



## International Civil Aviation Organization

### **AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP (APIRG) METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP EIGHTH MEETING**

(Nairobi, Kenya, 25-27 June 2007)

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#### **Agenda Item 4: AFI Meteorological Bulletin Exchange (AMBEX) Scheme**

Updating of the AMBEX Handbook

*(Presented by Secretariat)*

#### **SUMMARY**

The paper contains information that should be included in the AMBEX Handbook. The establishment of the Regional OPMET Data Banks (RODBs) at Dakar and Pretoria and SIGMET requirements are to be reflected in the Handbook.

#### **1. Introduction**

1.1 The MET Sub-Group is entrusted to the review and update the AMBEX Handbook as and when necessary. Regional OPMET Data Banks (RODBs) of Dakar and Pretoria have been established and require to be reflected in the Handbook. Preparation and dissemination of SIGMET is critical to aircraft operations, in this regard elaborate communications procedures including their format is important for their efficient exchange.

#### **2. Discussion**

2.1 Since the RODBs have been established it is important to reflect their role in the exchange of OPMET information in the AMBEX Handbook.

2.2 Equally important is the need to reflect how SIGMET information is exchanged in the region. It is recalled that SIGMET information is critical weather information for aircraft in flight and such it should be distributed to other ICAO regions and made available for uplink through the SADIS.

2.3 The meeting is invited to review the text for inclusion in the Handbook to reflect the responsibilities of the recently established RODBs and the SIGMET requirements. The Sub-group may wish to make the following decision.

**Decision 8/... Inclusion of Regional OPMET Data Banks and SIGMET requirements in the AMBEX Handbook**

**That:**

- a) The operations of the AFI Regional OPMET Data Banks and SIGMET requirements be reflected in the AMBEX Handbook as per the text at the Attachment.**

**3. Action by the Meeting**

3.1 The meeting invited to:

- a) Note the information in this paper; and
- b) Approve the inclusion of the text at the **Attachment** in the AMBEX Handbook to reflect the operations of the RODBs and requirements for SIGMET information.

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**WMO HEADING FOR SIGMET BULLETINS USED BY AFI  
METEOROLOGICAL WATCH OFFICES (MWOs)**

EXPLANATION OF THE TABLE

- Col 1: State and name of the MWO
- Col 2: ICAO location indicator of the MWO
- Col 3: TTAAii group of the WMO leading for the WS SIGMET bulletin
- Col 4: TTAAii group of the WMO heading for the WC SIGMET bulletin  
(tropical cyclone)
- Col 5: TTAAii group of the WMO heading for the WV SIGMET bulletin  
(volcanic ash)
- Col 6: ICAO location indicator of the FIR/CTA served by the MWO
- Col 7: Remarks

**WMO Headings for SIGMET Bulletins used by AFI Meteorological Watch Offices**

MWO Location	ICAO location indicator	WMO SIGMET Headings			FIR/ACC served	Remarks
		WS	WC	WV	ICAO location indicator	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>ALGERIA</b> ALGER/Baraki	DAAL	WSAL31			DAAA	
<b>ANGOLA</b> LUANDA/4 de Fevereiro	FNLV	WSAN31			FNAN	
<b>BOTSWANA</b> GABORONE/Sir Seretse Khama	FBSK	WSBC31	WCBC31		FBGR	
<b>BURUNDI</b> BUJUMBURA/Bujumbura	HBBA	WSBI31			HBBA	
<b>CANARY ISLANDS (Spain)</b> GRAN CANARIA/Gran Canary, Canary I	GCLP	WSCR31			GCCC	
<b>CAPE VERDE</b> SAL I/Amilcar Cabral	GVAC	WSCV31			GVSC	
<b>CHAD</b> N'DJAMENA/N'djamena	FTTJ	WSCD31			FTTT	

MWO Location	ICAO location indicator	WMO SIGMET Headings			FIR/ACC served	Remarks
		WS	WC	WV		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>CONGO</b> BRAZZAVILLE/Maya-Maya	FCBB	WSCG31	WCGG31	WVCG31	FCCC	
<b>D.R. CONGO</b> KINSHASA/N'Djili	FZAA	WS----		WV---	FZAA	
<b>EGYPT</b> CAIRO/Cairo International	HECA	WSEG31	WCEG31	WVEG31	HECC	
<b>ETHIOPIA</b> ADDIS ABABA/Bole Intl	HAAB	WSET31	WCEG31	WVET20	HAAA	
<b>ERITREA</b> ASMARA	HHAS	----	----	WV----	HHAA	
<b>GHANA</b> ACCRA/Kotoka Int'l	DGAA	WSGH31	WCH31	WVGH31	DGAC	
<b>KENYA</b> KENYA/Jomo Kenyatta Int'l	HKJK	WSKN31	WCKN31	WVKN31	HKNA	
<b>LIBERIA</b> MONROVIA/Roberts Int'l	GLRB	WSLI31	WCLI31	WVSL31	GLRB	
<b>LIBYAN ARAB</b> <b>JAMAHIRIYA</b> TRIPOLI/Tripoli Int'l	HLLT	WSLY31	WCLY31	WVLY31	HLLL	

MWO Location	ICAO location indicator	WMO SIGMET Headings			FIR/ACC served	Remarks
		WS	WC	WV		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>MADAGASCAR</b> ANTANANARIVO/Ivato	FMMI	WSMG31	WCMG20	WVMG20	FMMM	
<b>MALAWI</b> LILONGWE/Lilongwe Int'l	FWLI	WSMW31	WCMG31	WVLI31	FWLL	
<b>MAURITIUS</b> MAURITIUS/Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Int'l	FIMP	WSMA31	WCMG20	WVMA31	FIMM	
<b>MOROCCO</b> CASABLANCA/Anfa	GMMC	WSMC31		WVMC31	GMMM	
<b>MOZAMBIQUE</b> MAPUTO/Maputo Int'l	FQMA	WSMZ31	WCMZ20	WVMZ31	FQBE	
<b>NAMIBIA</b> WINDHOEK/Hosea Kutako	FYWH	WSNM31		WVNM31	FYWH	
<b>NIGER</b> NIAMEY/Diori Hmani Int'l	DRRN	WSNR31		WVNR31	DRRR	
<b>NIGERIA</b> KANO/Mallam Aminu Kano Int'l	KNKN	WSNI31			DNKK	
<b>RWANDA</b> KIGALI/Gregoire Kayibanda	HRYR	WSRW31		WVRW31	HRYR	
<b>SENEGAL</b> Leopold Sedar Senghor	GOOY	WSWG31		WVWG31	GOOO	
<b>SEYCHELLES</b> MAYE/Seychelles Int'l	FSIA	WSSC31	WCSC20	WVSC31	FSSS	

MWO Location	ICAO location indicator	WMO SIGMET Headings			FIR/ACC served	Remarks
		WS	WC	WV		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<b>SOMALIA</b> MOGADISHU/Mogadishu	HCMM	WSSI31		WVSI31	HCSM	
<b>SOUTH AFRICA</b> JOHANNESBURG/Johannesburg	FAIS	WSZA31	WCZA31	WVZA31	FACI FAJO FAJS	
<b>SUDAN</b> KHARTOUM/Khartoum	HSSS	WSSU31		WVSU31	HSSS	
<b>TUNISIA</b> TUNIS/Carthage	DTTA	WSTS31		WVTS31	DTTC	
<b>UGANDA</b> ENTEBBE/Entebbe Int'l	HUEN	WSUG31		WVUG31	HUEC	
<b>UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA</b> DAR-ES-SALAAM/Dar-es-Salaam	HTDA	WSTN31		WVTN31	HUEC	
<b>ZAMBIA</b> LUSAKA/Lusaka Int'l	FLLS	SWZB31		WVZB31	FLFI	
<b>ZIMBABWE</b> HARARE/Harare	FVHA	WSZW31	WCZW31	WVZW31	FVHA	

## AMBEX HANDBOOK

... text for insertion

### REGIONAL OPMET DATA BANKS (RODBs)

The AFI Regional OPMET Data Banks (RODBs) and the AFTN address to be used for direct access to the banks are shown below:

RODB	AFTN Address	AMBEX Centres of Responsibility
Dakar	GOOOZYX	Alger/DAMM Brazzaville/FCBB Casablanca/GMM Dakar/GOOO Niamey/DRNN
Pretoria	FAPRYZYX	Addis Ababa/HAAB Antananarivo/FMMI Cairo/HECA Johannesburg (FAPR)** Nairobi/HKNA ** TCC located at South African Weather Service HQ.

#### Responsibilities:

1. Collect OPMET bulletins from AMBEX centres in the area of responsibility and store them in the data base.
2. Handle all types of OPMET bulletins.
3. Provide facilities for "request-reply" service to authorized users.
4. Maintain a catalogue of bulletins and introduce changes to the bulletins when necessary according to established procedures.
5. Quality control the incoming bulletings and inform AMBEX centres on any deficiencies.
6. Monitor the OPMET traffic by carrying on regular test on the availability and timeliness of the bulletins; report to the ICAO Regional Office on the results.

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## **AMBEX HANDBOOK**

..... text for insertion

### **EXCHANGE OF SIGMET AND ADVISORIES**

1.1 SIGMET should be prepared by the meteorological watch offices (MWO) designated by the State's meteorological authority. The MWOs and their areas of responsibility are given in the FASID Table MET 1B of AFI ANP.

1.2 SIGMET should be distributed to the two RODBs, either directly or through the responsible AMBEX centre. The RODBs should make SIGMET messages available on request. In order to facilitate that, the originating MWOs, should use fixed WMO headings for their SIGMET bulletins as given in Appendix ...

1.3 SIGMET messages should be distributed to other ICAO regions and made available for uplink through SADIS. This distribution should be carried out through the relevant Inter-regional OPMET Gateways (IROGs).

1.4 Detailed information on the format of the SIGMET messages is provided in the AFI Regional SIGMET Guide, Seventh edition, 2004.

1.5 Tropical Cyclone Advisories (TCAs) and volcanic ash advisories (VAAs) should be issued by the designated tropical cyclone and volcanic ash advisory centres (TCAC and VAAC), as indicated in the FASID Table MET 3A and MET 3B.

1.6 The TCACs and VAACs should send the advisories to the RODBs. The RODBs should make TCAs and VAAs messages available on request. In order to facilitate that, the originating TCACs and VAACs should use fixed WMO headings for their TCA and VAA bulletins as given in Appendix ...

1.7 VAA and TCA messages should be distributed to other ICAO regions and made available for uplink through SADIS. This distribution should be carried out either directly by the VAACs and TCACs or through the relevant Inter-regional OPMET Gateway (IROG).

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