



**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION**  
**AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP (APIRG)**  
**AFI OPMET MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE FOURTH MEETING (AFI OPMET MTF/4)**  
*(Pretoria, South Africa, 10 to 11 September 2012)*

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- Agenda Item 4:           Review of regional guidance material on OPMET exchange**
- b)           Review of the AFI Meteorological Bulletin Exchange (AMBEX) Handbook**

**MONITORING OF OPMET INFORMATION BY ICAO REGIONS**

*(Presented by South Africa)*

**SUMMARY**

The paper presents OPMET monitoring activities conducted by different ICAO regions and Inter Regional OPMET Gateways (IROGs). The action for consideration by the meeting is in paragraph 4

**1.    INTRODUCTION**

1.1    In this working paper, consideration is paid to the results of the monitoring activities of the AFI OPMET information by IROG Toulouse and SADIS Provider State (UK). The impact of these activities in terms of possible enhancement of the availability of OPMET data from the AFI Region is also discussed.

**2.    DISCUSSION**

2.1    The meeting may wish to note that the monitoring of OPMET information is being carried in different regions of ICAO such as the EUR and ASIA/PAC. Recently the results of Global monitoring activity conducted by IROG Toulouse are also made available to the AFI Region on monthly bases. There is no doubt that the intention of these activities is to improve the overall availability of OPMET information at the databanks and to users alike.

2.2    South Africa appreciates the efforts by IROG Toulouse with regard to the monitoring activities implemented there and believes that the AFI Region will benefit from this. The availability of various monitoring results will help improve OPMET exchange practices in the AFI Region. The results show that there are still many challenges relating to OPMET exchange in the AFI Region. South Africa believes that if these activities were harmonized and synchronized wherever possible, the results could add much more value in terms of improving data availability and will help identify those areas where gaps exist.

2.3    Recently South Africa requested bulletin headers which are being monitored by Toulouse and at the SADIS gateway with the intention to compare this with those described in the AFI Routine tables. This was because South Africa believes that if these facilities are used to monitor the same

bulletins as described in various routine tables, then it would be easy to identifying inherent problems in the system particularly when comparing the monitoring results from different sources. The meeting may recall that in the AFI Region, the results of the monitoring leads to the computation of three indexes, availability, regularity and compliance. These indexes are used to determine the status of OPMET exchange in the AFI Region. So, it would be useful if other monitoring activities were producing the same indexes for comparison.

### **3. CONCLUSION**

3.1 In reviewing the bulletins which are being monitored at the SADIS gateway, and which are contained in Annex 2 of the SADIS User Guide, South Africa has established that those bulletins for AFI Region are different to those in the AFI routine tables and those that are monitored by IROG Toulouse. South Africa strongly believes that in order to improve the availability and exchange of OPMET data, monitoring should be done at different stages of the system and that it is important to ensure that the same bulletins are being monitored at all these stages.

#### **Recommendation 4/xx: Monitoring of OPMET bulletins in coordination with ROC Toulouse**

**That, the monitoring done by RODBs Pretoria and Dakar and ROC Toulouse be harmonized to ensure that the same bulletins headers, as described in the AFI AMBEX HB, are being monitored at all these facilities for comparison and continuous improvement.**

### **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 Task Force's consideration.

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