



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Seventh Meeting of the APIRG Infrastructure and Information Management Sub-Group (IIM/SG7)*Dakar, Senegal, 5 - 8 August 2024***Agenda Item 5: Implementation challenges of the Sub-group****WP5.2 Implementation of MET requirements in the Region- challenges and opportunities***(Presented by the Secretariat)***SUMMARY**

This Paper outlines the main outcomes of the ICAO ESAF Aeronautical Meteorology Seminar and proposes recommendations for action by the IIM/SG7 meeting.

The Seminar made several recommendations, including urging the ICAO ESAF Office to provide support to States to enhance their capabilities in improving their meteorological systems, and to work with States to update the regional guidance material on the Africa-Indian (AFI) Meteorological Bulletin Exchange (AMBEX) Handbook.

It also recommended that ICAO and WMO work together to foster collaboration between Civil Aviation Authorities (CAAs) and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NHMSs) and to consider having a Joint technical meeting on the requirements of exchange of OPMET information by 31 Dec 2024.

Action by the meeting is provided in paragraph 3 of this working paper

REFERENCE(S):

- ICAO Doc 7475: Working Arrangements Between the International Civil Aviation Organization and the World Meteorological Organization
- ICAO Doc 9750: The Global Air Navigation Plan
- ICAO Annex 3- Meteorological Service for International Air Navigation

Related ICAO Strategic Objectives: *A – Safety, B – Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency*

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The ICAO ESAF Aeronautical Meteorology Seminar was conducted in Windhoek, Namibia from the 4th to the 6th of June 2024. The seminar aimed to enhance the regional knowledge and build the capacity of the MET experts in the region, and to provide a platform for MET experts to connect with their peers, exchange ideas, and establish partnerships that can facilitate future collaborations that can benefit the region.
- 1.2 The World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and some of its Members participated in this Seminar.
- 1.3 The WMO collaborates closely with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to establish international standards, recommended practices, procedures, and guidance for meteorological and climatological services to aviation users worldwide. This partnership, which has been in place since 1954, ensures efficient coordination and avoids duplication of efforts

2. DISCUSSIONS

- 2.1 The main outcomes of the Seminar were:
 - 2.1.1 ESAF States should enhance their aeronautical meteorological systems through peer review or buddy partnerships with other States. These collaborative efforts can lead to improved capabilities and knowledge sharing.
 - 2.1.2 ICAO must work closely with Member States and the WMO to update regional guidance material on the Africa-Indian (AFI) Meteorological Bulletin Exchange (AMBEX) scheme. This ensures alignment between National OPMET Centres (NOCs), Bulletin, Compiling Centers (BCCs), and Regional OPMET Data Banks (RODB). Collaboration among these entities is crucial for effective meteorological services.
 - 2.1.3 ICAO and WMO should foster collaboration between Civil Aviation Authorities (CAAs) and National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NHKSs) who are the Meteorological Service Providers (MSPs) for OPMET information. This partnership ensures seamless integration of weather information into aviation operations. The Seminar requested that joint technical meeting on MET information exchange requirements between ICAO and WMO Member be conducted by 31 December 2024.
 - 2.1.4 ICAO and WMO should engage ESAF States in discussions about aviation meteorology challenges at regional platforms. These dialogues promote awareness and problem-solving. Addressing cost recovery for meteorological services is also crucial to sustain these efforts.
 - 2.1.5 ICAO Member States should identify and share focal points for each National OPMET Centre with ESAF by August 31, 2024.
 - 2.1.6 ICAO and WMO should coordinate annual ESAF MET Workshops, encouraging States to volunteer as hosts. These workshops facilitate knowledge exchange and capacity building.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the information presented in this Paper.
- b) Consider and review the proposals contained Section 2 of this Paper.

Draft IIM/SG7 Conclusion 7/xx: Enhanced regional collaboration between the Secretariat and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to deliver effective aviation meteorological services in the AFI Region.

That;

In order to enhance aeronautical meteorology's role in ensuring a safe and efficient air navigation system in the AFI region:

- a) *The Secretariat and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) are requested to:*
 - *consider having a joint technical meeting on the requirements of exchange of MET information by 31 December 2024.*
 - *actively engage their respective Member States in discussions about challenges related to aviation meteorology at regional platforms designed for high-level policy makers e.g. infrastructure, Bulletin exchange model etc.*
 - *lead in continued capacity building in the areas of competency frameworks, quality management systems and delivery of services to ensure highest standards.*
- b) *States are requested to take the necessary steps to ensure that the element of cost recovery is addressed.*

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