



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP  
FIFTEENTH MEETING (APIRG/15)

(Nairobi, Kenya, 26 – 30 September 2005)

**Agenda Item 4 Air Navigation and Aviation Security (AVSEC) issues**  
**4.4: Aeronautical Meteorology**

**PROVIDING WAFS SIGWX FORECASTS  
IN CHART FORM USING THE PNG FORMAT**

*(Presented by ASECNA)*

**SUMMARY**

This paper highlights the lack of reliable and cost effective Internet access in many of the ASECNA Member States, and suggests that the PNG formatted SIGWX charts provided in the SADIS FTP service on a trial basis, be added to the SADIS satellite service to extend these trials to many States in the AFI region.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The Group will be aware of WAFSOPG/2 Conclusion 2/13 inviting “the WAFC Provider States to provide, on a trial basis, WAFS SIGWX forecasts in chart form for the fixed ICAO areas of coverage using the industry standard Portable Network Graphics (PNG) graphical format or an equivalent industry standard”; and it was agreed to place this chart on the WAFS FTP service by 1 July 2005.

1.2 Following this Conclusion, ASECNA conducted a survey across its 16 Member States in the AFI Region; as a result, it appears that the lack of reliable and cost effective Internet access in these States, highly suggests that the PNG formatted SIGWX charts be added to the SADIS satellite service.

**2. DISCUSSIONS**

2.1 Table 1 below highlights the status of Internet high speed access costs provided by 20 Internet service providers in 14 ASECNA Member States; 256Ko/s for data receiving Speed, 128Ko/s for transmission speed and continuous service (24h/24h) for data availability, were set as minimum requirements.

2.2 From this Table, it appears that the mean installation cost is 2.000.000 FCFA and the monthly connexion rent per State is 685.000 FCFA or roughly \$US **263.000** per year for all the 16 States; the lowest monthly connexion rent being 29.000 FCFA in Senegal and the highest 1.750.000 CFA in Chad.

2.3 Five States out of the 16 ASECNA Members States are eligible to pay the SADIS annual sharing cost. Estimated total cost from January to December 2003 as agreed at SCRAG/3 meeting, for provision of SADIS services to these 5 States, was 1.410 pounds 1.410 as follows:

- Gabon: £824,47
- Cameroon: £245,25
- Congo: £132,68
- Senegal £104,31
- Côte d'Ivoire: £103,80

Total cost **£1410,51** or **\$US2.800** compare to **\$US263.000** for Internet annual connexion cost. Moreover, the continuous 24h/24h service was not guaranteed everywhere.

2.4 Most of the AFI States has similar Internet access problems.

### 3. CONCLUSION

3.1 According to these results, it appears that there is a lack of reliable and cost effective Internet access across many of the ASECNA States, so it would be highly beneficial if the PNG formatted SIGWX charts could be added to the SADIS satellite services on a trial basis to allow more states to participate to the trials validation.

3.2 It may be considered to place the SIGWX and wind/temperature charts in PNG format on the SADIS satellite service during at least five years after this validation until the Internet service can be improved in the AFI region.

#### 3.3 Action by the Group:

The Group is invited to:

- ✓ Note the information included in this paper
- ✓ Recommend that the PNG formatted WAFS SIGWX charts on trial, be added to the SADIS satellite services to allow more states to participate to the trials validation;
- ✓ Recommend that the WAFCs consider to place the SIGWX and wind/temperature charts in PNG format on the SADIS satellite service during at least five years after this validation until the Internet service can be improved in the AFI region.

-----

**Table 1:** Coûts d'Accès Internet dans certains Etats Membres de l'ASECNA

	STATE	Fournisseur de service Internet	Coût d'Installation	Redevance Mensuelle
1	BENIN	BENIN TELECOM	225 000	150 000
2	BURKINA	ONATEL	800 000	487 500
3	CAMEROON	TW MICRONICS	3 804 000	452 000
		I WAY	4 902 000	520 000
		CYBERIX	5 162 000	798 000
		<b>Moyenne</b>	<b>4 622 667</b>	<b>590 000</b>
4	CENTRAL AFRICAN REP	SOCATEL	118 000	1 003 000
5	CHAD	SOTEL TCHAD	1 900 000	1 750 000
6	CONGO	Global Téléphone & Télécommunication (GT & T)	9 988 165	446 055
7	COTE D'IVOIRE	ACCESS TELECOM	600 000	900 000
		COTE D'IVOIRE MULTI MEDIA	800 000	1 160 000
		<b>Moyenne</b>	<b>700 000</b>	<b>1 030 000</b>
8	GABON	GABON TELECOM	2 083 880	700 000
9	EQUATORIAL GUINEA	GETESA CONNEXION ADSL	600 000	500 000
10	MADAGASCAR	WANADOO 125K0 E/R	-	360 000
		WANADOO 256K0 E/R	-	456 000
		BLUELINE 128K0 E/R	36 000	288 000
		<b>Moyenne</b>	<b>12 000</b>	<b>368 000</b>
11	MALI	AFRIBONE		1 100 000
		AFRIPA TELECOM	2 253 290	900 000
12	MAURITANIA	MAURITEL	321 480	1 018 020
13	NIGER	Ets KANF Electronice	2 990 000	600 000
14	SENEGAL	SENATEL MULTIMEDIA	129 075	29 000
<b>MOYENNE</b>			<b>1 910 254</b>	<b>683 684</b>