



International Civil Aviation Organization

**AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP (APIRG)
METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP NITH MEETING (MET/SG/9)**

(Dakar, Senegal, 21-23 June 2009)

Agenda Item 4: AFI Meteorological Bulletin Exchange (AMBEX) scheme

UPDATING OF THE AMBEX HANDBOOK

(Presented by France)

SUMMARY

This paper presents some proposals to update the AMBEX plan.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The AMBEX plan has recently been modified. Among the newly introduced principles is the implementation of two AFI IROGs (Dakar and Pretoria).
- 1.2 In the EUR region, Regional OPMET Centre (ROC) Toulouse is one of three ROCs. ROC Toulouse is in charge of all exchange of OPMET data between the EUR region and the AFI region. All received AFI data by ROC Toulouse will be sent to the other two ROCs: ROC Vienna and ROC London (that will forward the AFI data to the SADIS Gateway).
- 1.3 In the future, there will be a back-up procedure in place by the EUR RODEX schema to secure the international (and interregional) exchange of data. ROC Vienna is the dedicated ROC that will be back-up of Toulouse ROC, as ROC Toulouse will be the back-up of ROC London.

2 DISCUSSIONS

- 2.1 In the schema indicated in paragraph 5.7.1 “*Structure of the AMBEX schema*”, page 16, it is proposed to add CAR region to be consistent with NAM and SAM indications and update the schema for DAKAR accordingly by modifying the indication for IROG DAKAR as “*IROG – EUR/SAM/CAR/NAM*.”
- 2.2 It is as well proposed to modify the paragraph 11.1 related to 11 “*INTER-REGIONAL OPMET EXCHANGE –IROG FUNCTIONS*”, and add CAR to the IROG Dakar functions.
- 2.3 In the paragraph 11, Dakar and Pretoria are both indicated to be in charge of exchanging data with the EUR region. One possible modification to be fully consistent might be to add EUR region, and update the schema in paragraph 5.7.1 for Pretoria by modifying the indication for IROG Pretoria as “*IROG – EUR/MID/ASIA*”.
- 2.4 In the paragraph 11.2, it is as well proposed to modify the first sentence of the second bullet “*Pretoria IROG relays all AFI bulletins to IROG London*” by “*Pretoria IROG relays all AFI bulletins to ROC Toulouse*”, as ROC Toulouse is the ROC designed in the EUR region to exchange data with the AFI region.
- 2.5 In the appendixes A, B & C, “*Toulouse | LFZZMAFF*” is indicated as a dissemination address for the compiling centers. Since there are now IROGs, the indication of Toulouse should be erased from these tables as the IROGs will send the OPMET data to ROC Toulouse (LFZZMAFI) and there is no more necessity for the compiling centres to send data directly to ROC Toulouse.
- 2.6 In appendix B are indicated the TAF bulletin headers. As a common practice does and in conformity with the paragraph 6.4.1.2 “All TAFs in a AMBEX TAF bulletin should have a common period of validity ...”, it is proposed that two series of bulletins which WMO heading beginning by “FT” and with ii between 31 and 39 be defined for each compiling centre to allow different bulletins: some bulletins for stations which TAF validity is 24 hours, and others bulletins for stations which TAF validity is 30 hours.
- 2.7 In the Appendix E, in the paragraph 1.2.2 “Incoming responsibilities”, are indicated the WMO headings of the EUR bulletins that should be sent to Dakar IROG. The bulletins indicated are only a small part of the bulletins disseminated by ROC Toulouse and do not cover the exchange of OPMET data related to the stations defined in the MET FASID tables as to be exchanged.

Therefore, it is proposed to replace the list of headers from the EUR region in this paragraph by “*all the bulletins internationally exchanged in the EUR region and which types are defined in paragraph 4.1.1 of this Plan*”

That list of bulletins could be in the future extracted from the bulletin catalog that the RODEX will implement in the EUR region (all EUR States will be able to define with its ROC which bulletins they wish to receive from this catalog). Such facility could be extended to the AFI gateway in charge of EUR to define which data are to be sent to the AFI region by ROC Toulouse.

2.8 In the Appendix E, in the paragraphs 2.1. 2.1.1 and 2.1.5, the indication of London is not more necessary as ROC Toulouse will send any received data to the two other EUR ROCs.

3 ACTION BY THE MEETING

The meeting is invited to discuss and approve the proposed updates of the AMBEX plan.
