



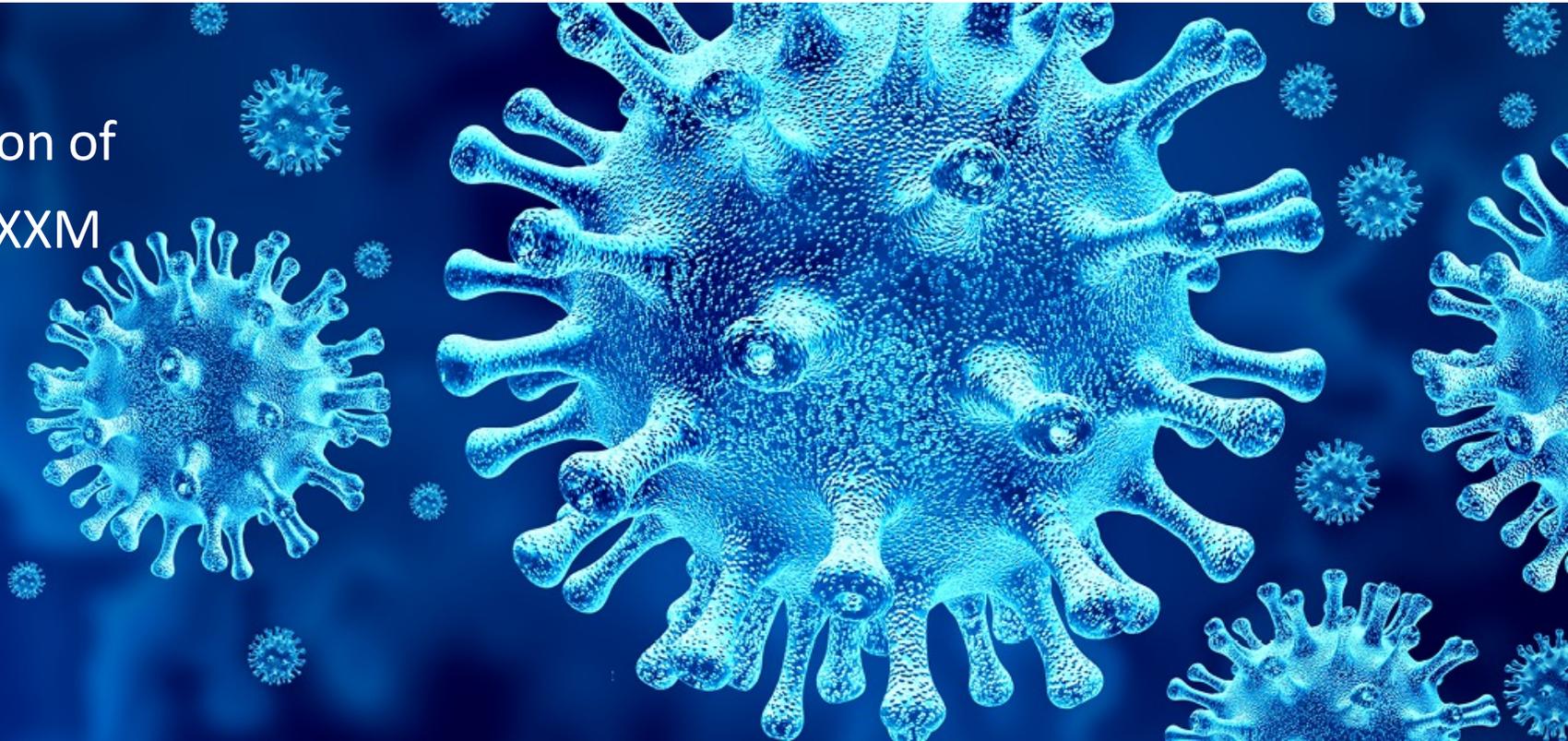
ICAO MID

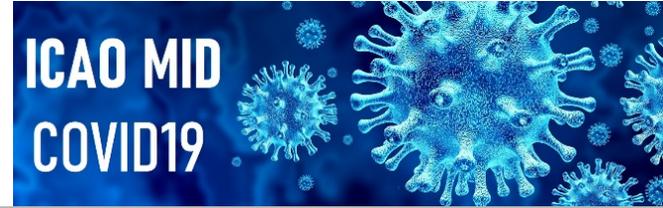
**ICAO MID IWXXM Implementation  
WEBINAR  
26 - 27 May 2021**

Guidelines for the Implementation of  
OPMET Data Exchange using IWXXM

Michael Pichler

Austro Control





## ICAO MID IWXXM Implementation Webinar

### Agenda Item 2: Background Information

# Guidelines for the Implementation of OPMET Data Exchange using IWXXM

## BRIEF HISTORY (1)



- March 2013: First draft by DMG (together with PT/MARIE & EC)
- Nov. 2013: AMD 76 to ICAO ANNEX 3 enabled states in the position to do so, to exchange OPMET data also in XML
- Nov. 2015: First version of CONOPS-Concept of Operations (EUR Doc 033)
- Oct. 2016: CONOPS adopted as global document by METP and renamed into “Guidelines for the Implementation of OPMET Data Exchange using IWXXM”
  - **4<sup>th</sup> Edition, issued November 2020**

## BRIEF HISTORY (2)



- Recom. that ICAO-region maintains a regional version to cover regional features
  - EUR Doc 033, 5th Edition issued on 19.10.2019
  - MID Doc 012, Edition issued in September 2018
- Nov. 2016: AMD 77 to ICAO ANNEX 3 → Recommendation that states **should** disseminate data also in IWXXM
- Nov. 2018: AMD 78 to ICAO ANNEX 3 → Regulates that states **shall** disseminate IWXXM in parallel to TAC-data from 5. November 2020 onwards

## BRIEF HISTORY (3)

### APPENDIX 5. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS RELATED TO FORECASTS

*(See Chapter 6 of this Annex.)*

#### 1. CRITERIA RELATED TO TAF

##### 1.1 TAF format

1.1.1 TAF shall be issued in accordance with the template shown in Table A5-1 and disseminated in the TAF code form prescribed by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

*Note.— The TAF code form is contained in the Manual on Codes (WMO-No. 306), Volume I.1, Part A — Alphanumeric Codes.*

1.1.2 **Recommendation.**— *Until 4 November 2020, TAF should be disseminated in IWXXM GML form in addition to the dissemination of the TAF in accordance with 1.1.1.*

1.1.2 As of 5 November 2020, TAF shall be disseminated in IWXXM GML form in addition to the dissemination of the TAF in accordance with 1.1.1.

*Note.— The technical specifications for IWXXM are contained in the Manual on Codes (WMO-No. 306), Volume I.3, Part D — Representation Derived from Data Models. Guidance on the implementation of IWXXM is provided in the Manual on the Digital Exchange of Aeronautical Meteorological Information (Doc 10003).*



## WHY NOT STAYING WITH TAC?



- WMO decision to move to BUFR
- TAC data is not geo-referenced
- Coding exceptions are commonly used by states
- TAC often
  - **contains typographical errors**
  - **is poorly structured**
  - **lacks validation**
- Extension of TAC code not easily possible
- SWIM (**S**ystem **W**ide **I**nformation **M**anagement) requires a machine-readable format for web services

## WHAT TO FIND IN THE GUIDELINES?

- Current operations and capabilities
- Principles and requirements for the transition from TAC to IWXXM
- Description of the new functionalities



## CURRENT FUNCTIONS AND CAPABILITIES

- Originating Unit
- National OPMET Centre (NOC)
- Regional OPMET Centre (ROC)
- Interregional OPMET Gateway (IROG)
- Regional OPMET Database (RODB)



## NEW FUNCTIONALITIES (1)

- **Originating Unit**
  - Current Tasks: Issue TAC-Data (METAR, TAF, SIGMET,..)
  - **New Tasks**
    - Data Producer: Issue in parallel IWXXM-versions
- **NOC (National OPMET Centre)**
  - Current Tasks
    - Collect & validate national data, compile into bulletins and send to responsible ROC
    - Supply national users with required data
  - **New Tasks**
    - Data Translator → translate national TAC-data into IWXXM
    - Data Aggregator → aggregate individual IWXXM-reports into a collection (bulletin)
    - Data Switch → compress data before sending to responsible ROC



## NEW FUNCTIONALITIES (2)

- ROC (Regional OPMET Centre)

- Current Tasks

- Collect and validate TAC OPMET data from NOCs in AoR
- Correct invalid messages based on principles in EUR Doc 018, Chapter 12
- Send TAC OPMET-data from AoR to other ROCs
- Supply NOCs in AoR with required TAC OPMET-data

- New Tasks

- Data Switch
  - Collect IWXXM OPMET data from NOCs in AoR
  - Log information on received IWXXM OPMET data based on principles in EUR Doc 033, Chapter 8
  - Send IWXXM OPMET-data from AoR to other ROCs
  - Supply NOCs in AoR with required IWXXM OPMET-data
- Data Translator
  - Translate TAC OPMET-data on behalf of states in the AoR (for limited amount of time)



## NEW FUNCTIONALITIES (3)

- IROG (Interregional OPMET Gateway)

- Current Tasks

- Collect and validate TAC OPMET data from defined ICAO-region
- Correct invalid messages based on principles in EUR Doc 018, Chapter 12
- Send TAC OPMET-data from EUR-region to defined ICAO-region
- Send TAC OPMET-data from defined ICAO-region to ROCs in EUR-region

- New Tasks

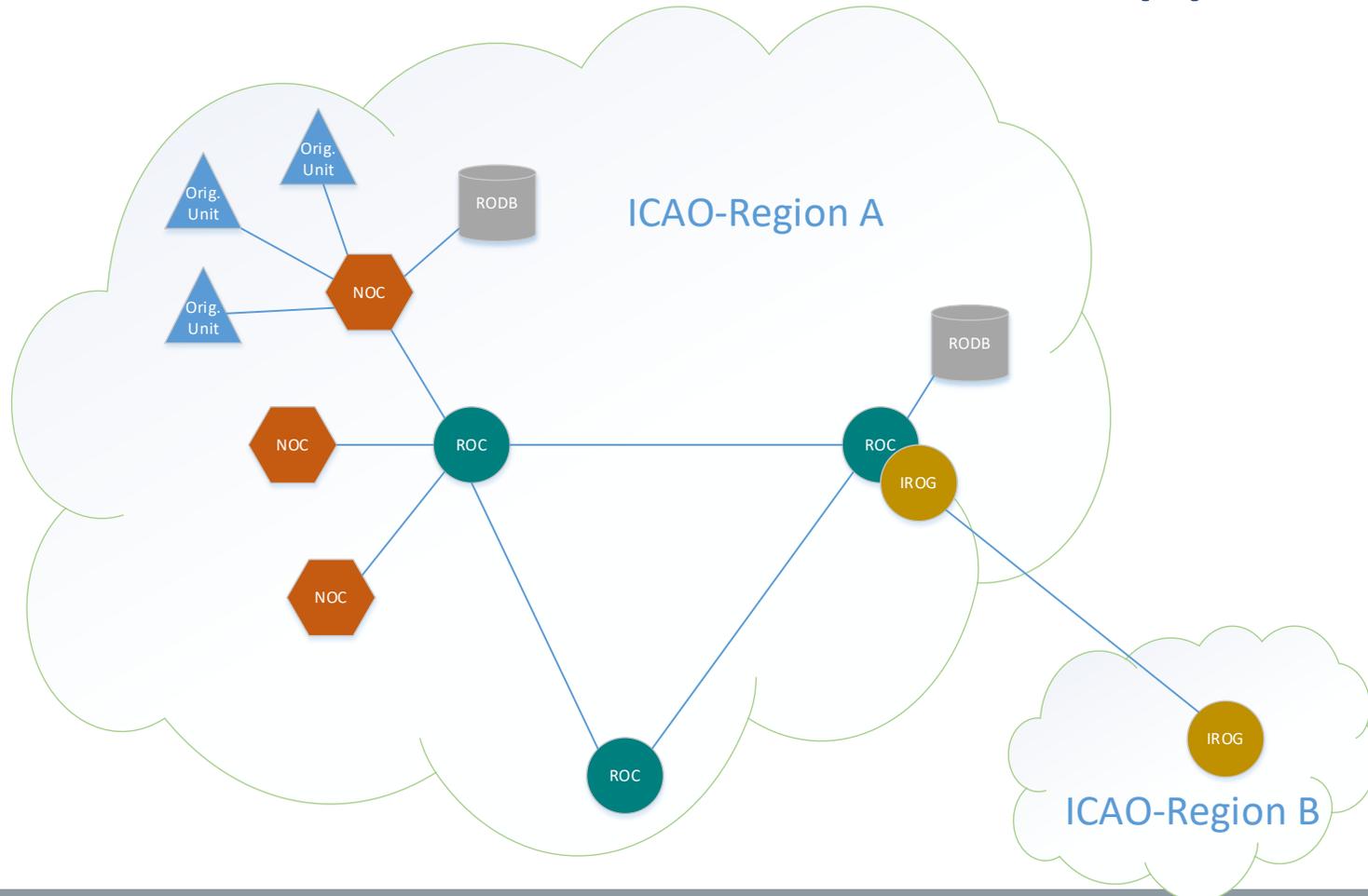
- Data Switch
  - Collect IWXXM OPMET data from defined ICAO-region
  - Send IWXXM OPMET-data from EUR-region to defined ICAO-region
  - Send IWXXM OPMET-data from defined ICAO-region to ROCs in the EUR-region

- RODB (Regional OPMET Databank)

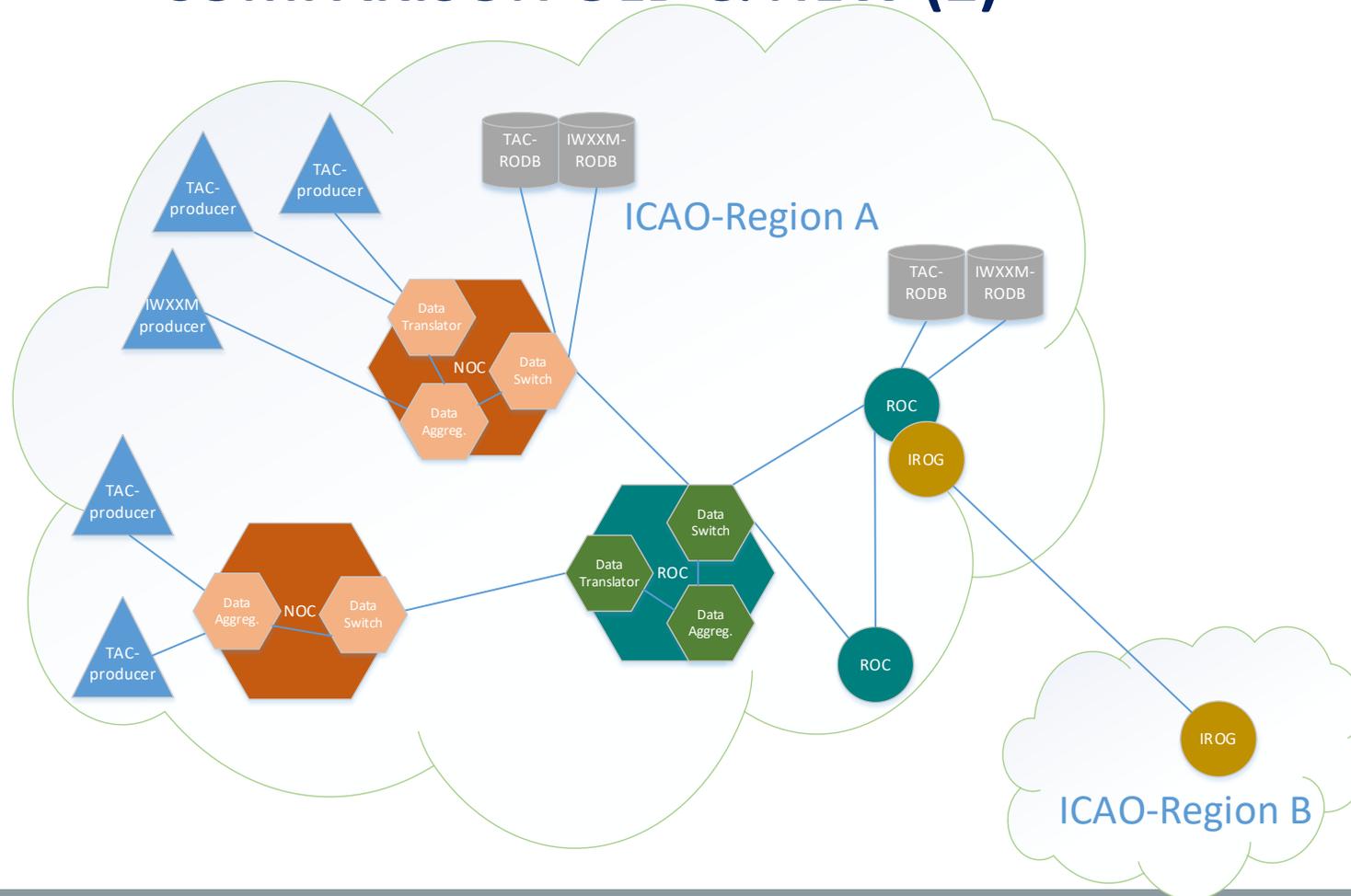
- Current Task → Support request/reply functionalities for TAC OPMET-data
- New Task → Support request/reply functionalities for IWXXM OPMET-data



# COMPARISON OLD & NEW (1)



## COMPARISON OLD & NEW (2)



## EXCHANGING IWXXM-DATA (1)

- IWXXM-Data > AFTN-Limit of 1800 characters
- Solution → Send as File using Extended AMHS
  - FTBP (File Transfer Body Part)
  - Compression (Average date size ratio compr. IWXXM- and TAC-data = 5,8)
- File naming according to WMO naming convention
- Bulletin Header included in Filename (necessary for MET-Switch to rout data properly)



## EXCHANGING IWXXM-DATA (2)

### WMO naming convention



**A**\_TTAAiiCCCCYYGGgg*BBB*\_C\_CCCC\_YYYYMMddhhmmss.xml.gz

- Elements in **black and bold** are fixed elements
- TTAAiiCCCCYYGGgg is the current WMO header with the date time group
- *BBB* is optional like for the TAC-versions
- CCCC is the repeated CCCC part from TTAAiiCCCC
- YYYYMMddhhmmss is the creation date/time group of the file
- **gz** is the Compression suffix of the officially defined compression method

## EXCHANGING IWXXM-DATA (3)

### WMO T1T2 definitions for IWXXM data



- Aviation Routine Report (*METAR*): *LA*
- Special Aviation Weather Reports (*SPECI*): *LP*
- Aerodrome Forecast ("*short*" *TAF*) (*VT* < 12 hours): *LC*
- Aerodrome Forecast ("*long*" *TAF*) (*VT* >= 12 hours): *LT*
- *AIRMET* *LW*
- Aviation General Warning (*SIGMET*): *LS*
- Aviation Volcanic Ash Warning ( *VA SIGMET*): *LV*
- Volcanic Ash Advisory *LU*
- Aviation Tropical Cyclone Warning (*TC SIGMET*): *LY*
- Tropical Cyclone Advisory *LK*
- *Space Weather Advisory (SWXA)*: *LN*

## OPERATING PRINCIPLES (1)

- Managing the Transition

- Dedicated Group per Region beneficial (DMG in EUR)
- METP WG-MIE (Meteorological Information Exchange) to act on a global level
- Exchange and co-ordination with other regions depending on availability of AMHS-connection

- Translation

- Final target is to produce IWXXM at source
- Translation shall only take place once to prevent different versions
- No translation from IWXXM to TAC until 2029 (parallel phase)
- Translation Centre and date/time of translation is included in IWXXM-message
- If translation fails IWXXM message shall be produced without any MET-parameters but containing the original TAC-message (see screenshot next slide)



## OPERATING PRINCIPLES (2)



**Report #2: DTTD, iwxxm:METAR 3.0 TAC translation failed, 06.05.2021, 00:00,**

- Report attributes
  - reportStatus NORMAL
  - permissibleUsage OPERATIONAL
  - translatedBulletinID SATS35DTTA060000
  - translatedBulletinReceptionTime 2021-05-06T00:03:22.072Z
  - translationCentreDesignator LFPW
  - translationCentreName Toulouse
  - translationTime 2021-05-06T00:03:22.072Z
  - translationFailedTAC METAR DTTD 060000Z AUTO 04006KT 360V100 NCD 20/13 Q1015**
  - gml:id uuid.f9cfca9f-72bc-4899-b470-bc2b4dcf6fc1
- XML definitions
  - iwxxm:issueTime
    - gml:TimeInstant
      - gml:timePosition 2021-05-06T00:00:00Z
  - iwxxm:aerodrome
    - aixm:AirportHeliport
      - aixm:timeSlice
        - aixm:AirportHeliportTimeSlice
          - gml:validTime
          - aixm:interpretation SNAPSHOT
          - aixm:locationIndicatorICAO DTTD
  - iwxxm:observationTime
    - gml:TimeInstant
      - gml:timePosition 2021-05-06T00:00:00Z

**Report #3: DTTK, iwxxm:METAR 3.0, 06.05.2021, 00:00,**

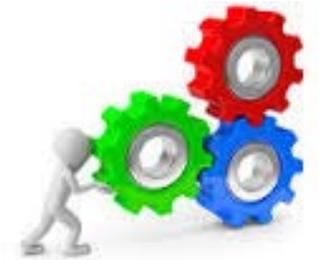
## OPERATING PRINCIPLES (3)

- Data Collection

- Bulletin realized by “COLLECT” feature to be used for all data types
- Aggregating Centre Identifier and date/time group in XML
- No mixture of TAC and IWXXM data
- Single file contains only one bulletin

- Transmission & Routing

- Ext. AMHS shall be used for exchange
- Filename used as data identifier, no header on top of message



## OPERATING PRINCIPLES (4)



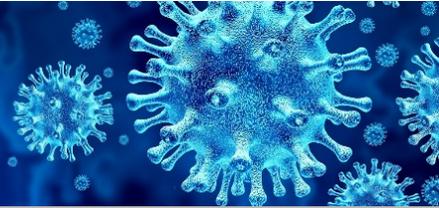
- Compliance Testing

- Testing between centres involves MET & COM-switches!!

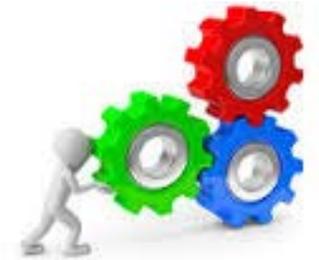
- Correct parameters used in P3 submission-envelope
    - Correct filename used
    - Correct usage of FTBP as well as IA5 Text Body Part with ATS-message-header
    - Checking of IWXXM message to follow rules for schema and schematron
    - Checking of RODB-functionalities (if applicable)

- Standardized test would be beneficial

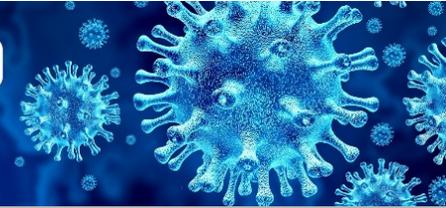
- As a minimum the proposed conformance tests defined in EUR Doc 020, Appendix H, 3.2.4.
    - On MET-switch level check correct format of exchanged messages.
    - Use different types of data



## OPERATING PRINCIPLES (5)



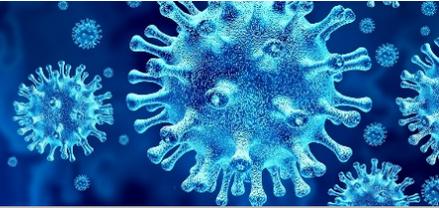
- **RODB**
  - IWXXM-requests use similar rules as for TAC
  - Answers may include operational as well as non-operational IWXXM-messages
  - In case no full AMHS-path available (non-delivery report received by databank) error reply sent in IA5-bodypart to user
- **Aeronautical Information Metadata**
  - Partly included as metadata in IWXXM (Name, aerodrome coordinates)
  - Problem especially for Translation Centres to have this available (e.g. coordinates of airport, FIR shapes)
  - More metadata available from AIXM-model which could be linked via the AIRM (ATM Information Reference Model) →SWIM



## OPERATING PRINCIPLES (6)

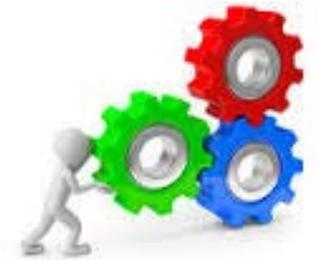
- Additional Clarification needed for IWXXM 3.0
  - IWXXM 3.0 supports national extensions
    - Procedure to co-ordinate/inform about national extensions needed (idea of global repository)
    - Procedure to implement widely used national extensions in future IWXXM versions



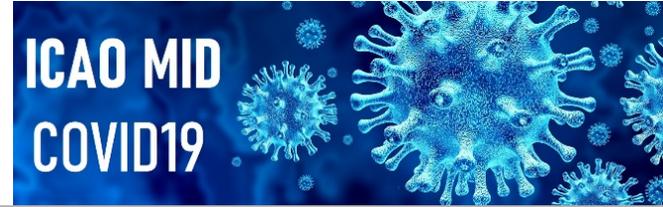


## STATUS EUR/NAT-REGION

- There are 52 states in the EUR-region
- For 48 states (92%) IWXXM-data is available, of which
  - 26 states (54%) make use of a translation agreements with a ROC



ICAO Paris and DMG initiated several surveys to get an actual picture of the implementation status. ROCs regularly co-ordinate with AoR to have up-to-date information, which can be found on [DMG website](#).





North American  
Central American  
and Caribbean  
(NACC) Office  
Mexico City

South American  
(SAM) Office  
Lima

ICAO  
Headquarters  
Montréal

Western and  
Central African  
(WACAF) Office  
Dakar

European and  
North Atlantic  
(EUR/NAT) Office  
Paris

Middle East  
(MID) Office  
Cairo

Eastern and  
Southern African  
(ESAF) Office  
Nairobi

Asia and Pacific  
(APAC) Sub-office  
Beijing

Asia and Pacific  
(APAC) Office  
Bangkok



THANK YOU