Summary of MID Bulletin Management Group - Third meeting (BMG/3)

24 June 2013, Cairo

The meeting was attended by Bahrain, Egypt, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and ICAO to address issues related to OPMET exchange in the MID Region and inter-regionally.

OPMET Deficiencies

Monitoring of OPMET provided in the MID Region by Regional OPMET Centre (ROC) Vienna indicated that significant improvements in OPMET availability and exchange in the MID Region has occurred since December 2011. Deficiencies in OPMET availability, format and exchange were identified and summarized by issues and States in **Appendix A**. Given the above, the MET SG/4 may consider the following draft Conclusion.

Draft Conclusion 4/xx: OPMET Deficiencies in the MID Region

That, States be urged to remedy the OPMET deficiencies as detailed in **Appendix A**.

SIGMET tests and guidance

SIGMET tests in February 2013 revealed a significant improvement in participation (eight States: Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Oman) for WS SIGMET test. Participation remained low for the SIGMET test on volcanic ash (Egypt only), and the group encouraged to participate in the planned tests in the future (WS SIGMET test occurs on the first Wednesday of February and September – WV SIGMET test occurs on the first Thursday of February and September – WC SIGMET test occurs in November of each year and the date is determined in the APAC Region but will be conveyed at least two months in advance).

With reference to the MID SIGMET Guide, Bahrain confirmed the WMO Abbreviated Header Line (AHL) for all SIGMET types (the guide will be updated accordingly). ICAO will request the WMO AHL for SIGMET from Syria, Lebanon and Iraq. The group also requested that the DRAFT watermark be removed from the posted MID SIGMET Guide.

Regional OPMET Centre (ROC)

With reference to establishing a Regional OPMET Centre (ROC) in the MID Region for improving the intra- and inter-regional exchange of OPMET, the group recommended that Saudi Arabia host a ROC on behalf of the MID Region. The group made this recommendation based on current capabilities, communications and regular attendance to ICAO MET meetings. The group also noted that another State could be selected for a backup ROC and would be considered at the BMG/4 meeting that may be held in December 2013 in Jeddah (before or during the MIDANPIRG/14 meeting). The group emphasized the importance for all States in the MID Region to cooperate with the selected ROC (pending endorsement of MIDANPIRG/14).

Given the above, the MET SG/4 may consider the following draft Conclusion.

Draft Conclusion 4/xx: Establishment of MID Regional OPMET Centre

That,

a) a MID Regional OPMET Centre (ROC) be developed by Saudi Arabia on behalf of the MID Region to improve the regional and inter-regional OPMET efficiency by following the requirements detailed in **Appendix B** of WP/05 of MET SG/4; and

b) a backup ROC in the MID Region be considered and a recommendation be provided at the BMG/4 meeting; and

c) States in the MID Region are encouraged to continue cooperation in the exchange of OPMET data in the Region.

Cost recovery questions related to the services provided by a ROC would be addressed. ICAO would ask ROCs in other Regions how they support their services through cost recovery.

MID RANP - MET

The MID Regional Air Navigation Plan was reviewed by the group. Qatar confirmed that 30-hour TAF, full time OPMET availability, and trend availability for OTHH. A note indicating that the aerodrome was scheduled for opening at the end of 2013 would be included.

Saudi Arabia would confirm whether or not FASID Table MET 2C, Exchange of Operational Meteorological Information during the Pilgrimage Season, is still being used.

BMG ToRs

The group considered the possibility of including a link to the new implementation methodology, aviation system block upgrade (ASBU), in the terms of reference of the BMG. This would be done with at least one key performance indicator relating to OPMET information since the implementation of OPMET per requirements is a component of ASBU Block-0 (B0-105 of MET).

KPI-OPMET: 95% availability of required OPMET (METAR and TAF) as required in MID FASID Table MET 1A

The group would consider this further at the MET SG/4 meeting. The group concluded at 1230 on 24 June 2013.

APPENDIX A

Table – OPMET issues by State – and corrective action in blue via State Letter

Issue\State	Bahrain	Egypt	Iran	Iraq	Jordan	Kuwait	Lebanon	Oman	Qatar	Saudi	Syria	UAE	Yemen
Incorrect addressing MID-EUR Use : LOZZMMID				SL – FTIQ01ORBI FTIQ01 ORSU SAIQ01 ORBI SPIQ01 ORBI be sent to LOZZMMID (not LOWWYMYX)						SL – FTAR20 OEJD and SASD31 OEJD be sent to LOZZMMID (not LOWWYBYX)	SL – FTSY31 OSDI SASY31 OSDI be sent to LOZZMMID (not LOWMYBYX) SISY20 OSDI SMSY01 OSDI Discontinue AFTN transmission to LOWMYBYX	SL – WSAE10 OMAA be sent to LOZZMMID (not LOWWYMYX) USER10 OMAA UKER10 OMAA ULER10 OMAA UEER10 OMAA Discontinue AFTN transmission to LOWWYMYX	
OPMET sent to Denmark should cease											SL – discontinue sending OPMET data to Denmark (EKCHYMYX or EKZZMOMO)		
Double bulletins	SL- send OBBIYPYX only				SL- SMJD01 discontinue AFTN transmission		SL- OLLL (Beirut – Main Communication Centre) discontinue all duplications in App B			SL- OEJD discontinue sending FTSY31 FTYE21 SAME31			

Issue\State	Bahrain	Egypt	Iran	Iraq	Jordan	Kuwait	Lebanon	Oman	Qatar	Saudi	Syria	UAE	Yemen
Double reports	e.g. METAR for one location in more than one bulletin or TAF for one location in more than one bulletin – should be addressed by ROC when selected (can work with ICAO and ROC Vienna)												
Incorrect bulletin format	SL – WMO AHL for TAF RTD - time to be corrected												
Requirements – FASID Table MET 2A		Egypt to inform ICAO to discontinue OPMET requirements for HEOW (HEAZ is already proposed to be removed from FASID Table MET 1A)		SL – ORSU OPMET data required						Saudi Arabia to inform ICAO to discontinue OPMET requirements for OEJB	SL – OSAP OPMET data required		

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