

# REPORT OF THE DATA MANAGEMENT GROUP

## FOURTH MEETING

*(Swanwick, 18-20 October 2011)*

The fourth meeting of the Data Management Group was held from 18 to 20 October 2011 in NATS premises, Swanwick and was attended by the following participants:

### 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

After the meeting opening, the group discussed on the provisional agenda and adopted it as follows:

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Actions from previous meeting
3. Information from other groups IP01 WP07
4. EUR OPMET Data Update procedure and data monitoring, reporting and addressing
  - i) Routine WP03
  - ii) Non-routine (incl. SIGMET issues) IP03 WP02
  - iii) Volcanic Ash
  - iv) Addressing of EUR and Non-EUR OPMET data
5. Performance Indices
6. RODEX IP02 WP04
7. Documentation
  - a) EUR OPMET Data Management Handbook
  - b) PHP WP05
  - c) Update BMG->DMG
8. WXXM WP06
9. AOB
10. Next meeting

**Agenda Item 3: Actions from the previous meeting**

The group reviewed the status of the actions established at the DMG03 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
DMG03-3-1	Analyse the OPMET archives to determine whether there are European FIRs for which test SIGMETs are issued but no real data received so far.	Ed. Boorman	1 Dec. 2011
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
DMG03-3-2	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
DMG01-6-4	Propose AMOF SG the FIR indication into the AIREP format	P. Simon	DMG05
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.	ROC Toulouse	DMG04
DMG02-4-5	Verify the routing for the KAWN report	Ed Boorman	Next AIRAC
DMG02-4-7	Invite Latvia and Estonia, respectively Morocco to participate at SIGMET tests	ROC London ROC Toulouse	DMG05
DMG02-4-8	Invite states in EUR region always recorded as NIL to participate in SIGMET test	M. Pichler	DMG03
DMG2-4-10	Check the routing of the nuclear emergency bulletin (NNXX) issued on March 12	Ed. Boorman	DMG03
<del>DMG2-5-1</del> DMG03-3-3	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	
DMG2-9-1	Cooperate to test exchanging data in WXXM format. Inform DMG	ROC London EBBR	DMG03
DMG2-7-1	Develop backup procedures for the ROC	ROC London ROC Toulouse ROC Vienna	DMG04
DMG2-7-2	Finalise the user interface for the catalogue and for	Ed. Boorman	

	providing the use cases.		
DMG2-8-4	Identify the availability of Iraqi data and correct routing. If necessary, WP to ask for the missing data. Otherwise, close the PHP ticket.	M. Pichler	MID Region MET subgr meeting
DMG03-3-4	Perform ISCS monitoring for one day during the normal DMG monitoring in September;  Perform SADIS monitoring for the same day as the ISCS.  Compare the SADIS and ISCS monitoring results	P. Simon  A. den Uijl Ed. Boorman  H. Swinnen	Oct. 2011
DMG03-3-5	WP covering a revision to the SADISOPSG Terms of reference (to reflect that the responsibilities on OPMET data management in Europe are on the DMG).	K. Loy	31 Jan 2011
DMG03-4-1	Cross-check the current list against the proposed amendments presented into the App. F of the SADISOPSG Report to see whether the FASID tables are updated accordingly.	M. Pichler	DMG04
DMG03-4-2	Check the improvement in the availability of the corresponding data during September monitoring exercise and prepare a WP on this matter for DMG04.	M. Pichler W. Demol	DMG04
DMG03-4-5	Check the METG report and the EANPG conclusions to verify what the outcome was on US&Canadian SIGMETs Paper presented to METG to inform states on what has been done before and the current status.	K. Loy	METG
DMG03-4-6	Repeat the monitoring and check for the differences between the two SADIS broadcast and FTP service. Provide evidences to K. Loy, who will present those to the next meeting of the corresponding working group (UKMO/NATS/CAA).	W. Demol K. Loy	
DMG03-5-1	Investigate on the possibility for automatic response on the reception of bulletin not correctly addressed.	M. Pichler	DMG04
DMG03-5-2	Ensure the distribution of Asia/NAM data that is not currently received via AFTN by Vienna (e.g. FTAK31/32...)	Ed. Boorman	DMG04
DMG03-5-3	Contact Riga to stop sending SALV31/32 directly to Vienna.	ROC London	DMG04
DMG03-5-4	Based on the outcome of the AFI OPMET meeting, information should be included into the DMG report to be presented the next METG, in order to highlight the improvements that have been made so far for the data exchange between the two regions.	P. Simon K. Loy	METG
DMG03-5-5	Propose changes to the EUR ANP/FASID tables to ICAO Paris and Montreal (WP to METG). Propose changes for EUR Doc 018 and also the FASID text.	K. Loy	METG
DMG3-5-6	Proposal to update the SADIS Gateway Operations Handbook Version 4.0 (SIGMET Validation).	K. Loy	31 Jan 2012
DMG3-5-7	Check whether the SIGMET validation also caters for the MWO and the line terminator ("-") and if affirmative,	K. Loy	31 Jan 2012

	include the appropriate wording into the proposal for SADIS Gateway Operations Hdbk.		
DMG03-6-1	Perform the calculation of the availability index and provide the results to DMG Rapporteur to be included into the DMG report for METG.	J. Funder	METG
DMG03-6-2	Contact James Randall in order to obtain the necessary information on the calculation of the timeliness index.	Ed. Boorman	DMG04
DMG3-8-1	Prepare a WP for METG on errors where in AMD TAFs (e.g. not updating the G1G1 group).	P. Simon	METG
DMG3-8-2	The revised EUR OPMET DB Specification will be published on the FTP servers (and DMG website).	M. Pichler H. Swinnen P. Simon	Closed
DMG3-8-3	The PHP Manual be endorsed and sent for publication.	A. den Uijl	Completed
DMG3-8-4	Contact ICAO Paris and ask for credential to be used for PHP access by the ICAO Paris MET Officer.	A. den Uijl	Completed
DMG3-8-5	Implement the Help information into the PHP Ticketing Application	A. den Uijl H. Swinnen W. Demol	
DMG3-8-6	Consult the PHP application and take corrective actions for solving the respective problems, or update the status of the problems as needed.	DMG members	
DMG3-8-7	Compile a list of the problems raised through the PHP, together with their current status, for METG	A. den Uijl K. Loy	METG
DMG3-8-8	Inform DMG members on DMG website update	M. Pichler	July 2011

### Agenda Item 3: Information from other groups

#### I/VW

P. Simon informed the group on the outcome of the I/VW meeting. Of particular interest it was noted the approval of a procedure that in case an advisory is issued by a VAAC, and the advisory is considered to affect states in the area of responsibility of a second VAAC, the latter should also issue an advisory with the same text, but with a corresponding header.

#### METG21

K. Loy presented to the group the Summary of Discussions of METG/21 and discussed on the matters related to the activity of the DMG.

- With respect to the key performance indices (KPI), it was noted the following: “METG/21 agreed that a draft WP on proposed KPIs (performance of operations and technical KPI suggestions for DMG) be provided by the U.K. by the end of Dec 2011 (distributed by ICAO) for comment to the U.K. for finalizing the proposal for METG/22”.
- It was mentioned that the next VOLCEX exercise is scheduled for April, 2012 (Azores).
- Regarding the Conclusions METG21/04 and 05, it was mentioned that a proposal was already made for updating the EUR OPMET Handbook to include the requirements of exchanging various types of AIREPs (Section 9 of Handbook). The states will be asked by ICAO to inform on the headers used to disseminate the AIREP messages. These headers will then be used to update the ROC routing tables.
- The group was informed that in supporting digital NOTAM the use of the runway state group was being examined, and that DMG may be tasked to determine the number of States that include the runway state in METAR. The group members discussed on the fact that

currently the monitoring tools are not able to record the presence of the runway state group, and the proposal regarding the inclusion of such a statistic into the KPI may not be appropriate.

Action DMG04-3-1: K. Loy will contact ICAO Paris (C. Keohan) in order to obtain additional clarifications on the runway state monitoring.

J. Funder mentioned that he can make use of an in-house monitoring tool which is able to record the use of the runway state in the reports. The recorded fields are: the location indicator, report time, rwy group coding type (new/old) and actual report. The group agreed that a provisional monitoring will be useful and decided the following:

Action DMG04-3-2: J. Funder will run the monitoring of the runway state within the METAR reports and will present the results into a WP for DMG05.

With regard to the DMG report to be presented to the METG meetings, it was agreed that in order to prevent future shortcomings in the on-time preparation, the report should be completed during the final day of the DMG meeting preceding METG, with a possibility for this meeting to be extended with half a day for that purpose.

#### *MID OPMET BMG*

The meeting was informed that due to particular reasons, the MID BMG meeting 01 was not held, and it was postponed for 18 Dec. 2011 in Cairo. M. Pichler will participate to that meeting.

#### **Agenda item 8: WXXM.**

##### *WP06 Transition of OPMET from TAC to XML: impact on the EUR OPMET Databanks*

W. Demol presented the information that the AMOFSG meeting in September decided that a project team is to be established to deal with the aviation XML implementation (PT/MARIE - Met Aeronautical Requirements and Information Exchange). He also expressed a number of views on the current and future actions related to the transition, followed by a list of planned tests for the Brussels databank.

The group agreed on the need to first try to find out what the AMOFSG decided with regard to the involvement and regional support, the format the project team will look like and decide how DMG can contribute to the project.

Action DMG04-4-1: K. Loy will contact Dennis Hart to find answers to the above issues.

The bilateral tests planned to be performed between Belgocontrol and NATS are postponed until the DMG action lines are decided and then will follow that direction.

#### **Agenda item 4: EUR OPMET Data Update procedure and data monitoring, reporting and addressing.**

##### *WP08 Data monitoring results*

As established during the previous meeting, the September monitoring was performed for AFTN, SADIS broadcast and the Databanks, and the monitoring results were merged into a single presentation. Additionally, there was performed a monitoring of ISCS data to compare with SADIS. The presentation was very detailed and focused on the differences noted for the availability of data from the mentioned sources. The presentations are supposed to enable ROCs and the SADIS Provider to filter relevant actions to handle missing routings, trace missing data, synchronise the EUR OPMET DBs and the SADIS – ISCS Satellite OPMET broadcast programmes.

It was agreed that will be more efficient that corresponding actions be derived from the work of smaller groups, specifically established to address the highlighted shortcomings. In particular, for the case of discrepancies between SADIS and ISCS, K. Loy will take the lead while P. Simon and A. den Uijl will offer their support.

Action DMG04-4-2: The EUR data which are available on SADIS but missing on ISCS will be investigated and action taken to ensure proper routing to Washington (KWBC). For the non-EUR data, DMG will inform Washington in support of actions for data availability.

It was also mentioned that the ISCS monitoring was only a temporary task and not a permanent one. Also, there was noted that the FASID table contains entries where there is no requirement for any type of data. The monitoring results shall be filtered to get rid of these entries.

#### *WP03 OPMET DB Monitoring*

The DMG was presented with the results of the OPMET DB availability monitoring, showing an increase in the availability for all three databanks and also a decrease of the differences between the databases. The number of never received data decreased also. The improvements were mainly due to eliminating from the new FASID entries for which no data have been received so far. The group considered that the merged monitoring results are sufficient for analysis and deriving the action plans, so in the future no separate reporting will be necessary.

#### *IP03 ASIA/PAC SIGMET Monitoring*

The group was informed on the planned SIGMET exercises in ASIA/PAC Region (also the MID region for the WC-test). In order to facilitate the monitoring for the reception of these data in the EUR region, the following action was concluded:

Action DMG04-4-3: The SIGMET monitoring focal point will sent out EXCEL sheets to London, Toulouse, De Bilt and Brussels asking to check the reception of advisories and SIGMET messages received out of the ASIA/PAC region on that respective days, as well as for WC SIGMET messages from the MID-region on the 8th November 2011.

#### *WP02 EUR SIGMET Monitoring*

### **Agenda Item 7b      Documentation**

#### *WP05 PHP Progress Report*

A. den Uijl (PHP Manager) presented to the group the PHP Progress Report, and the current status of the problems. It was mentioned that the Help information is already available and is going to be implemented into the PHP Ticketing Application.

### **Agenda Item 9      Any other business**

Related to the action DMG-03-4-3 to address the RQM requests made by Taipei, it was confirmed that the data are routinely distributed to Singapore. The following actions were then derived:

Action DMG04-09-1: Check whether RQM requests are still recorded from Taipei. If affirmative, then try to establish details on what the technical problems can be with data distribution from Singapore to Taipei.

H. Swinnen informed on the intention to begin tests of the AMHS link between Brussels and London. That it was considered to be subject of the connection of Brussels to PENS. Kevin Loy will discuss on this subject with Jean Francois .....(the Belgian responsible for AMHS).

The group was then asked whether the FTP site of the DMG is still used. It was mentioned to be used for uploading the DMG papers and the monitoring results. These features could be available in the future for the DMG web site. No decision regarding the cessation of the FTP site was taken though.

- Dates and location of the next meetings  
DMG05: Bucharest, 13-15 March 2012  
DMG06: Vienna, 19-21 June 2012  
DMG07: Toulouse, 16-18 Oct. 2012

### **Agenda item 5      Performance Indices**

During the Thursday morning session, the meeting was attended also by J. Randall and Andy ..... (UK). They offered a very interesting presentation on the performance indices, by using an in-house developed tool. The presentation offered a detailed analysis on the indices, being structured to offer information on regional level, per OPMET centre and on airfield level. It was agreed this tool to be used further in the PI calculations and for reporting to METG. H. Swinnen requested to receive the latest or updated version of the PI specifications (EUR OPMET Handbook, Appendix F) reflecting the calculations. There were agreed the following two actions:

Action DMG04-5-1: J. Randall will prepare a working paper with the detailed description of indices definition and method of calculation for the DMG. These information will be included into the OPMET Handbook and also presented to METG after review by the DMG.

Action DMG04-5-2: UK will work on ensuring access to the PI presentation from external locations. If possible, the presentation will be used for the next DMG and also for SADISOPSG and METG meetings.

### **Agenda item 6      RODEX**

The action DMG02-7-2 was established to "Finalize the user interface for the catalogue and for providing the use cases." The use cases need to be seen as a modeling tool to identify and illustrate how different type of users will actually use the RODC to fulfill their tasks. There have been identified three types of potential users: ROC (3), NOC (123) and ICAO. Particular use cases should be derived for all type of users, to be able to: add, modify or remove data in the catalogue.

The group discussed on this issue and concluded the following:

Action DMG04-6-1: J. Funder, Ed Boorman, J. Randall will held a tele-conference in the next 3 weeks to establish what the current status is and define what the next steps are, in order that by the end of November to have a plan to show how to go to completion of this task.

#### *IP02 - Status on RODC ADMIN development*

J. Funder presented to the group the current status of the RODC Admin section, and the layout and implemented functionalities of the RODC ADMIN web pages. It was mentioned that all database tables are now filled with data, and a first report was already available, showing the listing of the data present in the FASID but not monitored. As shown earlier, the FASID table

contains entries for which no data are required – those are present in this report as well, and will be filtered in the future.

It was expressed the need to have the headers used for the SIGMET messages. While for the European data these are contained in the EUR SIGMET Guide (and probably the same for the ASIA region), for the others the headers are unknown.

Action DMG04-6-2: K. Loy will approach ICAO (C. Keohan and G. Brock) to explain what we are trying to reach with RODC and the need for a table based list of SIGMET headers (similar to SUG An. 2), with the possibility to keep this list into FASID.

#### *RODC Back-up contingency procedures*

The group was informed on the outcome of the working session of the three ROCs that preceded the DMG meeting. A scenario when one of the ROC fails was discussed in detail, with all the necessary actions to be taken in order that proper routing of data is ensured until the total recovery of the failing ROC functions.

Action DMG04-6-3: The Appendix H to EUR OPMET Handbook will be updated to reflect the manual contingency procedures. The Appendix B will be updated with respect to RODC. The two documents will be presented to the DMG05 meeting.

There was discussed on the need that the distribution determination be better described into the EUR OPMET Handbook. It was agreed the following:

Action DMG04-7-1: J. Funder will provide an electronic version (Word) of the App. E of the Handbook. K. Loy and P. Simon will work on updating the Handbook with respect to data addressing (whether should be mainly described into the main body of the Handbook or stay in the Att. E ).

#### *TIMERS*

With respect to the definition of timers ("Message validation procedures" section of the Handbook), it was mentioned that the issue could be affected by the conclusions of the AMOFSG meeting (the report is not ready yet but is expected to be available in November). It was agreed to revise the proposal to take into account the potential implications.

Action DMG04-7-2: Ed Boorman, P. Simon and A. den Uijl will prepare a working paper to be presented at DMG05 with a revised proposal on timers definition.



**List of actions resulting after DMG03**

Ag. Item/BMG	Action item	Responsible	Target date
DMG03-3-1	Analyse the OPMET archives to determine whether there are European FIRs for which test SIGMETs are issued but no real data received so far.	Ed. Boorman	1 Dec. 2011
DMG03-3-2	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
DMG01-6-4	Propose AMOF SG the FIR indication into the AIREP format	P. Simon	DMG05
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
DMG03-3-5	WP covering a revision to the SADISOPSG Terms of reference (to reflect that the responsibilities on OPMET data management in Europe are on the DMG).	K. Loy	31 Jan 2011
DMG03-5-1	Investigate on the possibility for automatic response on the reception of bulletin not correctly addressed.	M. Pichler	DMG04
DMG03-5-3	Contact Riga to stop sending SALV31/32 directly to Vienna.	ROC London	DMG04
DMG3-5-6	Proposal to update the SADIS Gateway Operations Handbook Version 4.0 (SIGMET Validation).	K. Loy	31 Jan 2012
DMG3-5-7	Check whether the SIGMET validation also caters for the MWO and the line terminator ("-") and if affirmative, include the appropriate wording into the proposal for SADIS Gateway Operations Hdbk.	K. Loy	31 Jan 2012
DMG04-3-1	Contact ICAO Paris (C. Keohan) in order to obtain additional clarifications on the runway state monitoring.	K. Loy	DMG05
DMG04-3-2	Monitor rwy state in METAR reports. WP to DMG	J. Funder	DMG05
DMG04-4-1	Contact Dennis Hart to find details on WXXM involvement of DMG (PT/MARIE).	K. Loy	DMG05
DMG04-4-2	The EUR data which are available on SADIS but missing on ISCS will be investigated and action taken to ensure proper routing to Washington (KWBC). For the non-EUR data, DMG will inform Washington in support of actions for data availability.	Ed Boorman P.Simon A. den Uijl	DMG05
DMG04-4-3	Provide EXCEL sheets to London, Toulouse, De Bilt and Brussels asking to check the reception of advisories and SIGMET messages received out of the ASIA/PAC region on that respective days, as well as for WC SIGMET messages from the MID-region on the 8th November 2011	M. Pichler Ed Boorman P. Simon A. den Uijl H. Swinnen	8 Nov. 2011
DMG04-9-1	Check whether RQM requests are still recorded from	Ed Boorman	DMG05

	Taipei. If affirmative, then try to establish details on what the technical problems can be with data distribution from Singapore to Taipei.		
DMG04-5-1	Prepare a WP with the detailed description of indices definition and method of calculation. These information will be included into the OPMET Handbook and also presented to METG.	J. Randall	
DMG04-5-2	Work on ensuring access to the KPI presentation from external locations. If possible, the presentation will be used for the next DMG and also for SADISOPSG and METG meetings.	K. Loy Ed Boorman	
DMG04-6-1	Tele-conference to establish what the current status is and define what the next steps are for RODC (use cases and user interface), in order that by the end of November to have a plan to show how to go to completion of this task.	J. Funder, Ed Boorman, J. Randall	11 Nov. 2011
DMG04-6-2	Approach ICAO (C. Keohan and G. Brock) to explain what we are trying to reach with RODC and the need for a table based list of SIGMET headers (similar to SUG An. 2), with the possibility to keep this list into FASID.	K. Loy	DMG05
DMG04-6-3	Appendix H to EUR OPMET Handbook to be updated to reflect the manual contingency procedures. The Appendix B will be updated with respect to RODC. WP for DMG05	ROCs	DMG05
DMG04-7-1	Provide an electronic version (Word) of the App. E of the Handbook. Work on updating the Handbook with respect to data addressing (whether should be mainly described into the main body of the Handbook or stay in the Att. E ).	J. Funder K. Loy P. Simon	DMG05
DMG04-7-2	Prepare WP with a revised proposal on timers definition	Ed Boorman P. Simon A. den Uijl	DMG05