



ICAO

**AFI Workshop on the Availability of OPMET data**  
**Virtual meeting, ICAO ESAF and WACAF Regions, 21 June 2021**  
**Concept Note**

## **1. Context**

- 1.1. Aeronautical meteorological information consists of operational meteorological (OPMET) information and the WAFS upper wind, humidity and temperature and significant weather forecasts and alphanumeric messages.
- 1.2. The OPMET messages consist of tropical cyclone advisories, volcanic ash advisories, aerodrome routine meteorological reports (METAR), aerodrome special meteorological reports (SPECI), special air-reports (AIREP), aerodrome forecasts (TAF), GAMET area forecasts, and SIGMET and AIRMET information.
- 1.3. The telecommunication facilities used for the international exchange of OPMET information should be aeronautical fixed service (AFS), in accordance with Annex 3 — Meteorological Service for International Air Navigation and the regional air navigation plan (ANP), Part III — Communications, Navigation and Surveillance and Part V — Meteorology.
- 1.4. Operational meteorological (OPMET) information is provided in support of flexible airspace management, improved situational awareness, collaborative decision-making and dynamically optimized flight trajectory planning.
- 1.5. The lack of provision of OPMET information to users as required by the ICAO SARPs and the provisions of AFI eANP, will contribute to safety issues for airspace users. Unfortunately, aviation users raised recurrent concerns about the availability, delay and quality of OPMET data, specifically, SIGMET.
- 1.6. An analysis of the subject revealed that the lack of OPMET information is due to several causes, which include but are not limited to- the telecommunication facilities, OPMET messages and OPMET bulletins that do not conform to ICAO Annex 10 messages format, etc.
- 1.7. This one-day workshop is a forum for the Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to exchange, share experiences, and identify challenges and suitable actions. It will include developing an action plan to address these in order to decrease the rate of missing OPMET data in the AFI Region.

## **2. Objectives of the meeting**

- 2.1. To present the operational meteorological data deficiencies and their impacts on aviation operations
- 2.2. To share cases studies on the issues related to OPMET Data
- 2.3. To provide a platform for identifying the root causes pertaining to the inadequacies in OPMET

data and formulating remedial actions, through a carefully crafted plan of action

### **3. Expected outcomes**

- 3.1. Identification of the operational meteorological data deficiencies and their impacts on aviation.
- 3.2. Provision of information to participants on the aviation safety risks related to inadequacies of OPMET data
- 3.3. Identification of the root causes of the missing of OPMET data and determination of remedial actions.

### **4. Potential Audience**

- 4.1. The meeting is intended for MET and CNS SMEs in order allow complementary discussions on the preparation, issuance and dissemination of the OPMET data at the airports.

### **5. Format of the meeting**

- 5.1. The meeting will consist of presentations, discussions and sharing of experience and best practices.
- 5.2. Participating States and Organizations will provide the meeting with cases studies regarding the missing OPMET data encountered and how it was addressed.
- 5.3. Each case study will outline the issues and is to be complemented by a proposal of conclusions and actions to address the OPMET data concerns.

### **6. Lead experts /Organizations**

- RODB Dakar
- RODB Pretoria
- BCC Addis Ababa
- BCC Antananarivo
- BCC Brazzaville
- BCC Dakar
- BCC Nairobi
- BCC Niamey
- BCC Pretoria
- ASECNA

### **7. Provisional Agenda**

The draft work programme is provided in Attachment A.



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## Attachment A

### Meeting on Missing OPMET Data

(Virtual, ESAF & WACAF Regions, 21 June 2021)

#### Agenda

Time in UTC	Agenda items
<b>09h00-</b>	<b>Item I: Opening remarks and Overview on the availability of OPMET data in AFI Region</b>
09h00 - 09h15	<b>Welcoming and Opening remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Speaker(s) : RDs, (ICAO ESAF and WACAF Offices); WMO Representative</i></li> </ul>
09h15 -09h20	<b>Overview on the availability of OPMET data in AFI Region</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>This item will provide an overview on OPMET data availability in the AFI Region.</i></li> <li>• <i>Speaker(s) : ICAO</i></li> </ul>
	<b>Item II: Case Studies on the OPMET data</b>
09h20 – 09h50	<b>Case studies – RODBs Dakar and Pretoria</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Under this item, RODBs Dakar and Pretoria will present Case Studies on the challenges encountered in the AFI region. These case studies will include proposals of identified remedial actions to address the issues related to OPMET data.</i></li> <li>• <i>Speaker(s) : RODBs Dakar and Pretoria</i></li> </ul>
09h50 – 10h30	<b>Case study – BCCs States</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Under this item, BCCs States will present cases studies that carry out the issues and challenges encountered in their daily duties. These case studies will include proposals of identified remedial actions to address the challenges.</i></li> </ul> <i>Speaker(s) : BCCs States</i>
10h30 -10h35	<b>Break</b>
	<b>Item III : Case Studies on the OPMET data and Action Plan</b>
10h35 -11h45	<b>Cases studies – BCCs and NOCs States</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>BCCs and NOCs States will provide case studies that outline OPMET data issues they face and then propose actions to address them.</i></li> <li>• <i>Speaker(s) : BCCs and NOCs States</i></li> <li>•</li> </ul>
11h30 -11h45	<b>Action Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Under this item, the participants will develop an appropriate Regional action plan to address the identified issues.</i></li> </ul> <i>Speaker(s) : One State will be chosen to moderate the development of the Action Plan</i>
11h45 – 12h00	<b>Closure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Speaker(s) : RDs, ICAO ESAF and WACAF Offices, WMO Representative</i></li> </ul>