



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION

AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP (APIRG)

AFI OPMET MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE (AFI OPMET MTF)

THIRD MEETING (AFI OPMET MTF/3)

(Dakar, Senegal, 27 – 28 June 2011)

Agenda Item 3a) Review of the AFI Regional SIGMET Guide

REVIEW OF THE AFI REGIONAL SIGMET GUIDE

(Presented by South Africa)

<p style="text-align: center;">Summary</p> <p>The paper provides proposal for the utilization of the Regional SIGMET Advisory Centre (RSAC) to assist with providing SIGMET advisories during AFI SIGMET Tests.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">REFERENCES</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AFI AMBEX Handbook Seventh Edition, March 2010</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ACTION</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The action by the meeting in paragraph 4</p>

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The SIGMET advisory trial for the AFI Region commenced on the 4th April 2011 and is scheduled to end on the 30th June 2011. South Africa together with France were selected as co-hosts of the RSAC for AFI Region.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The SIGMET Advisory trial as organized by Meteorological Warning Study Group (METWSG) are aimed at enhancing the issuance of SIGMET information in the AFI Region. ICAO has long raised concern about the inability of MWOs in the AFI Region to issue SIGMETs information and this could easily be attributed to contributing to the poor safety record in the region.

2.1 South Africa as one of the hosts of the Regional Sigmet Advisory Centre (RSAC) for the period of the trial has invested in a tool, **Geocentric Information Briefing (GIB)** to generate the SIGMET advisories in both text and graphical format. The tool is capable of generating the advisory messages for the whole of the AFI Region.

2.2 The GIB will not be used post the trial period. In order to ensure that the investments made on this tool are not wasted post the trial, South Africa is of the view that the tool could be utilized to assist ICAO regional offices during the SIGMET test by issuing the SIGMET advisories to MWOs.

2.3 Currently, only the tropical cyclone and volcanic ash advisory information is provided by the TCAC and VAAC respectively and disseminated via the AFTN. The GIB could therefore be used to generate and disseminate advisories for any other weather phenomenon other than volcanic ash and tropical cyclone. The advisories generated using GIB could be disseminated through GTS, AFTN, SADIS and internet.

3. RECOMMENDATION

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information provided above and consider the following draft recommendation:

Draft Recommendation 3/XX-

Provision of SIGMET advisory information by South Africa

That, the facilities made available by South Africa for the ongoing SIGMET advisory trial be utilized to assist the ICAO regional office with the provision of SIGMET advisory information for any other weather phenomenon other than tropical cyclone and volcanic ash.

4. ACTION BY THE MEETING

4.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information presented in this paper; and
- b) discuss the proposed draft recommendation.
