

**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION****AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP (APIRG)
AFI OPMET MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE MEETING (AFI OPMET MTF/4)***(Pretoria, South Africa, 10-11 September 2012)***Agenda Item 4 f: Review of regional guidance material on OPMET exchange**

(Presented by Pretoria and Dakar RODB)

SUMMARY

The status report on the implementation of the AFI Interface Control Document (ICD) is presented. In addition, the action taken by the managers of the two AFI RODBs (Pretoria and Dakar) to finalize the AFI OPMET Data catalogue are discussed. Action by the meeting is on paragraph xxx

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This paper discusses the actions taken by AFI RODBs managers to implement AFI MTF recommendation 2/3 and METSG decision 10/10. The meeting will note that recommendation 2/3 called for the status report to be presented on the implementation of AFI ICD by the two RODBs. Further, decision 10/10 called for the finalization of the AFI OPMET Data Catalogue by managers of the two RODBs.

2. DISCUSSION**2.1 *Implementation of the AFI ICD***

2.1.1 The meeting is invited to note that both Dakar and Pretoria RODBs have already implemented the request reply services for AFTN users to access OPMET data from the two databanks. The two databanks have also provided internet facilities for accessing OPMET data. The respective internet addresses are published in the AFI ICD, section 6, pg 7.

2.1.2 The AFI ICD provides standard procedures for accessing the AFI RODBs to retrieve OPMET data. Users can access data through AFTN or internet facilities described in the preceding paragraph. The ICD also provides the OPMET data types stored by the databanks and which can be accessed by users. Thus, the implementation of the ICD by the two RODBs is crucial to ensure that users are able to access the data by simply following the procedures set out in the AFI ICD.

2.1.3 Further, the meeting may wish to note that it is mentioned in paragraph 4.1 of the AFI ICD that RODBs should continuously monitor all the requests received from AFTN users. The monitoring was done at one RODB (Pretoria) for the period starting from 1 January to 30 August 2012. The results of this monitoring are presented in IP06, Appendix A.

2.2 Finalization of the AFI Data catalogue

2.2.1 The AFI Data catalogue was reviewed with a view to finalize it for adoption by the meeting. The *Annex 1 – AFI, Annex 2 (Section 2) – SIGMET and Annex 3 (Section 3) – Database bulletins* of the AFI ICD were reviewed. The review process was twofold. First, the data types required from aerodromes was verified against what was received at the Pretoria RODB. Second, the aerodromes listed in the bulletins and which must provide OPMET data as required were verified against the AFI AMBEX Scheme. Data used in the verification process was extracted randomly from Pretoria RODB and the outcome of this process formed the bases for proposed amendments in Attachment A to this paper.

2.2.2 In the summary, the verification results shows that OPMET data from most of the aerodromes listed in the AFI OPMET Data catalogue were not received at the Pretoria RODB. Also, OPMET data was not received regularly and in most cases both data types (FC and FT TAFs) were received from aerodromes. OPMET data was also received regularly from aerodromes which were not listed in the catalogue. In some minor cases, long term TAFs (FT TAFs) were listed as a requirement from non-AOP aerodromes.

2.2.3 With regard to the OPMET data bulletins, it was noted that the AFI AMBEX Scheme and the AFI Bulletin catalogue were not harmonized. Some aerodromes were included in the catalogue and not in the AMBEX HB. The AFI RODB managers decided to verify where OPMET data was received from these aerodromes before proposing any amendments to the AMBEX HB and AFI Data catalogue.

2.2.4 Lastly, two additional flight information regions (FIRs) were added to the list of AFI FIRs in section 2 (SIGMET) of the catalogue. These are Johannesburg and Cape Town FIR which falls under the responsibility of Johannesburg (FAJS) Meteorological Watch Office (MWO). In all the cases mentioned above, amendments were highlighted for the attention of the meeting.

3. CONCLUSION

3.1 The results of the review process highlights the need for sections of the AFI OPMET data catalogue to be amended before it can be finalized and adopted by the meeting.

Recommendation 4/x: Adoption of amendments to the AFI OPMET Data catalogue

That,

- a) the meeting adopt the proposed amendments to the AFI OPMET Data catalogue (Attachment A) as well as the AFI AMBEX Scheme (Attachment B) and,**
- b) concerned states are informed about the proposed amendments before finalization of the catalogue by AFI RODB managers.**

4. ACTION BY THE MEETING

4.1 The AFI OPMET MTF is invited to take the following action:

- a) note the information presented in this paper.
- b) decide on the recommendation proposed for the group's consideration.
