



International Civil Aviation Organization

**AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP (APIRG)
EIGHTH MEETING OF THE METEOROLOGY SUB GROUP (METSG/8)**

(Nairobi, Kenya, 25 – 27 Jun 2007)

Agenda Item 2 : WAFS in the AFI Region

Status of the implementation of the WAFS in the AFI Region

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents a status of implementation in the AFI Region of the WAFS in particular the Satellite Distribution System (SADIS) provided by the United Kingdom as an integral part of the ICAO aeronautical fixed service (AFS). It describes the follow-up action required for the SADISOPSG/11 Meeting.

References: Report of AFI/7 RAN Meeting, 1997
Reports of APIRG/13-14 – 15 Meetings
report of WAFSOPSG/3
Reports of SADISOPSG/11
Annex 3

1. Introduction

1.1 It should be noted that the Satellite Distribution System for information relating to air navigation (SADIS) provided by the United Kingdom, as an integral part of the ICAO is completely operational and the SADIS broadcasts covers entirely the AFI Region.

1.2 SADIS provides to the users, at a lower cost standardised and high quality WAFS products and OPMET data such as METAR, TAF, SIGMET and volcanic ashes and tropical cyclones advisories used by the meteorological centres, airline operators, the crew members and other aeronautical users.

2. Discussions

2.1 Review of the WAFSOPSG/3 meeting report

2.1.1 The WAFSOPSG/3 meeting held in Paris, France from 26 to 29 September 2006, proposed amendments to render the regional procedures related to the WAFS, compatible with Annex 3 - *Meteorological Service for International Air Navigation* provisions, by eliminating the formal requirement for significant (SIGWX) forecasts in T4 chart form. In view of the continuation of the provision of

SIGWX forecasts in the PNG charts form, as a back-up, it was agreed that this should be reflected in the regional procedures.

2.1.2 The MET/SG is thus invited to review the draft amendment in Tables MET 5, MET 6 and MET 7 of the FASID AFI in Appendix B to WAFSOPSG/3 Report at the attachment; the meeting wish to agree on the proposed Tables and formulate the following conclusion:

Conclusion 8/... : Amendment to the regional procedures related to WAFS in the ANP/FASID of the AFI Plan

That the regional procedures related to WAFS as given in Appendix B to WAFSOPS/3 Report, be approved and inserted to the ANP and to the FASID of the AFI Plan.

2.1.3 The result of the survey undertaken by the WAFSOPSG on the implementation of the BUFR-coded SIGWX by States, indicated that only approximately 60 % of the States were in the position to receive this information. So, in view of the slow-than-expected pace of implementation, the WAFSOPSG agreed that the SIGWX forecasts in the PNG chart form should continue to be provided as a back-up to the BUFR-coded forecasts at least until 2010.

2.1.4 In order for WAFS London to continue to provide SIGWX forecasts in the PNG chart form beyond 2006, the MET/SG is invited to formulate the following recommendation:

Conclusion 8/... : Provision of WAFS/SIGWX forecasts beyond 30 November 2006, in chart form

That the SADIS provider State be invited to continue to provide the SIGWX forecasts in the PNG chart form as a back-up to the BUFR-coded forecasts at least until 2010.

2.1.5 Within the framework of the development of the WAFS, trial forecasts of icing, turbulence and convective clouds were now being generated routinely in GRIB code form and should be evaluated by the users through a formal feedback mechanism. To encourage the appropriate use of these new forecasts in GRIB code form, it was considered desirable to convene regional training seminars.

2.1.6 To validate the appropriate use of icing, turbulence and convective clouds forecasts in GRIB code form, the meeting may wish to formulate the following conclusion:

Conclusion 8/... Training seminar on the use of icing, turbulence and convective clouds forecasts in GRIB code form.

That ICAO, WMO and the SADIS provider State be invited to provide training seminars on the use of icing, turbulence and convective clouds forecasts in GRIB code form, to AFI States; in 2009 to be conducted in French and 2020 in English.

2.2 Review of SADISOPSG/11 and MET/SG/7 meeting reports

2.2.1 The SADISOPSG/11 meeting agreed that, because of the fast increase of the number of States and users of the SADIS FTP service, the implementation of the SADIS second generation VSAT (SADIS 2G) should be included in the MET 7 Table of implementation of the SADIS as given in the **Appendix C** to this working paper.

2.2.2 In this respect, MET/SG/8 may wish to amend the FASID AFI MET 7 Table by formulating the following conclusion:

**Conclusion 8/... Indication of the type of VSAT in the MET 7 table:
Implementation of SADIS in the AFI Region**

That, the Table MET 7 of the AFI plan as given in Appendix D, be approved and included to the FASID of the AFI Plan.

Note: This table is already in the FASID. The contents are the responsibility of Secretariat and the provider State. Do we need a conclusion on this?

2.2.3 The report of SADISOPSG/11 meeting indicated that ASHTAM and NOTAM related to volcanic ash (VA) which were correctly addressed via the EGZZVANW AFTN address, were currently promulgated on the SADIS broadcasts. However, small number of reports were received at the SADIS hub since States may not be aware of the requirement to transmit all ASHTAM and NOTAM related to VA to the AFTN address EGZZVANW. To improve the availability on SADIS, of ASHTAM and NOTAM related to VA, the MET/SG may wish to formulate the following conclusion:

**Conclusion 8/... Availability on SADIS, of ASHTAM and NOTAM related to
volcanic ash (VA)**

That, in order to improve the availability on SADIS, of ASHTAM and NOTAM related to VA, the ICAO Offices in the AFI Region remind States, of the requirement to transmit all ASHTAM and NOTAM related to VA to the AFTN address EGZZVANW.

2.3 Relevant information issues on WAFS and SADIS are provided by the SADIS provider State in WP/11.

3. Action by the Meeting

3.1 The MET/SG is invited to:

- a) Note the information provided in this paper ;
- b) Suggest required actions to improve the WAFS in the AFI region.
