



International Civil Aviation Organization

INFORMATION PAPER

**TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP
(MET SG/20) OF THE ASIA/PACIFIC AIR NAVIGATION PLANNING
AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP (APANPIRG)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 6 – 9 June 2016

Agenda Item 6.2: Data Exchange

STATUS AND PLANS FOR IWXXM in NEW ZEALAND

(Presented by New Zealand)

SUMMARY

This paper presents an update on New Zealand's status and plans for the implementation of XML-based OPMET using the ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange Model (IWXXM).

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The forthcoming Amendment 77 to Annex 3 recommends the international exchange of XML formatted METAR/SPECI, TAF, AIRMET, SIGMET, VAA and TCA from November 2016.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Generation of OPMET in IWXXM

2.1.1 New Zealand's Meteorological Service Provider (MetService) is investigating the translation from Traditional Alphanumeric Codes (TAC) to IWXXM, with the intention that this could become operational during 2017. When IWXXM is translated from TAC, there is potential to omit information, so MetService will follow up the translation project with another investigation into the feasibility of generating IWXXM as close to the raw OPMET data as possible.

2.2 Consumption and use of IWXXM

2.2.1 At present most of the users of OPMET in New Zealand can only cope with TAC. If a IWXXM message does not have a corresponding TAC message then the software mentioned above will translate the IWXXM to TAC. That is understood to be an interim situation however, so in line with international SWIM objectives, work has started on changing New Zealand systems to be able to ingest IWXXM directly.

2.3 International Exchange of IWXXM

2.3.1 New Zealand has the capability to send binary messages such as IWXXM via extended AMHS, but those circuits are not yet configured. The plan is for a NZ/USA AMHS circuit to be operational from mid 2016. However the practical difficulty is that the majority of domestic circuits are still only AFTN, so AMHS/IWXXM messages will be rejected when transferring to AFTN.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

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