International Civil Aviation Organization

MIDANPIRG Meteorology Sub-Group
Eighth Meeting (MET SG/8)

(Cairo, Egypt, 1-3 July 2019)

Agenda Item 4.3: Review of Requirements for OPMET Data and Status of Implementation of a Regional OPMET Centre (ROC) Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain as well as IWXXM Implementation

RESULTS OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE ON IWXXM IMPLEMENTATION

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper will provide results of the Questionnaire on the ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange Model (IWXXM) Implementation as well as inform the meeting of the new guidance material to assist in IWXXM implementation.

Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The meeting will recall that, as a follow-up to the MET SG Draft Conclusion 7/1, an IWXXM survey was conducted on 10 April 2018 (State letter Ref.: ME3/2.3 – 18/114 refers), in order to gather and analyse information on States' action plans for IWXXM implementation.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 Replies have so far been received from five (5) States (Egypt, Jordan, Libya, Oman and Sudan) as provided at **Appendix A**. Consequently, the MIDANPIRG/17 RASG-MID/7 urged States, that have not yet done so, to complete the IWXXM survey and provide their feedback to the ICAO MID Office as soon as possible in order to gather and analyse information on States' action plans for IWXXM implementation by the MID MET SG/8 meeting.

2.2 Furthermore, to assist in IWXXM implementation, MIDANPIRG/17 RASG-MID/7 Conclusion 17/39 endorsed the *Guidelines for the Implementation of OPMET data exchange using IWXXM* as ICAO MID Doc 012. This guidance was developed to:

- define the purpose of transiting to IWXXM;
- describe current operations and capabilities, including the definition of data producers, National OPMET Centres, Regional OPMET Centres and Interregional OPMET Gateways;
- describe the changes required;
- propose the service concept including specifying the Operating Principles and making recommendations;
- elaborate on functional requirements in the form of a Framework; and
- define the requirements for successful transition, in three proposed phases.

2.3 The meeting may wish to recall that the Terms of Reference of the MID OPMET Bulletin Management Group (BMG) was updated as provided at **Appendix B** to account for the implementation of IWXXM as well as ROC duties (MIDANPIRG Decision 17/42 refers).

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

a) note the contents in this paper;

b) urge States, that have not yet done so, to complete the IWXXM survey and provide their feedback to the ICAO MID Office; and

c) encourage States to utilize ICAO MID Doc 012 - *Guidelines for the Implementation of OPMET data exchange using IWXXM* when implementing IWXXM.

APPENDIX A
IWXXM Implementation Survey Results

Question\ State	Bahrain	Egypt	Iran	Iraq	Jordan	Kuwait	Lebanon	Libya	Oman	Qatar	Saudi Arabia	Sudan	Syria	UAE	Yemen
1 AFS COM ATSMHS includes FTBP		Yes			Yes			Plan when CAA upgrades their system	Plan No Date			No			
2 AMHS direct connect AFS COM-ROC Jeddah		Yes			Yes			Yes	Plan No Coord			Yes			
3 MET switch Suppose exchange IWXXM MET mssg Extended ATSMHS including FTBP		Plan 2018-2020			No			Plan Planning to connect the MET-Switch System with the COM-Centre	Plan End of 2018			No			
4 National OPMET data in IWXXM		Plan 2018-2020			Yes			Yes 2019	Plan No Date			No			
5 Rx OPMET data in IWXXM		Plan 2018-2020			Plan 2019			Plan When CAA upgrades their AFTN Circuit to the AMHS	Plan No Date			No			

Question\ State	Bahrain	Egypt	Iran	Iraq	Jordan	Kuwait	Lebanon	Libya	Oman	Qatar	Saudi Arabia	Sudan	Syria	UAE	Yemen
6 Need of assistance in IWXXM impl		No			Yes Training			Yes Guidance	Yes Training			Yes Work-shop			
Comments								On how to implement the IWXXM with the RTH Centres	We are waiting for the dates from our software supplier			We need help to complete the transition to IWXXM Government stopped funding for this implementation			

Questions for reference:

1. Does your AFS COM-Centre plan to implement a subset of the extended Air Traffic Services Message Handling Services (ATSMHS) that includes File Transfer Body Parts (FTBP) which is required for the exchange of IWXXM messages?

2. Do you intend to establish a direct ATS Message Handling System (AMHS)-connection between your AFS COM-Centre and AFS COM-Centre of your associated Regional OPMET Centre (ROC Jeddah)?

3. Does your MET-Switch system support the exchange of IWXXM MET-messages by means of a sub-set of extended ATSMHS including File Transfer Body Parts?

4. Do you plan to provide your national OPMET data in IWXXM format?

5. Do you plan to receive OPMET data in IWXXM format?

6. Do you need any kind of assistance for IWXXM implementation?

APPENDIX B

Terms of Reference of the MID OPMET Bulletin Management Group

(OPMET BMG)

1. Terms of Reference

a. Support Regional OPMET Centre (ROC) Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain in the exchange of routine and non-routine OPMET data; OPMET bulletin updates; monitoring and management procedures; and implementation of IWXXM.

~~b. Review the OPMET exchange schemes to the MID Region and develop proposals for their optimization taking into account the current trends in the global OPMET exchange;~~

~~c. Develop monitoring and management procedures related to the ROBEX exchange and other exchanges of OPMET information;~~

d. Keep up-to-date the regional guidance material related to OPMET exchange;

e. Develop capabilities to support the ICAO Meteorological Exchange Model (IWXXM);

f. Develop key performance indicators for OPMET and keep under review;

g. Liaise with similar groups in the adjacent ICAO Regions in order to ensure harmonized and seamless OPMET exchange; and

h. The group will report to the MET Sub-Group of MIDANPIRG.

2. Work Programme

The work to be addressed by the MID OPMET BMG includes:

a. Supporting ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain by:

i. Providing ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain required routine OPMET data as per eANP, Volume II, Table MET II-2 for transmission to other Regions and to SADIS;

ii. Providing ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain non-routine OPMET data: SIGMET as per eANP, Volume II, Table MET II-1 as well as special air-reports for transmission to other Regions and to SADIS;

iii. Requesting ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain of necessary OPMET data from other Regions in order to support flight operations;

iv. Providing ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain OPMET bulletin changes, when necessary, for implementation on AIRAC cycle;

v. Supporting ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain on the development of monitoring and management procedures related to ROBEX exchange; and

vi. Coordinating with ROC Jeddah and back-up ROC Bahrain on the exchange of OPMET data using ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange Model (IWXXM).

b. Examine the existing requirements and any new requirements for the OPMET exchange in MID region and to assess the feasibility of satisfying these requirements, taking into account the availability of the data;

~~c. Review the ROBEX scheme and other OPMET exchange schemes and prepare proposal for updating and optimizing of the schemes;~~

~~d. Review and update the procedures for interregional exchange and for transmission of the regional OPMET data to SADIS;~~

e. Review and amend the regional guidance materials on the OPMET exchange and include procedures for the exchange of all required OPMET message types: SA, SP, FC, FT WS, WC, WV, FK, FV, UA, WA, FN (IWXXM: LA, LP, LC, LT, LS, LY, LV, LK, LV, *special air-reports not defined yet*, LW, LN);

f. Develop procedures for monitoring and management of the OPMET information, based on similar procedures used in the EUR and APAC Regions; and

g. Support ~~MARIE-PT or any subsequent governance group appointed by ICAO~~ the Information Management Panel and MET Panel Working Group on Meteorological Information Exchange (WG-MIE) in Regional implementation of IWXXM within MID. The initial implementation emphasis will be placed on States hosting ROCs/RODBs. Progress report to be provided to MID MET SG;

h. Use results from monitoring to measure OPMET (METAR and TAF) availability in MID Region against the required data listed in ~~FASID Table MET 1A~~ Table MET II-2, *Aerodrome Meteorological Offices*, of the MID Air Navigation Plan to support key performance index for OPMET component of ~~BO-MET~~ B0-AMET of the ~~new~~ implementation methodology called Aviation System Block Upgrade (ASBU) and keep under review; and

i. Provide regular progress reports to MET SG meetings.

3. Composition

a. The OPMET/BMG is composed of Bahrain (Back-up ROC), Egypt, Iran, Kuwait (co-rapporteur), Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia (co-rapporteur, ROC) and United Arab Emirates; and

b. Experts from the EUR ~~BMG~~ DMG, the VAAC Toulouse, APAC OPMET/M Task force and IATA are invited to participate in the work of the MID OPMET BMG.

4. Working Arrangements

It is expected that most of the work of the group will be conducted via correspondence by fax, e-mail or telephone. The group should establish a network of OPMET focal points at all MID COM/MET Centres dealing with OPMET data. When necessary, the Rapporteur, in coordination with the Regional Office, Cairo, will call teleconferences or meetings to discuss important issues.

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