTAE31.

3.2 Once VVPB is included in Bangkok METAR and TAF bulletin, METNO message will be issued to inform all RODBs and ROBEX centers, two weeks before the new bulletin will be effective.

3.3 RODB Bangkok continues to monitor the reception and coordinates with Lao PDR for the inclusion of the four new AOP aerodromes (VLLB, VLLN, VLSK and VLPS).

4. ACTION BY THE MEETING

4.1 The meeting is invited to consider the proposed updates to Bangkok bulletins and discuss the procedures of their aerodromes and dissemination.
