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**Agenda Item 5: Exchange of OPMET information**

**TEST BED FOR 30-HR AERODROME FORECAST**

(Presented by United States of America)

**Summary**

This paper presents an overview of the United State's preparation to implement the 30 hour TAF.

**1. Introduction**

1.1 With the addition of amendment 74 to Annex 3, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) made provisions for a 30 hour TAF. This was in response to requirements by long haul operations to provide better service. The United States is providing a website to allow all users to become familiar with the new TAF code format. This paper provides information on accessing the web page, and giving vendors and users an opportunity to test their systems appropriately.

**2. Discussion**

2.1 At the fourth meeting of World Area Forecast System Operations Group (WAFSOPSG) the United States and several other attending States agreed to populate a website with training material and sample 30 hour TAFs. The goal is to provide users an opportunity to begin testing TAFs from as many countries as possible, as early as possible.

2.2 In addition it was noted at the WAFSOPSG, that States are encouraged to begin early coordination on matters that relate to changes in the Annex for the provision of services. The earlier the coordination is put into place then there is higher likely of a successful transition to new capabilities.

2.3 In the spirit of that discussion, the United States is providing sample 30 hour TAFs, and basic training at the following link...[http://www.weather.gov/os/aviation/taf\\_testbed.shtml](http://www.weather.gov/os/aviation/taf_testbed.shtml).

2.4 This website is updated with ideas and suggestion from contributing States. Members of this meeting are invited to forward sample 30 hour TAFs from their State for inclusion to this site. In

