

Regional Action Plan for Removing Deficiencies related to the Missing OPMET data in the AFI Region
(Source : AFI Regional Meeting on the "Missing OPMET data in the AFI Region, Virtual, 21 June 2021)

#	Challenges /Issues	Actions to be taken	Deliverables	Responsibility	Deadlines	Comments
1	Wrong origin indicators or addresses of the messages	a) Establish a mechanism of collaboration between Met Services, BCCs and RODBs. b) Provide a training on Aeronautical fixed service for meteorological officers (Annex 3) as needed. c) Encourage States to improve internal communication amongst aviation stakeholders in case they are any changes	Timely, accurate and quality OPMET data; Improved efficiency and service delivery.	a) Met Services, BCCs, AFTN providers and RODBs b) States c) The Secretariat (through short workshops, seminars, SLs); and States	a) 31/12/2021 b) 30/06/2022 c) 30/06/2022	Capacity building on Aeronautical Communication Procedures and Protocols. Most of the Met Services merged some technical cadres who may not be conversant with ICAO Aeronautical Communication procedures. For c), as immediate action from the Secretariat will be to encourage States through SL.
2	Syntax/data errors that elevate system queues	a) Training the staff on the Procedures in ICAO Annex 10 Volume II Appointment of Focal Points by States	Improved efficiency and service delivery	a) Met Services, AFTN providers and BCCs b) States /Secretariat	31/01/2022	Capacity building to enhance Skills, Knowledge, and Competencies.

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3	Changes of operators where most States have merged sections	a) Reinforcement of the compliance to the requirements of the ICAO OPMET information. b) States to ensure that the oversight function is implemented.	Increased access to /availability of OPMET data	Met Services, AFTN providers and BCCs, States (CAAs)	31/06/2022	Capacity building to enhance Skills, Knowledge, and Competencies. In order to increase the availability of OPMET data in the AFI region, administrations /organisations to ensure, Service Providers re-enforce the capabilities of their operators in charge of OPMET bulletin collection, data entry, bulletin compilation, distribution and storage in tandem with the requirements of the ICAO Annex 3 and AMBEX Handbook.
4	Lack of competency on the application of Annex 10 Volume II Procedures	a) Training the staff on the Procedures in ICAO Annex 10 Volume II b) Assessment of staff competencies on the implementation of the Annex 10 Volume II and Annex 3 requirements	Identify and establish a database of competent experts in all areas in the region	Met Services, AFTN providers, BCCs and RODBs, Regional Training Centres, Secretariat	30/06/2022	Capacity building to enhance Skills, Knowledge, and Competencies; Maintenance of skills, knowledge and experience to sustain continuity in various expert areas.

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5	Lack of direct connectivity (Circuit or link unavailability)	a) Identify the redundant links in the region and where there is a need of new links. b) Identify the unavailable links in the AFI region c) Review the ICAO Rooting Directory between States	Increased access to OPMET data and reporting	a), b) Communication Centres (Brazzaville, O.R. Tambo, Dakar and Nairobi); MET Services, BCCs and RODBsc States (BCCs, NOCs), Secretariat	31/07/2022	Ensure seamless distribution and sharing of OPMET data with MWOs, BCCs and RODBs; This is in compliance to the requirements of AMBEX Scheme; AFTN providers to ensure dedicated and an uninterruptable AFTN link between Met Services, BCCs and RODBs. This will improve data quality and reception times.
6	Lack of collaboration between States	a) States/Organisations make bilateral and multilateral arrangements to investigate unavailability of the OPMET bulletins and take appropriate remedial measures. b) Report on the availability of OPMET data must be disseminated to States by RODBs and BCCs. c) Establish a team, composed of Nairobi	Actual situation on the OPMET data distribution, states capacity, competency levels, SWOT Analysis and recommendations. This promotes ICAO's efforts to resolve unavailability of OPMET data brought to light through ICAO's safety oversight audits, as well as other safety related	a) MET Service Providers, RODBs, BCCs, Secretariat (to facilitate the communication) b) RODBs, BCCs, CAAs, Secretariat (for link between States) c) Nairobi, Pretoria, ASECNA, Secretariat (to coordinate)	10/09/2021	Enhance collaboration among states to enable sharing of challenges /solutions and emerging issues; This will enable identification of gaps and deviancies and propose remedial measures for efficient service delivery.



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		<p>(MET (1), AFTN (1)), Pretoria (MET(1), (AFTN(1)) and ASECNA (MET(2), AFTN (3)), be established to undertake investigations, education and create awareness for the states, for a period of six(6) months, on the importance of availability of the OPMET data. This team will be composed of Meteorological and BCCs personnel.</p>	<p>objectives. Increased compliance of States with their obligations under the Chicago Convention with respect to Annex 3 and Annex 10 Vol II.</p>			
7	<p>Training of the data entry and operational staff</p>	<p>a) Specific workshop on data entry targeting operational personnel. b) Formal training on data entry of operational staff.</p>	<p>Increased access to OPMET data and reporting</p>	<p>a) Met Services, AFTN providers and BCCs, RODBs, Secretariat (to support) b) States, Regional Training Centre (Pretoria, Nairobi, EAMAC (Niger), Egypt</p>	<p>a) 31/01/2022 b) 31/07/2022</p>	<p>Capacity building in data entry and quality control.</p>



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8	Improved collaboration between the Collection centres, the BCCs and RODBs	<p>a) Implementation of procedures to mitigate lack and loss of OPMET messages.</p> <p>b) BCC's and RODBs should issue METNO procedures.</p> <p>c) Encourage States to issue AICs, NOTAMs and letters to inform their collection and data entry centres on their collective addressing procedures, e.g. changes of aerodrome location indicator.</p>	Continuous availability of OPMET data and timely dissemination	<p>a) Met Services, AFTN providers, BCCs and RODBs.</p> <p>b) Met Services, AFTN providers, BCCs and RODBs.</p> <p>c) States, BCCs, RODBs, Secretariat (to coordinate)</p>	30/09/2021	Conformity to the requirements of Annex 3 and AMBEX Scheme.
9	Bench marking between states.	States are encouraged to conduct Bench marking amongst themselves to compare notes that will enhance service delivery.	A uniform and sustainable level of OPMET data availability which should be at least equal to the international requirements has been established for the African Region	States, the Secretariat	30/06/2022	Bench marking to learn/share experiences. This is key to service delivery for any Organization



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10	Peer audit by AFI states /Lack of Fact Finding Technical Teams within AFI region	<p>a) ICAO /WMO to identify States/Organizations that can provide assistance to recipient States.</p> <p>b) ICAO to set up a team to conduct peer audits in AFI states to engage the Administrations and ANSPs.</p> <p>c) ICAO to coordinate with WMO to assist the recipient States.</p>	<p>Promotes ICAO's efforts to resolve unavailability of OPMET data brought to light through ICAO's safety oversight audits, as well as other safety related objectives.</p> <p>The review reports submitted to the concerned Met Service and AFTN provider who will develop the corrective/preventive action plans accordingly.</p>	<p>States</p> <p>ICAO</p> <p>WMO</p>	<p>a), c) 31/12/2021</p> <p>b) 30/09/2021</p>	<p>Peer Audits in AFI region is in line with the requirements of ISO 9001: 2015 on Quality Management System.</p> <p>This should be in line with ICAOs "no country left behind" and all States have access to the significant socio-economic benefits of safe and reliable air transport through available and reliable OPMET data.</p>
11	Updating of the AMBEX Scheme	ICAO to liaise with the PTC of IIM/SG MET Project 2 (Senegal) to invite the Experts Team to assist the Project team with the update of the AFI AMBEX Handbook	All amendments and changes shall be accommodated and updated within the AMBEX scheme.	The Secretariat IIM/SG MET Project 2	31/08/2022	<p>Updated AMBEX Scheme aligned to the amendments in the Annex 3.</p> <p>Work to commence at the next IIM/SG MET Project 2 Meeting</p>

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12	Lack of adequate funding for Meteorological Services	ICAO in collaboration with WMO to organize a workshop on the Cost Recovery of Aeronautical Meteorological Services	Improved efficiency, capacity and service delivery	ICAO WMO	30/04/2022	Cost Recovery of Aeronautical Meteorological Services shall ensure improved service delivery as replacement of equipment and upgrading of infrastructural facilities to pre-empt non-conformities and supplement the exchequer support.
13	Lack of regular meetings among Meteorological Service Providers (MSP), Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSP), Regulators and other Stakeholders	<p>a) Establishment of regular OPMET Coordination Meetings to address challenges/gaps that may prohibit continuous improved service delivery to air operators.</p> <p>b) The MET Services Providers should convene the meeting in a rotation cycle.</p>	Continuous improved service delivery to air operators	<p>States</p> <p>Met Services Providers</p> <p>CAA</p> <p>Airlines /Airlines Associations</p> <p>The Secretariat</p>	30/06/2022	<p>Regular meetings amongst the Authorities (MSP and ANSP) shall identify the challenges and recommends the remedial measures with instantaneous immediacy.</p> <p>The Secretariat need to establish if each States are holding regular meetings with MSPs and ANSPs and encourage States who are not established these meetings to learn from those who are doing so.</p>