Report of BMG Meeting/10
Vienna, 8 June 2001

1.   List of participants

Mr. Michael Pichler	Austria
Mr. Michael Haberler	Austria
Mr. Herman Swinnen	Belgium
Mr. Wim Demol	Belgium
Mr. Ole S. Andersen	Denmark
Mr. Poul Larsen	Denmark
Mr. Patrick Simon	France
Mr. Harald Dunke	Germany
Mr. John Syer	Norway
Mr. Kevin Loy	UK (Rapporteur)

2.   Agenda
1.   Report of BMG/9
2.   MOTNEG/6 Task List
3.   Operational problems
4.   AOB
5.   Action List
6.   Date and location of next meeting.

3.   Report of BMG/9.

The report was presented and the following actions completed or outstanding which will not be covered in the rest of this report:

- Item 4a - the EUR OPMET Data Update Procedure: Activity report was presented to SADISOPSGP this month.
- Item 4c – W Koetse to distribute soft copies of monitoring presentation
- Item 4e – Austria had made changes to avoid the duplication of Russian bulletins through the METNO procedure. K Loy to check at Heathrow and Bracknell monitoring to ensure that SADIS is no longer experiencing this problem.
- Item 4I – IATA to provide a list of the IATA/ICAO indicators to H Swinnen/W Demol.

4.   MOTNEG/6 Task List.
a)   EUR OPMET Data Update Procedure: Activity Report

WP6 was presented and some minor comments made to some errors, which will be modified by H Swinnen. Regarding the conclusions, the following comments are made: 5.2 requests the meeting to set up a procedure for 'legalisation' of the Non-METNO OPMET Data entries in the actual tables. This was the subject of a length discussion and in the end, it was agreed that a Work Package (WPg) would be raised by H Swinnen for each BMG member to check the tables for their own area of responsibility, as per 5.5. The details of what is required would be detailed in the WPg, with the WP6 appended. The time-scales for this should be delivery of information back to HS by BMG/11. The tables will then be reworked and a WP presented to MOTNEG/7 by HS, to include both

the EUR and MID tables. A decision on how to approach the other regions' anomalies, as detailed in 4.3 of the WP6, would be left until after the EUR data was resolved.

5.3 asks that the BMG FP be given authority to report unjustified distribution of new OPMET Data to the MOTNEG, via the BMG. This is on hold until the WPg for 5.2 above is completed and discussed further.

5.4 looks for some harmonisation of both the EUR and SADIS OPMET Data Update Procedure. It was commented that SADISOPSGP did not intend to produce anything along these lines. Therefore, the BMG can only follow the current procedure for EUR bulletins and what has been proposed within WP9 under the task 'Definition of a request format for I/R Bulletins' (see, where requests from users will be implemented on both the terrestrial networks and SADIS, if accepted, and SADISOPSGP presented with the results for approval.

b)   EUR OPMET Update Procedure
WP5 was presented following amendments to page 4 paragraph 9 and also the flow chart on page 6 to include ICAO Office. K Loy would contact the ICAO Paris office to establish the correct person, if not R Kruger, and the email address, as it was not clear if they were receiving the METNO and they could be included in the confirmation email to the BMG members.

WP7 presented (an IP really), which showed the METNO for the 14 June 2001 AIRAC date.

c)   Monitoring
WP2 presented showing the SIGMET monitoring for the March 2001 testing period. It highlighted some problems with the reception of tests in Warsaw, which is thought to be a monitoring problem and is being dealt with by Austria. Other areas requiring particular action are the routeing of WSUK31 for & WSNT21 for EGGX to the locations in 2.2.4 and the FVAF01 to EBBR in the same paragraph. Action by the UK to investigate the first two and Austria to investigate the last one.

One issue of major concern is the lack of SIGMET data from the Russian Federation, whether it be test messages or more importantly, actual SIGMETs. MH to prepare a WP for BMG/11 for presentation to MOTNEG/7 which summarises the monitoring period and highlights particular areas which are unresolved, and in particular, the lack of SIGMETs from Russia.

In the next series of testing, actual SIGMETs received should be shown in the report. Non-EUR SIGMET listings and routeing to be discussed at BMG/11.

IP4 was presented showing MOTNE data. There are several areas which need checking by the monitoring states, particularly where their own generated data is not being picked up.

d)   Addressing of EUR and non-EUR data.
Following the results of one of the Work Packages in the EUIG, it showed that in some cases, EUR data addressing to other regions is inefficient and can create duplicate transmission by the I/R gateways. As a first step, it was decided to use this information to identify where this was occurring and action is taken by each of the 3 I/R gateways (London, Bordeaux/Toulouse and Vienna) with the originating state to resolve the matter. It was emphasised that any request for EUR data to be transmitted to addresses in other regions, should be directed to the BMG FP for processing by the gateway appropriate to the region concerned.

The addressing of non-EUR data is being dealt with by the EUIG.
K Loy to email R Kruger to ascertain the progress of the 'identification of formal OPMET contact points in other regions'.

e)   OPMET Database request/reply standards.
WP4 - report of the ODAG meeting, held a few days before on the 5 June, was presented. This indicated that there were a few issues still to be resolved, namely FIR products, particularly WV & WC. P Simon will be approaching ICAO Paris to attempt to obtain listings (however, see IP2, the last action from d) above). In addition, there was a request syntax issue to be resolved at LOWM and EBBR.
'Request' monitoring has been done already and 'Data availability' monitoring will be done on 27 June.
With regard to the 'Request' monitoring, the group also gave a verbal indication of the level of access of some users, some as much as 8000 requests per day. This is an unacceptable level of use of the EUR infrastructure (databanks and network) and any user, which as a large requirement should be serviced by its parent MOTNE centre through the state delivery system. The group was requested to consider acceptable daily access thresholds, access control methods, identification of high users etc. within the ICD, which once endorsed by MOTNEG, would provide the reference document with which to manage these situations. It is expected that this document and also the Database Specification document will be ready by BMG/11 for final discussion prior to presentation to MOTNEG/7 (excepting the 2 subjects mentioned below for advice by METG).
For both sets of monitoring, the group should prepare WP for BMG/11 for discussion, prior to MOTNEG/7.
There are also 2 subjects, which will require advice from METG. This involves the use of the DTG and 'Requests for SIGMETs'. A WP will be prepared by W Demol for presentation at METG in September to resolve these two issues.

f)   Inter-regional co-ordination with other regions
WP9 presented, following amendments proposed at BMG/9, and this was agreed and will be presented to MOTNEG/7 by M Haberler.

g)   Long messages on AFTN
The relevant information cited in the Task was provided to the AFSG CIDIN Users Group (CUG) and the results of their investigation of the problem/solution are presented in WP3. The endorsement of these procedures for the implementation of this was delayed at AFSG/4, as there were some further issues still to be resolved. However, in principle, it was expected that this would be forthcoming by AFSG/5 in April 2002.
The areas which this group needs to consider in preparation for that are listings of bulletins which are generated and larger than the current limits on AFTN, the points at which there are AFS nodes which are capable of taking data in from GTS, including the 2-way SADIS, and transmitting it through AFS nodes which can deliver it to end-systems which need it and finally, the addresses of the end-systems who can take it.

h)   Performance Indices
IP1 was presented showing an 'Availability Index' based on monitoring on 1/3/01 measured against SUG Annex1 version 7/5/01. This was extremely interesting and highlighted for example, problems in ASIA/PAC and conversely, good availability from

SAM. However, this index is only as good as Annex1 and it was pointed out that from NAM, there are many FC bulletins for Canada received for aerodromes in Annex1, but which indicates an FT requirement and in fact, an FC is received for them. This is because Canada only produces FT for aerodromes in the FTCN31-34 bulletins and the remaining aerodromes only have FC produced. Annex1 therefore, needs to be more accurate in it's data requirements statement in order for this to be a valid measurement. One minor comment was that an Availability (Av) of 1.00 was misleading and confusing where the requirement was 0 and the Rx was 0. HS to modify by entering a '-' in this case.

The next attempt to calculate the PI will be made using the monitoring from the 17 May AIRAC data and will be evaluated at BMG/11.

i)   Inter-regional exchange – CAR/SAM

IP2 was presented which showed that a requirements list of routine data and a request for info on non-routine data was presented to CAR and SAM offices, on our behalf by ICAO Paris. In addition, we provided them with available products from the EUR region from which they could update their requirements. It is hoped that by offering them a catalogue they in turn, will assist us by providing a catalogue of information, which could be used to meet our requirements and most importantly, in a co-ordinated manner. It also requested assistance with problems experienced with the Brasilia Databank.

j) CIDIN/OPMET

Against the task from MOTNEG/6 Para 9.1, there was no further information. However, following a short discussion, it was quite clear there was a consensus that with implementation of long message lengths on AFTN in EUR, CIDIN/OPMET application will no longer be required.

(Author's note: as there was little time to discuss this further, it should be raised at BMG/11 with a view to producing a WP for MOTNEG which looks for a conclusion on the Long Message length v CIDIN/OPMET).

k) SADIS Monitoring

The 10-day monitoring period was from 17 May and the results are not yet available.

l) AOP Nomenclature for Countries and Aerodromes

HS presented WP8, which indicated there was an ICAO Montreal preference for the AOP nomenclature for country names to be adopted in the BMG tables, in the same way as the aerodrome names previously.

It was commented that it was more appropriate for the BMG to receive updated AOP tables from ICAO Paris. (Author's note: on return, I was reminded that the reason for them being provided from Bracknell (R. Orrell) was for practical purposes, due to the formatting issues of PDF and the workload involved).

5.   Operational Problems

There were no papers submitted on this subject. There was some comments on problems from Turkey and Italy regarding line lengths etc., but all members are requested to submit papers on this and any other issue on this subject for next meeting.

6.   AOB

H Swinnen relayed concerns about the definitions and action plans for the Work Packages to the meeting. Work Package 1 (BMG Operations Handbook) has still to be defined, but their has been a request for all members to provide up-to-date versions of documents to M Williamson for initial collation. Work Package 2 (CAR/SAM data request) is complete and we are awaiting a response from CAR/SAM. Work Package 3 (Problem Reporting). It was assumed that the assigned persons per Work Package would define the description and develop the action plan. (HS, WvanD & EN have had some informal ideas and hope to arrange something before BMG/11). This should be proposed at BMG/11.

7.   DONM

The date for the next meeting was set for 4-5 September in Norrkopping on the invitation of Eva Noreus.

List of actions

Action item	Responsible	Target date
Duplication of Russian bulletins to be checked that this is no longer occurring on SADIS	K Loy	1 July
Soft copies of monitoring presentation at BMG/9 by Netherlands (send to Rapporteur for onward distribution to group)	W. Koetse	31 July
IATA to provide a list of the IATA/ICAO indicators to H Swinnen/W Demol	H-R Sonnabend	31 July
Work Package for each BMG member to check the tables for their own area of responsibility in line with WP6 of BMG/10. The information from the members is required by BMG/11 in September to allow HS to prepare WP for MOTNEG/7	H Swinnen	7 July
Establish whether ICAO Paris is actually receiving the METNO messages and confirm who the correct addressee is, with email address preferably.	K Loy	7 July
SIGMET Monitoring (WP2 BMG/11). States to investigate any problems, but particularly UK and Austria for WSUK31, WSNT21 and FVAF01 to EBBR	All members	Before next monitoring period.
Draft WP which summarises the monitoring periods and highlights particular areas which are unresolved, in particular, the lack of SIGMETs from Russia	M Haberler	BMG/11
Resolution of duplication and inefficient routeing of bulletins from EUR to non-EUR, based on the WP in the EUIG	K Loy, M Pichler, P Simon, C. Molines	Report by BMG/11
Check with ICAO Paris on progress of the 'identification of formal OPMET contact points in other regions'	K Loy	1 July
Request for listings of WV & WC products from ICAO	P Simon	BMG/11
Completion of ICD, including access thresholds, access control methods, identification of high users and the Database Specification drafts for discussion at next meeting	ODAG	BMG/11
Monitoring exercise on databanks with WPs for discussion	ODAG	BMG/11
WP for METG requesting advice on DTG and 'Requests for SIGMETs'	W Demol	METG
Inter-regional co-ordination with other regions – WP9 BMG/10 with minor amendments for presentation to MOTNEG	M Haberler	MOTNEG/7
Development of the lists of bulletins which are generated larger than AFTN standard lengths, AFS nodes with capability and addressees	BMG	BMG/12
Report on Performance Indices following monitoring for 17 May.	H Swinnen	BMG/11
Preparation of a WP for MOTNEG to establish a conclusion on Long Message length v CIDIN/OPMET	K Loy	BMG/11
Nomenclature for countries WP for MOTNEG	H. Swinnen	MOTNEG/7