



International Civil Aviation Organization

CAR/SAM Regional Planning and Implementation Group (GREPECAS)

**Eighth Meeting of the GREPECAS Aeronautical Meteorology Subgroup
(AERMETSG/8)**

Santiago, Chile, 9 to 13 October 2006

AERMETSG/8 – WP/20

17/09/06

Agenda Item 5: OPMET information exchange in the CAR/SAM Regions

OPMET DATA EXCHANGE

(Presented by IATA)

SUMMARY

Regional and global OPMET data exchange is very important for airlines. In all phases of flight airlines must be informed about actual and forecast weather conditions for a safe operation.

It is essential that States supply OPMET data such as to be available for airlines worldwide. In order to improve the OPMET data exchange it is necessary to coordinate and monitor the communication between States, ICSC and SADIS.

1. Introduction

1.1 OPMET data contain very important safety related information for aircraft operators. It is a basic requirement that OPMET data must be exchanged between States, ICAO regions, ISCS and SADIS.

1.2 Some ICAO regions have recognized a problem in order to fulfill the users' requirements for OPMET data availability, timeliness and reliability.

1.3 In order to solve that problem the responsible ICAO meteorological subgroups have decided to establish a separate group to develop procedures for OPMET data exchange, to monitor implementation of changes and to standardise the regional OPMET databases.

2. Discussion

2.1 Missing OPMET data can cause significant problems in decision making. This will impact both the safety and the economy of flight operation.

2.2 For several years two dedicated OPMET data exchange groups (BMG in EUR and OPMET/TF in ASIAPAC) are working very successfully on the improvement of OPMET data exchange.

2.3 Since the introduction of these groups a significant improvement for OPMET data has occurred in these ICAO regions in terms of availability, timeliness and reliability.

2.4 Due to the efficient work of these groups both ICAO areas now have a very efficient OPMET data exchange network. Duplication on AFTN is significantly reduced and the ICAO regions have dedicated regional OPMET databases for interregional OPMET data exchanges.

2.5 The major tasks of an OPMET group can be described as follows:

- Review the OPMET exchange schemes in the area of responsibility, and develop proposals for their optimization taking into account the requirements by the aviation users and the current trends for global OPMET exchange;
- Develop standardized quality control, monitoring and management procedures related to OPMET exchange;
- Regularly update the regional guidance material related to OPMET exchange;
- Liaise with other groups dealing with communication and/or management aspects of the OPMET exchange in ASIA/PAC and other ICAO Regions (ASIA/PAC ATN Transition Implementation Coordination TF, BMG EUR Region, CNS/MET SG MID Region, etc.).

2.6 In view of a global availability of OPMET data for airline users, ISCS and SADIS are very helpful communication means. Broadcasting OPMET data via satellites is very efficient and allows users to have only one official source for OPMET data.

2.7 Broadcasting OPMET data requires that all available OPMET data must be sent directly to the uplink stations. In order to fulfil this requirement a subgroup dealing with regional and interregional OPMET exchange would be very helpful for implementation of procedures, monitoring and quality control.

2.8 The group may wish to formulate the following conclusion:

DRAFT
CONCLUSION 8/XX OPMET DATA EXCHANGE

That ICAO be invited

- a) to decide on the introduction of a new subgroup dealing with all OPMET data issues, and
- b) to consider the work, which has already been done by similar groups in other ICAO regions, as a basis for the new group, and
- c) to cooperate and collaborate with the groups in other ICAO regions in order to achieve a global improvement, and
- d) to note that IATA requests that all available OPMET data from the CARSAM region shall be distributed on both ISCS and SADIS.

3. **Action by AERMETSG**

3.1 AERMETSG is invited:

- a) to note the contents of the working paper; and
- b) to decide on the draft conclusion proposed for the group's consideration.

- END -