

REPORT OF THE DATA MANAGEMENT GROUP

SECOND MEETING

(Brussels, 15-17 March 2011)

The second meeting of the Data Management Group was held from 15 to 17 March 2011 in Belgocontrol premises, Brussels and was attended by the following:

List of participants

Mr. Michael Pichler	Austria
Mr. Herman Swinnen	Belgium
Mr. Wim Demol	Belgium
Mr. Johnny Funder	Denmark
Mr. Patrick Simon	France
Mrs. Annemiek den Uijl	Netherlands
Mr. Laurentiu Brojboiu	Romania (Secretary)
Mr. Edward Boorman	United Kingdom
Mr. Kevin Loy	United Kingdom (Chairman)

WP 1 – Adoption of the provisional agenda

In the beginning of the meeting, the provisional agenda was discussed. There was agreed to delete the item: Composition and working arrangements for DMG and to introduce under 4 iv0 NUCEMM,. The approved agenda of the meeting was the following:

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Actions from previous meeting WP13
3. Information from other groups
4. EUR OPMET Data Update procedure and data monitoring and reporting
 - i) Routine WP06 IP01 WP 14, 15
 - ii) Non-routine (incl. SIGMET issues) WP05, 07
 - iii) Volcanic Ash WP12
 - iv) NUCEMM IP03
5. Addressing of EUR and Non-EUR OPMET data WP11
6. Performance Indices
7. RODEX WP02, 09 IP02, 07, 08
8. Documentation IP 04,05 WP06
 - a) EUR OPMET Data Management Handbook WP03, 08
 - b) PHP (Output from database and discussion of current problems)
 - c) Update BMG->DMG WP04
9. WXXM WP10

10. AOB

11. Next meeting

Agenda Item 3: Actions from the previous meeting

The group reviewed the status of the actions established at the DMG01 meeting. The completed tasks were erased from the list (highlighted in yellow; see comments) while the pending actions were maintained and, if necessary, rescheduled.

Ag. Item/BMG	Action item	Responsible	Target date
BMG36-4-5	Analyse the OPMET archives to determine whether there are European FIRs for which test SIGMETs are issued but no real data received so far.	J. Randall	
BMG37-3-5	Propose a list of the key tasks of the group (terms of reference) and possible assignments of the tasks to the members. After review by the group, the list will be forwarded to ICAO Paris in order to contact the corresponding agencies via a state letter and obtain support for the BMG working activities	K.Loy ICAO	DMG02
BMG37-7-3	Finalise the user interface for the catalogue and for providing the use cases.	J. Randall	DMG02
BMG37-7-5	The three ROCs will provide the routing tables to Johnny Funder.	London Toulouse Vienna	DMG02
BMG37-7-6	Develop backup procedures for their corresponding centres (). The resulting document for all three ROCS will have a target date to be presented at DMG02?	ROC London ROC Toulouse	
BMG37-7-8	Cooperate with Italy to restructure the 40s bulletins (possible recompilation?).	Patrick Simon	DMG02
BMG37-5-3	For the bulletins that the addressing is not solved by the actions above, the ROCs should investigate, were appropriate, the use of automatic response with "Unknown address" message to the originators	The three ROCs	DMG03
BMG37-4-6	Provide the current distribution list of FV bulletins to ROCs Vienna and London to be implemented accordingly at these centres, and further coordinate the sending from Toulouse to the two ROCs only	P. Simon	DMG02
BMG37-4-9	Continue to participate to the next ASIA/PAC monitoring exercise scheduled for November 2010.	The 3 ROCs De Bilt (Sadis)	
BMG37-4-10	Contact the ASIA/PAC OPMET TF Rapporteur / ICAO Bangkok to ask for correct addressing of FTJP31-32 bulletins, according to FASID MET 2B.	Ed Boorman	DMG02

BMG38-3-1	Starting next monitoring date, Toulouse will perform ISCS monitoring (the same way that De Bilt is doing for SADIS).	Patrick	
BMG38-4-1	Provide UK with the updated list of the reports that are requested by the users in the ASIA/PAC region. In case the problem can not be solved with Singapore, UK will start to routinely distribute those reports to the two users (Tai Pei and Urumqi).	W. Demol K. Loy	DMG02
BMG38-4-2	Inventory of data that is requested (SUG Annex 1) but not monitored in EUR (WP for DMG02)	H. Swinnen	DMG02
BMG38-4-3	The graphical VAA (VAG) will be monitored during the next exercise by Patrick (GTS), Kevin (UK) and Annemiek (AFS/SADIS	A. den Uijl P. Simon K. Loy	Feb 2011
BMG38-4-5	Investigate to find possible options for addressing the FV bulletin length issue. VOLCEXParis, dec. '10	P. Simon	DMG02
BMG38-4-7	Contact ICAO Paris (Greg Brock) in order to obtain an updated list of the AFTN addresses to be used to distribute the VAA to each state. This list should be included by the DMG into the RODC catalogue	K. Loy	DMG02
BMG38-4-8	The current timers should be investigated, and the three ROCs should agree on a proposal	3 ROCs	On-going
BMG38-4-10	Investigate whether the data originated by EDZWYMYX are part of a bi-lateral agreement, and if affirmative correct the addressing, to be EBZZYBYX	H. Swinnen	DMG02
BMG38-4-14	Consolidate information regarding the way the misrouted bulletins are received by LOWM. Also will investigate for each misrouted bulletins whether is received also on the normal way, from the corresponding IROG (in which case the misrouting could be suppressed).	M. Pichler	DMG03
BMG38-4-15	Set up a Work Package for AFI data addressing	P. Simon	DMG02
DMG01-5-1	Derive availability deficiencies from DB monitoring and submit to ICAO	Wim Demol	DMG02
DMG01-5-2	List of a/d with both FC and FT (per region) be sent through PHP to ICAO Paris	Wim Demol	DMG02
DMG01-5-3	Recompilation of US bulletins and announce via METNO	UK	DMG02
DMG01-5-4	Check the routing of SAOS33 LOWM	UK	DMG02
DMG01-5-5	Contact Ireland on WS routing	K. Loy	DMG02
DMG01-6-1	Work on validation work package – timers review	P. Simon M. Pichler Ed Boorman	DMG03
DMG01-6-2	Replace Timers chapter in the Handbook with mention "Under review"	J. Funder	

DMG01-6-3	Propose ICAO Paris state letter on Special AIREP used	P. Simon	DMG02
DMG01-6-4	Propose AMOF SG the FIR indication into the AIREP format	P. Simon	DMG03
DMG01-8-1	Continue work on RODC to finalise base level	J. Funder J. Randall	DMG03
DMG01-8-2	Provide monitoring results to feed the RODC tables	H. Swinnen J. Funder	DMG02
DMG01-9-1	Submit ICD to update the Handbook	W. Demol J. Funder	DMG02
DMG01-9-2	Review the DB Specification doc (monitoring)	W. Demol M. Pichler P. Simon	DMG02
DMG01-9-3	Review pending problems in PHP. Update ticket status	K. Loy H. Swinnen P. Simon	DMG02
DMG01-9-4	Provide PHP information to Greg Brock and Ed Boorman	A. den Uijl	DMG02

Agenda Item 3: Information from other groups

No information available

Agenda item 4: EUR OPMET Data Update procedure and data monitoring and reporting.

WP06 – OPMET Databanks availability monitoring

The monitoring took place between 1-3 Feb 2011. The overall results show an increase in the availability of data for all the three databanks, in particular for EBBR. When analysing the results, it was noted that some French bulletins were reported by Brussels but not by Toulouse – that was explained by France by mentioning that some French bulletins had not been included into the Toulouse monitoring results.

Action DMG02-4-1: P. Simon will provide the complete monitoring results (including the extra French bulletins) to M. Pichler. Starting the next monitoring exercise, Toulouse will include all the French bulletins in the monitoring.

The results of the monitoring were published as an attachment to the WP, but the corresponding tables were not considered as final reports, but as working material to identify and solve the routing problems.

For the data not received by all three databanks:

Action DMG02-4-2: ROCs London and Toulouse will verify by the end of March the routing of the corresponding bulletins and take the appropriate measures to ensure the availability of data.

For the data required but never received:

Action DMG02-4-3: The list of these bulletins will be submitted ICAO Paris in order to be addressed to the states (probably by a state letter).

For the aerodromes that still provide both FC and FT:

Action DMG02-4-4: The list of those aerodromes will be split by region and submitted, via PHP, to ICAO Montreal (Greg Brock).

For the US bulletins

Action DMG02-4-5: Ed Boorman will identify in what METAR bulletin is included the KAWN report and check the routing of that bulletin (it should not be SAEU15, but SAUKxx EGRR).

IP 01 Italian data

Following the discussions between ROC Toulouse and Italy, there has been recorded progress in restructuring the TAF and SIGMET bulletins, so that during the monitoring in February 2011 the TAF bulletins were in the 30 series and well balanced, appropriate for the AFTN distribution, while the SIGMET bulletins were also restructured to use different ii for different FIRs. There is still under development the restructuring of the SA bulletins, and that is expected to take a little longer period.

WP14 EB missing data on AFTN

The group was presented with a list of all the bulletins received by at least one centre during the February monitoring, but not by EBBR on AFTN.

Further, the *WP15 CCCC TT SUG notRx* presents in more detail the missing data, grouped by region, country, location indicator.

It was considered necessary to concentrate on the required data only, and was mentioned that similar results should be produced for SADIS and ISCS. The outcome of the monitoring analysis should be harmonised with the DB availability monitoring, and materialised into a document to be presented to the next SADISOPSG meeting. During the meeting, on Thursday afternoon, work will be done to derive such a Working Paper.

WP05 SIGMET Monitoring

Michael Pichler (as DMG SIGMET focal point) presented the results of the latest SIGMET monitoring tests, which took place on 2nd Feb (WS) and 3rd Feb (WV, FV).

It was considered useful that the databanks from the other regions participate to the future SIGMET monitoring exercises in EUR.

Action DMG02-04-6: ROC London and Toulouse will propose the databanks in ASIA/PAC and NAM regions, respectively AFI region, to participate to the future SIGMET monitoring exercises carried on in the EUR region, by monitoring the reception of the required SIGMETs.

Action DMG02-04-7: To improve the participation from the EUR region, ROC London will invite Latvia and Estonia to participate to the SIGMET monitorings, and ROC Toulouse the same with Morocco.

(Malta and Portugal declared that receive the data only via SADIS).

As for the bulletins always recorded as NIL, it was agreed:

Action DMG02-4-8: M. Pichler, as the SIGMET focal point, will derive a list of the SIGMET always recorded as NIL and will try to approach the corresponding national SIGMET focal point to ask for information / improvement.

WP07 ASIA/PAC SIGMET Monitoring

As agreed at the previous meetings, the three ROCs plus EHDB (SADIS) and Brussels (DB) participated to the SIGMET monitoring exercise held in Nov 2010 in the ASIA/PAC region. The monitoring results were summarised in a table where some bulletins were not received by all

participants. As the IROG responsible for the ASIA/PAC region, London was asked to check the routing of these bulletins.

Action DMG02-04-9: London will check the routing of the missing SIGMET bulletins from the ASIA/PAC regions. The results should be presented as a paper for the DMG03.

With respect to the SIGMET messages for nuclear activity, the group discussed on the header that these messages should be circulated under (WN ?). It was agreed by the members that further clarification is needed (possibly from other working groups or ICAO), as for the moment no routing is in place for these messages in Europe.

WP12 Volcanic Ash Exercise

The group was informed on the planned volcanic ash exercise for 13-14 April 2011, including details such as the aims and objectives, test scenario, participating agencies, etc.

EBBR expressed its concern, as Belgocontrol was not mentioned as a participating agency, and the test seems to affect that area. P. Simon offered to obtain information on this aspect and inform Wim Demol.

IP 03 Nuclear emergency message for Japan

At METG20 was decided to ask states on the address that nuclear emergency messages should be addressed to. These messages are issued by the two VAACs as guidance for the affected FIRs to issue the corresponding SIGMETs.

The group was presented the nuclear emergency message that was issued on 12 March by EGGR. It was considered useful to verify whether that message was correctly distributed.

Action DMG02-04-10: Edward will check the routing of the NNXX01 message, to verify it was distributed to all the corresponding addresses announced for the affected FIRs.

Agenda item 5 Addressing of EUR and Non-EUR OPMET data

WP11 Misrouted bulletins to EBBR

Brussels informed that there are some bulletins which are received at a wrong address (EBBRYZYX, which is used for interrogations only). Some of these are also received at the correct address, but there are still some of them that are not received correctly (nevertheless, corresponding data is correctly received in other bulletins). For these, the following was agreed:

Action DMG02-05-1: The three ROCs will verify the reception of these bulletins. Whether they are received, check whether the routing (to EBBR) is in place and after that ask the originator to stop sending the messages directly to EBBR. Whether the bulletins are not received by the ROCs, first ask for the data, ensure it is received and correctly routed and after that ask to stop sending the messages directly to EBBR.

Agenda Item 8 Documentation

WP03 EUR OPMET Handbook

It was noted that in order to have the fifth edition endorsed by the next COG meeting, that must be ready before May 1st 2011. Under these circumstances, it was agreed that no update of the Handbook will be proposed for the moment. Following on the agreement on the timers (validation), a new version will incorporate updates related to the SIGMET test procedures and OPMET data validation. The new version will have to be agreed at DMG03 in order to be presented to the METG meeting.

*WP02 Allowed Timers for OPMET**WP08 Review of EUR OPMET Hdbk ch. 12*

A conclusion of a previous meeting stated that the current timers defined for the validation process are not reasonable anymore and need revision. These two working papers were presented to the group in order to come to an agreement on the timers and their corresponding values to be used for OPMET data validation.

Based on the current provisions of the international regulations related on this subject, for the validation of OPMET data have been defined two sets of timers: one set for validating the message according to the day/time group presented in the bulletin header, and one set for the day/time group presented in the report. Both sets define two timers: one for how "early" a message can be received and one for how "late". For the aerodrome forecasts and SIGMET warnings, one additional set was defined, related to the validity of the forecast, and consisting of one timer for validating the beginning of the forecast and one for the end.

The group looked into detail for each of the defined timer and for each of the message type, based on the current regulations and on aspects of operational nature. It has agreed on the following values:

	SA	FC	FT
T1	15'	60'	60'
T2	90'	240'	420'
T3	15'	15' or 30'	60'
T4	90'	60'	60'
T5		120' or 180'	240' or 360'
T6		720'	1800'

It was generally agreed that prior to proceeding to formalise these timers and their values, the validation should be tested under these conditions.

Action DMG02-8-1: P. Simon and M. Pichler will run simulations on the validation process based on the above considerations, against the data from the Feb monitoring, in order to see how well the current data are validated and how much are rejected. In two weeks time, the results of these simulations will be circulated to the group members for comments/suggestions. What results from that will be compiled into a working paper to be presented at DMG03.

Note: for the timers above where two values are proposed, separate results will be generated for each value, in order to be able to decide what value is the most appropriate to be used.

WP04 – Update documentation on BMG --> DMG

The working paper presented by The Netherlands described the proposed updates in documents and mailings, produced by the DMG due to the change from Bulletin Management Group (BMG) to Data management Group (DMG). Part of the changes had already been operated, and the rest are under revision. Email addresses / url change of the DMG focal point will become effective by an email sent by Herman or Wim

Further, it was considered necessary the following:

Action DMG02-8-2: P. Simon will inform VAAC Toulouse while E. Boorman VAAC London on the need to update the text of the volcanic ash advisory with respect to the change from BMG to DMG.

IP04, IP05 and IP06

Agenda Item 9 WXXM

WP10 WXXM test – status and intention

The group was informed on the intention of testing the data exchange in WXXM format between Brussels and London. The aim of this test is to show that the DMG infrastructure can be used as gateway between TAC and XML during the transition period. The paper offered provisional information on the scenario of the test. It was mentioned that for both centres, software updates will be available in the near future, in support of conversion to/from WXXM format. It was also mentioned that the exchange should be preferably done via AMHS (for the moment, there is no direct AMHS connection available for the London MET switch).

Action DMG02-9-1: Brussels and London will continue to cooperate on testing the WXXM data exchange and will inform at DMG03 on the progress.

Agenda Item 7 RODEX

WP09 ROC Toulouse back-up procedure

The proposal was in line with the previous documents on this subject, and the main concept behind that was to define a new address (PDAI) at which users in the respective ROC AoR should send data to. The AFTN switch will resolve this into the address of the MET switch, under normal conditions, while in case of outage, will resolve into two additional addresses, corresponding to the other two ROCs.

A schematic diagram was developed and displayed, while the group commented on the corresponding details of the actions and the time steps to implement. It was felt, though, that the concept still needs further consolidation and the group agreed on the following:

Action DMG02-7-1: The three ROCs will work together to develop the back-up concept and the outcome will be presented as a WP to DMG03 and ready for METG/21.

IP02 – RODC Status

J. Funder presented to the group the status reached with the RODC, highlighting the tasks that were completed and the ones that need immediate attention. Taking into account the current work load on James Randall and future availability for this project, it was agreed that E. Boorman will take over his responsibilities for this project.

Action DMG02-7-2: Ed. Boorman will cooperate with J. Funder and derive the use cases and the HMI (front-end) for the RODC application.

The members of the group expressed the need to have a complete list of the header used globally for the SIGMET bulletins dissemination. It was mentioned that for the EUR and ASIA/PAC region, this list is included into the corresponding SIGMET Guide. It was proposed the following:

Action DMG02-7-3: K. Loy will contact Greg Brock and mention the need of a complete list of the SIGMET headers used worldwide, similar to the SIGMET Guides of the EUR and ASIA/PAC regions. The same time, a proposal for the other regions to participate to the SIGMET tests in the EUR region should be addressed.

IP08 RODC Catalogue – IP07 is the same in an other format

H. Swinnen presented to the group the current proposal for the RODC catalogue, populated with data from the latest monitorings.

The group noted and put particular stress on the fact that there are many reports which can be found in more than one bulletin. When a request is made for such a report, what bulletin should be served then? Several options are available (the lowest ii in the 30's series, the first bulletin

encountered, the one that satisfies the most request for that user, etc), including recompilation. It was agreed that this aspects should be analysed in detail and decide on the best option.

Agenda Item 8b PHP

The group members opened the PHP ticketing application and analysed in detail every one of the currently pending tickets.

Action DMG02-8-3: Ed Boorman will check the current status on the format of the SIGMET messages from the US and Canada and present a paper on that to the DMG03, with the intention to present the situation to METG.

Action DMG02-8-4: M. Pichler will check whether the requested Iraqi data is already available, will check the routing and inform UK, close the ticket. For the data that is not yet available, update the ticket and ask for those data through the MET Subgroup of the MID region (WP for the meeting in May).

Agenda Item 11 Any Other Business

The group was informed on the following matters:

- Restructuring of the bulletins coming from Malta and Libya
As the Libyan data requested to be exchanged are now available and directly sent by the Libyan national meteorological centre, there is no more need to the Maltese service to provide these data in its own compilation. Therefore, ROC Toulouse invited Malta to produce as soon as possible compiled bulletins with LMMM data and by using the headings (SA,FC,FT,WS,WV)ML31 LMMM headings instead of the previously used headings (SA,FC,FT,WS,WV)MP31 LMMM (letter to Malta sent the 19th of January).

- The RODEX web site is being updated to take into account the changes

There was a proposal for the next DMG meeting to discuss on the subject of mid and long-term activities planning, in the light of the current developments recorded at European and international scale on our field of activity.

- Dates and location of the next meeting
DMG03: Copenhagen 14-16 June 2011
DMG02: Edinburgh (tentative, tbc) or London October 2011

List of actions resulting after DMG02

Ag. Item/BMG	Action item	Responsible	Target date
BMG36-4-5	Analyse the OPMET archives to determine whether there are European FIRs for which test SIGMETs are issued but no real data received so far.	J. Randall	
BMG37-7-5	The three ROCs will provide the routing tables to Johnny Funder.	London Toulouse Vienna	DMG03
BMG37-4-6	Provide the current distribution list of FV bulletins to ROCs Vienna and London to be implemented accordingly at these centres, and further coordinate the sending from Toulouse to the two ROCs only	P. Simon	DMG03
BMG37-4-10	Contact the ASIA/PAC OPMET TF Rapporteur / ICAO Bangkok to ask for correct addressing of FTJP31-32 bulletins, according to FASID MET 2B.	Ed Boorman	DMG03
BMG38-4-7	Contact ICAO Paris (Greg Brock) in order to obtain an updated list of the AFTN addresses to be used to distribute the VAA to each state. This list should be included by the DMG into the RODC catalogue	K. Loy	DMG03
BMG38-4-14	Consolidate information regarding the way the misrouted bulletins are received by LOWM. Also will investigate for each misrouted bulletins whether is received also on the normal way, from the corresponding IROG (in which case the misrouting could be suppressed).	M. Pichler	DMG03
BMG38-4-15	Set up a Work Package for AFI data addressing	P. Simon	DMG03
DMG01-5-2	List of a/d with both FC and FT (per region) be sent through PHP to ICAO Paris	Wim Demol	DMG03
DMG01-6-3	Propose ICAO Paris state letter on Special AIREP used	P. Simon	DMG03
DMG01-6-4	Propose AMOF SG the FIR indication into the AIREP format	P. Simon	DMG03
DMG01-8-2	Provide monitoring results to feed the RODC tables	H. Swinnen J. Funder	DMG02
DMG01-9-1	Submit ICD to update the Handbook	W. Demol J. Funder	DMG02
DMG01-9-2	Review the DB Specification doc (monitoring)	W. Demol M. Pichler P.Simon	DMG02
DMG02-4-1	Provide the complete monitoring results (including the extra French bulletins) to M. Pichler. Starting the next monitoring exercise, Toulouse will include all the French bulletins in the monitoring.	P. Simon	End of March

DMG02-4-2	Verify the routing of the corresponding bulletins and take the appropriate measures to ensure the availability of data at all three databanks.	ROCs London and Toulouse	end of March
DMG02-4-3	The list of the reports requested but never received will be submitted to ICAO Paris in order to be addressed to the states (probably by a state letter).	M. Pichler	DMG03
DMG02-4-4	The list of the stations that produce both FC and FT will be submitted to ICAO Montreal.	M. Pichler	DMG03
DMG02-4-5	Verify the routing for the KAWN report	Ed Boorman	DMG03
DMG02-4-6	Propose databanks in the other regions to monitor SIGMET receptions during tests in the EUR region	ROC London, Toulouse	DMG03
DMG02-4-7	Invite Latvia and Estonia, respectively Morocco to participate at SIGMET tests	ROC London ROC Toulouse	DMG03
DMG02-4-8	Invite states in EUR region always recorded as NIL to participate in SIGMET test	M. Pichler	DMG03
DMG02-4-9	Check the missing SIGMET msgs from ASIA/PAC spotted on Feb monitoring	ROC London	DMG03
DMG2-4-10	Check the routing of the nuclear emergency bulletin (NNXX) issued on March 12	Ed. Boorman	DMG03
DMG2-5-1	Verify the reception of the bulletins from other regions sent directly to EBBR, at a wrong address. Check whether their routing (to EBBR) is in place and after that ask the originator to stop sending the messages directly to EBBR. Whether not received by the ROCs, ask for these data, ensure it is received and correctly routed and after that ask to stop sending the messages directly to EBBR.	ROC London ROC Toulouse ROC Vienna	
DMG2-8-1	Run simulations on the validation process based on the proposed timers, against the data from the Feb monitoring. Circulate the results to the group members for comments/suggestions. WP to DMG03.	P. Simon M. Pichler	End March DMG03
DMG2-8-2	Inform both VAACs on the change from BMG->DMG, to be reflected in the text of the FV test message	P. Simon Ed. Boorman	DMG03
DMG2-9-1	Cooperate to test exchanging data in WXXM format. Inform DMG	ROC London EBBR	DMG03
DMG2-7-1	Develop backup procedures for the ROC Result to be presented as WP to DMG03.	ROC London ROC Toulouse ROC Vienna	DMG03
DMG2-7-2	Finalise the user interface for the catalogue and for providing the use cases.	Ed. Boorman	
DMG2-7-3	Contact ICAO Montreal (Greg Brock) on: - the need of complete global list of SIGMET headers – possible Global Sigmet Guide - Asking other regions to participate to SIGMET monitoring.	K. Loy	
DMG2-8-3	Identify incorrect format of US and Canadian SIGMETs.	Ed. Boorman	DMG03
DMG2-8-4	Identify the availability of Iraqi data and correct routing. If necessary, WP to ask for the missing data. Otherwise,	M. Pichler	MID Region MET subgr

	close the PHP ticket.		meeting
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