

**Report of BMG Meeting/17
Vienna, 16-18 June 2003**

List of participants

Mr. Michael Pichler	Austria
Mr. Herman Swinnen	Belgium
Mr. Wim Demol	Belgium
Mr. Poul Larsen	Denmark
Mr. Patrick Simon	France
Mr. Jacques Anquetil	France
Mr. Bernd Richter	Germany
Mr. Wil van Dijk	Netherlands
Mr. Willem Koetse	Netherlands
Mr. John Syer	Norway
Mrs. Conception Callejas	Spain
Mr. Kevin Loy	UK (Rapporteur)
Mr. James Randall	UK
Mr. Laurentiu Brojboiu	Romania (Sec)
Mr. Hans-Rudi Sonnabend	IATA

0. Agenda

1. EUR OPMET Update procedure & data monitoring and reporting.
 - i) Provide updated EUR OPMET data/reports, bulletins, on a monthly basis at AIRAC dates, insertion, deletion of bulletins and reports
 - ii) Publication of OPMET data in accordance with the required procedures
 - iii) Conduct standard monitoring, SADIS monitoring (including test SIGMET monitoring etc.) and report results in accordance with the required procedures.
 2. Addressing of EUR and non-EUR OPMET data
Manage and co-ordinate overall EUR Region addressing scheme for both regional and inter-regional OPMET data.
 3. Performance Indices
Implement performance indices for OPMET data on SADIS, AFTN and in databanks and report results to METG, AFSG and SADISOPSG.
 4. Documentation of OPMET procedures
 - i) Draft OPMET Handbook that includes all previously agreed guidance and procedures in a single point of reference document
 - ii) Development of FTP sites
 5. Accommodation of long OPMET messages on AFTN
Determine the feasibility of using specific OPMET segmentation procedures for long OPMET messages.
 6. TAF completion and distributions
Feasibility Study of communications aspects for issuing TAFs on flexible time periods.
 7. AIRMET+GAMET
Arrange for AIRMET+GAMET, as produced by EUR States to be transmitted to the MOTNE Centres, and OPMET databanks for distribution to users as required.
 8. Problem handling procedure
Procedures for the Management of BMG Related Problems
 9. Papers for SADISOPSG/8 & METG/13
 10. AOB
 11. Date and location of next meeting.
-

1. EUR OPMET Update procedure & data monitoring and reporting

WP1: EUR OPMET Data Update Procedure

Small corrections were made to the contact details.

In order to have listed the operational contacts, the table “List of MOTNE Centres contacts” shall be renamed to “... / Admin” and a new table “... / Operational” shall be created.

It was noted the introduction of the section regarding the announcement of the changes in the databank access procedures via a METNO message.

WP2: EUR OPMET Data Update Procedure – Activity Report

In the report that will be presented to METG/13, the results shall be presented relative to the last METG meeting (when the letter was sent to the states), and only for Europe.

The BMG members shall take necessary actions (at their appropriate level: IR Gateway / Responsible MOTNE centre) in order to minimize the number of bulletins introduced outside the procedure (and listed in Appendix 3 to the WP). The table is in Excel format and will be made available to BMG members.

WP 6 : Report of the RQM-Monitoring

The results of an one-day monitoring were discussed.

A list has been presented showing all the addresses wrongly used to send queries to the Vienna DB. Each MOTNE-Centre should have a look on it and contact originators as possible.

Also was presented a listing of the “heavy users”. Some of these users are from other ICAO regions. The meeting agreed to contact known representatives in these regions (Dimitar Ivanov for Taiwan/Bangkok) in order to encourage to facilitate the distribution of the necessary data using their own infrastructure in that region (for instance, in the ASIA/PAC region there are 5 databanks available).

A separate case was presented for a heavy user from Canada, known to be a software company. Kevin Loy will make inquiries with NavCanada (AFTN) and Environment Canada in order to identify the user and the possible use of the requested data, as well as the purpose of regularly requesting data from a databank in the EUR region. Advice shall be requested from ICAO on the matter of denying access the databanks and if it is defined somewhere that an user should address (firstly) a databank in his region.

The RQM monitoring shall carry on, on an extended period (3 days).

IP 1 - IR Monitoring of Vienna

Austria presented the results of an one-day monitoring of the inter-regional data. The listing comprises the originator, the address that was used and the address that should be used, instead.

Action: the MOTNE centres designated as IR gateways shall take the appropriate actions for a correct addressing of all bulletins.

WP 7 – Sigmet Monitoring

There were noted the changes to the informational letter. A proposal for an analysing method was presented, showing for each individual SIGMET bulletin the reception at MOTNE centres during the last monitoring tests.

The members were informed about the participation of Russia in the next monitoring test and a list of the FIR's within the Russian area was made available. Also, it has been requested from Moscow a list comprising all bulletin headers of the SIGMET messages produced in that area.

WP 14 – Availability monitoring

It was presented the result of four monitoring exercises for the availability of data in the three European databanks. It was derived a table comprising the airports for which not a single message was received.

The table was derived starting from the requested data in SUG Annex 1, which was agreed by the meeting to contain lot of inappropriate data (military airports or not meant to international use, etc).

Actions:

- a new column (“Comments”) shall be added to the table and the members shall try to complete this column with the possible explanations for the data unavailability.
- Kevin Loy will present the paper to SADISOPSG & METG. It shall be brought to the attention of SADISOPSG to find a procedure to update the Annex 1, and the necessity of having the Annex available in electronic format.
- In the future, the table shall be derived in order to take into account only the airports listed in non-italic letters in SUG Annex 1 (mandatory, not desirable).

France informed that until the last monitoring included, the SP was not taken into account for the Toulouse Monitoring, so the rate should be better next monitoring for SA.

Also, this autumn LFPW databank will implement the request by short heading and this will be notified by a METNO message in due time.

WP 8 & 9 – BMG Analyser specification

Para. 1.2.4 – 42: The fields named “Report time”, “TAF Validity period” and “NIL or Test” will be moved to the level 1. The field “Compilation time” shall be renamed “Origin time”. The field “AFTN Tx Time” is irrelevant and will be deleted from all three levels.

James Randall will make the modifications to the document and circulate it to the centres doing the monitoring.

Kevin Loy will present the revised document to METG as a proposal to be accepted by ICAO as the official specifications for the monitoring tool, with the possibility to be adopted also in the other ICAO regions.

3. Performance indices

WP 10 – Performance indices

A number of anomalies were noted, especially differences between the SADIS and EBBR-AFTN availability indices. UK, France and Belgium will go into investigations on this matter in the next days. It was agreed for a 14-day monitoring in September, for SADIS, EBBR, LFPW, EDZO, EGGY and LOWM (if they could monitor AFTN separately) and the databanks.

With regard to the regularity index, it was noted that in the future, more “real” values will be obtained, as a consequence of the dynamic adjustment of the thresholds.

4. Documentation of OPMET procedures

WP 11 & 12 – EUR OPMET Database specifications (+Catalogue)

Kevin Loy will present a paper to METG on this subject. The paper shall inform also about the availability of the documents on the FTP servers (in .pdf and ASCII format) and about the impossibility to include the Gamet messages in the databanks (Wim Demol & Kevin Loy will prepare the paper).

WP 4 – Structure of the FTP servers

The following changes were agreed and Michael Pichler will do the updates.:

- “PI” added under “OPMET monitoring”
- A new folder named “Meetings” shall be created and “BMG Meetings” shall be moved under it, along with “METG Meetings”, “SADISOPSG Meetings”, etc.

Kevin Loy will present a paper to METG indicating the access procedures and the structure.

BMG members will provide the necessary documents to populate the folders (WPs, IPs, etc). For the BMG Meetings papers, it was agreed to start from the last MOTNEG meeting.

M. Pichler will act as co-ordinator for the FTP sites so that the 3 FTP sites will be at the same data level every time.

5. TAF completion and distribution

WP 17 – Flexible time TAFs

A small group (.....) shall prepare by end July/beginning August a paper to be presented to METG.

6. Problem handling procedure

WP 6 – EUR OPMET Problem Handling Procedure

IP 5 – Test of the PHP

The meeting agreed that the test shall be repeated. Only two problems shall be raised this time. Patrick Simon offered to act as the PHM for the test, which will be held in the 1st week of September.

2. Addressing of EUR and non-Eur OPMET data

WP 05 – Papers to PTEAST

The meeting agreed it was worth the Austrian member to participate to the next PTEAST meeting and present the following papers:

- Format problems
- EUR OPMET Data Update Procedure
- Distribution Determination in Europe
- FTP Servers

7. Any other business

- OPMET data from Poland
Actions to be taken to ensure that necessary configurations are made such that OPMET data from Poland be routed via Prague to Vienna and from here to the MOTNE centres. To be announced by a METNO message for the next AIRAC date.
 - Pol Ole Larsen and Michael Pichler will prepare a paper to be presented to METG on the subject of the use of wrong CCCC for the compiling stations of some bulletins. The paper will comprise a list of wrong CCCC and an explanation of problem that can cause. The purpose of the paper will be that ICAO will urge states to follow the official way to obtain valid location indicators and use them
 - Problem with Turkmenistan bulletins: the use of TA instead of TZ as the AA in the AHL. Austria informed that Moscow already contacted WMO and it waits for advice. At this time the bulletin is recompiled in Vienna, and it keeps the original CCCC in the AHL. The meeting agreed that for the recompiled bulletin, the CCCC of the (re)compiling station shall be used (LOWM instead of RUMS).
 - Kevin Loy informed the meeting that the Glasgow MET Centre (EGRA) will close permanently by September and its responsibilities will be taken over by Aberdeen MET Centre, which will get another location indicator and be responsible for North Scotland. As OPMET bulletins, the SIGMETs for the Scottish FIR will be affected only. Appropriate measures will be taken to announce the changes in due time via the update procedure.
 - WP 15 – SADIS OPMET routing list. A list of unknown bulletins was presented. Kevin Loy, Herman Swinnen, James Randall and Will van Dijk will coordinate by email and a paper will be presented to next SADISOPSG meeting containing recommendation on how the SUG Annex 3 shall be derived in the future.
 - France informed about a 2-way VSAT installation by ASECNA, with which Meteo France will have a 2-way link. It is expected this will improve the exchange of data with the AFI region.
-

- Denmark informed about the installation of a new system in Copenhagen at the end of this year. Pol Ole Larsen will present at the next BMG meeting a proposal for an alternate routing of the Scandinavian data in case of a total break-down of the system in Copenhagen.
 - The next meeting was scheduled for 21-23 October in Langen, Germany.
-