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Observations by Hong Kong, China on SIGMET Reception

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*INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION*

**FOURTH MEETING OF THE  
ASIA/PAC OPMET MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE  
(OPMET/M TF/4)**

**Bangkok, Thailand, 13 – 16 February 2006**

**Agenda Item 4c: Development of procedures for monitoring and management of  
OPMET exchange – SIGMET Tests**

**OBSERVATIONS BY HONG KONG, CHINA ON SIGMET RECEPTION**

(Presented by Hong Kong, China)

**SUMMARY**

This paper presents some observations by Hong Kong, China as a result of the recent SIGMET tests conducted in the Asia and Pacific Region. Additional observations on SIGMET reception in Hong Kong, China in 2005 will also be presented.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

During the two SIGMET tests conducted in 19 and 26 January 2006 in the Asia/Pacific Region, a number of observations on SIGMET reception in Hong Kong, China were made and are summarized for consideration by the meeting. Additional observations on SIGMET reception in Hong Kong, China in 2005 will also be presented.

**2. OBSERVATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

**2.1 SIGMET test**

**2.1.1 Availability issues**

(Appendix A refers)

- The number of the test SIGMETs received by Hong Kong, China was significantly lower than expected from SIGMET Guide (para. 2.2.9).
- Not all the issued test SIGMETs and those received by RODBs reached Hong Kong, China.
- Certain SIGMETs were received via the SADIS satellite broadcast but not from SADIS FTP, and vice versa.
- The test SIGMET issued by VHHH was not available from the WAFC data sources (viz. SADIS, SADIS FTP and ISCS) as required in the SIGMET Guide para. 2.2.9.

***Suggestions :***

- a. Consider clarifying the SIGMET exchange in the ROBEX Handbook for the Asia/Pacific Region to reflect the requirements of SIGMET Guide para. 2.2.9, so that the MWOs and ROBEX centres concerned fully understand the SIGMET exchange requirements and implement accordingly.

- b. Consider bringing the observations in respect of the differences in the availability of SIGMETs via the SADIS satellite broadcast and SADIS FTP to the attention of the SADIS Provider State.
- c. Consider involving the two WAFC Provider States in future SIGMET test so that an end-to-end monitoring of the SIGMETs could be carried out.

### 2.1.2 Format issue

Test SIGMETs with wrong WMO header, e.g. WS instead of WV were received. In fact, this issue was also observed at some other time outside the test period.

## 2.2 **Additional observations**

### 2.2.1 Difference between SADIS and ISCS

Monitoring results of SIGMETs received via the SADIS satellite broadcast, SADIS FTP and ISCS satellite broadcast for one day (20 Jan 2006) in Hong Kong, China (see Appendix B) indicate that :

- the number of SIGMETs received via these three sources (SADIS satellite broadcast, SADIS FTP and ISCS satellite broadcast) are different from each other.
- certain SIGMETs are only available via AFTN, but not available from the two WAFCs (SADIS satellite broadcast, SADIS FTP and ISCS satellite broadcast).
- certain SIGMETs are only available from SADIS FTP but not available from SADIS satellite broadcast.

#### ***Suggestions :***

- a. Consider bringing the observations in respect of the availability of SIGMETs via the SADIS satellite broadcast, SADIS FTP and ISCS satellite broadcast to the attention of the WAFC Provider States.
- b. The two WAFC Provider States to consider including OPMET data availability in the harmonization process between the two WAFCs.

### 2.2.2 Unavailability of SIGMETs from certain MWOs/FIRs in 2005

SIGMETs for FIRs in the Asia/Pacific Region were searched from the Hong Kong Observatory's OPMET database which contains data received via SADIS and AFTN. It is noticed that SIGMETs from certain FIRs were not received by Hong Kong, China throughout the whole year of 2005 (see Appendix C).

#### ***Suggestion : see para. 2.1.1 above***

## 3. **ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information presented in this paper and discuss the suggestions for improving the availability of SIGMET in the Asia/Pacific Region.

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**Appendix A**

**SUMMARY OF SIGMET RECEPTION IN HONG KONG, CHINA  
 VOLCANIC ASH SIGMET TEST ON 19 JAN 2006**

**Volcanic Ash Advisory received at VHHH**

<b>VAAC</b>	<b>Message heading</b>	<b>Data source</b>
Tokyo	FVFE01 RJTD 190200	AFTN
Darwin	FVAU02 ADRM 190200	AFTN

**SIGMETs received at VHHH**

	<b>MWO</b>	<b>FIR/CTA</b>	<b>Data source</b>
1	NFFN	NFFF	SADIS FTP, SADIS
2	NZDT	NZZC	SADIS FTP, SADIS
3	RJAA	RJTG	AFTN, SADIS FTP
4	RJAA	RORG	AFTN, SADIS FTP
5	UELL	UELL	SADIS FTP
6	UHBB	UHBB	SADIS FTP, SADIS
7	UHHH	UHHH	SADIS FTP, SADIS
8	UHNN	UHNN	SADIS FTP, SADIS
9	UHMM	UHMM	SADIS FTP
10	UHOO	UHOO	SADIS FTP
11	UHSS	UHSS	ISCS, SADIS FTP
12	VHHH	VHHK	AFTN
13	WSSS	WSJC	AFTN, SADIS
14	YPDM	ADRM	AFTN
15	ZGGG	ZGZU	AFTN
16	ZHHH	ZHWH	AFTN

**Appendix A**

**Reception of test SIGMETs in VHHH expected from FIR/CTAs within 1,800 km of Hong Kong, China (Ref.: SIGMET Guide para. 2.2.9)**

<b>MWO</b>	<b>FIR/CTA</b>	<b>FIR/CTA Name</b>	<b>Received</b>
VHHH	VHHK	Hong Kong	Y
RJAA	RJTG	Tokyo	Y
ROAH	RORG	Naha	Y, but the MWO is RJAA
RCTP	RCTP	Taipei	N
RKSI	RKRR	Incheon	N
ZSSS	ZSHA	Shanghai	N
ZBAA	ZBPE	Beijing	N
ZHHH	ZHWH	Wuhan	Y
ZGGG	ZGZU	Guangzhou	Y
ZLLL	ZLHW	Lanzhou	N
ZPPP	ZPKM	Kunming	N
VVGL	VVNB	Hanoi	N
VVGL	VVTS	Ho-Chi-Minh	N
VLVT	VLVT	Vientiane	N
VYYY	VYYY	Yangon	N
VTBD	VTBB	Bangkok	N
VDPP	VDPP	Phnom-Penh	N
WMKK	WMFC	Kuala Lumpur	N
WSSS	WSJC	Singapore	Y
WBKK	WBFC	Kota Kinabalu	N
RPLL	RPHI	Manila	N

**Appendix A**

**SUMMARY OF SIGMET RECEPTION IN HONG KONG, CHINA  
 TROPICAL CYCLONE SIGMET TEST ON 26 JAN 2006**

**Tropical Cyclone Advisory received at VHHH**

VAAC	Message heading	Data source	Time received (UTC)
Tokyo	FKPQ30 RJTD 260200	AFTN	260248

**Reception of test SIGMETs at VHHH expected from FIRs/CTAs within 1,800 km of  
 Hong Kong, China (Ref.: SIGMET Guide para. 2.2.9)**

MWO	FIR/CTA	Received	Time received (UTC)
VDPP	VDPP	N	
ZBPA	ZBPE	N	
ZGGG	ZGZU	Y	0225
KPPP	ZPKM	N	
ZLLL	ZLHW	N	
ZSSS	ZSHA	N	
RCTP	RCTP	N	
ZHHH	ZHWH	N	
VHHH	VHHK	Y	0253
RJAA	RORG	Y.	0303
RJAA	RJTG	Y	0300
VLVT	VLVT	N	
WBKK	WBFC	N	
WMKK	WMFC	N	
VYYY	VYYY	N	
RPLL	RPHI	Y	0218, 0257
RKSI	RKRR	N	
WSSS	WSJC	Y	0248
VTBD	VTBB	N	
VVGL	VVNB	N	
VVGL	VVTS	N	

**SIGMET Reception Statistics in Hong Kong, China, on 20 Jan 2006**

<b>SIGMETs</b>	<b>SADIS</b>	<b>SADIS</b>	<b>ISCS</b>	<b>AFTN</b>
(for simplicity, only the MWO location indicator, issue time and valid time are included)	<b>satellite</b>	<b>FTP</b>	<b>satellite</b>	
EDBB 0000/0400	✓	✓	✓	
ENOR 0000/0400	✓	✓	✓	
FAJS 0000/0300	✓	✓	✓	
LTAA 0000/0300	✓	✓	✓	
RCAA 0000/0400			✓	✓
YMMM 0000/0600	✓	✓	✓	✓
YMMM 0000/0600 CNL			✓	✓
SBBS 0010/0300	✓	✓	✓	
ZHWH 0030/0530				✓
LIRR 0100/0700	✓	✓		
SBBS 0100/0500	✓	✓	✓	
SBBS 0100/0500	✓	✓	✓	
SBCW 0100/0500	✓	✓	✓	
YBBB 0100/0700		✓		✓
CWUL 0115/0515	✓	✓	✓	
SBCW 0130/0530	✓	✓	✓	
WSJC 0130/0530	✓	✓	✓	✓
EGTT 0140/0430	✓	✓		
EDWW 0200/0600	✓	✓	✓	
YMMM 0200/0800	✓	✓	✓	✓
CWEG 0210/0610	✓	✓	✓	
CWUL 0225/0625	✓	✓	✓	
SBRE 0225/0625	✓	✓	✓	
CWUL 0235/0635	✓	✓	✓	
CWUL 0240/0640	✓	✓	✓	
ZGZU 0250/0300	✓	✓	✓	
DTTC 0300/0700		✓	✓	
EKDK 0300/0700	✓	✓	✓	
ENOR 0300/0700	✓	✓	✓	
FAJS 0300/0600	✓	✓	✓	
LIBB 0300/0700	✓	✓	✓	
LIRR 0300/0700	✓	✓	✓	
SAME 0300/0800	✓	✓	✓	
UUYW 0300/0900	✓	✓	✓	

<b>SIGMETs</b>	<b>SADIS</b>	<b>SADIS</b>	<b>ISCS</b>	<b>AFTN</b>
(for simplicity, only the MWO location indicator, issue time and valid time are included)	<b>satellite</b>	<b>FTP</b>	<b>satellite</b>	
SBCW 0315/0615	✓	✓	✓	
SBAZ 0330/0630	✓	✓		
EDBB 0400/0800	✓	✓	✓	
ENOR 0400/0800	✓	✓		
RCAA 0400/0800			✓	✓
VGZR 0400/0800	✓	✓	✓	✓
CWUL 0405/0805	✓	✓	✓	
YMMM 192200/0400 CNL	✓	✓	✓	✓
CWUL 0410/0810	✓	✓	✓	
EGTT 0430/1000	✓	✓		
DTTJ 0500/0800		✓		
SBCW 0500/0800	✓	✓	✓	
CWEG 0505/0905	✓	✓	✓	
KZOA 0515/0915		✓	✓	
CWUL 0520/0920	✓	✓	✓	
YMMM 0530/0800 CNL	✓	✓	✓	✓
ZHWH 0530/1030				✓
WSJC 0540/0940	✓	✓	✓	✓
YMMM 0540/0840	✓	✓	✓	✓
UTAA 0550/1250	✓	✓		
FAJS 0600/0900	✓	✓	✓	
LTAA 0600/0900	✓	✓	✓	
RJTG 0600/1000	✓	✓	✓	✓
UKFV 0600/1200	✓	✓		
UKFV 0600/1200	✓	✓		
SBCW 0615/0915	✓	✓	✓	
NZZO 0631/1031		✓	✓	
NZZO 0634/1034	✓	✓	✓	
EGPX 0640/1000	✓	✓		
CWUL 0645/1045	✓	✓	✓	
SBCW 0650/0915	✓	✓	✓	
DTTC 0700/1100	✓	✓	✓	
EKDK 0700/1000	✓	✓	✓	



<b>SIGMETs</b>	<b>SADIS</b>	<b>SADIS</b>	<b>ISCS</b>	<b>AFTN</b>
(for simplicity, only the MWO location indicator, issue time and valid time are included)	<b>satellite</b>	<b>FTP</b>	<b>satellite</b>	
ENOR 0700/1100	✓	✓	✓	
LIBB 0700/1100	✓	✓	✓	
LIRR 0700/1300	✓	✓		
LIRR 0700/1100	✓	✓	✓	
YBBB 0700/1300		✓		✓
YMMM 0700/1300		✓		✓
RJTG 0725/1000 CNL	✓	✓	✓	✓
SBBS 0730/1000	✓	✓	✓	
YMMM 0730/1030	✓	✓	✓	✓
YMMM 0730/1030	✓	✓	✓	✓
CWEG 0800/1200	✓	✓	✓	
ENOR 0800/1200	✓	✓	✓	
ESAA 0800/1100	✓	✓	✓	
KZOA 0800/1200		✓	✓	
RCAA 0800/1200			✓	✓
SAME 0800/1200	✓	✓	✓	
VGZR 0800/1200	✓	✓	✓	✓
LIRR 0805/1105	✓	✓	✓	
EDBB 0830/1230	✓	✓	✓	
LKAA 0845/1245	✓	✓		
WSJC 0850/0940 CNL	✓	✓	✓	✓
WSJC 0850/1250	✓	✓	✓	✓
FAJS 0900/1200	✓	✓	✓	
KZOA 090/1300			✓	
LPP0 0900/1300	✓	✓	✓	
LRBB 0900/1300	✓	✓	✓	
CWUL 0915/1315	✓	✓	✓	
SBAZ 0930/1330	✓	✓		
EGJJ 0945/1115		✓	✓	
SBCW 0945/1345	✓	✓	✓	
NZZO 0949/1349	✓	✓	✓	
NZZO 0951/1351	✓	✓	✓	
EGPX 1000/1600	✓	✓		

<b>SIGMETs</b>	<b>SADIS</b>	<b>SADIS</b>	<b>ISCS</b>	<b>AFTN</b>
(for simplicity, only the MWO location indicator, issue time and valid time are included)	<b>satellite</b>	<b>FTP</b>	<b>satellite</b>	
EKDK 1000/1300	✓	✓	✓	
BIRD 1030/1230	✓	✓	✓	
CWEG 1030/1430	✓	✓	✓	
ZHWH 1030/1630				✓
DTTC 1100/1500	✓	✓	✓	
ESAA 1100/1400		✓	✓	
OLBA 1100/1500	✓	✓	✓	
LIRR 1110/1510	✓	✓	✓	
KZOA 1115/1515	✓	✓	✓	
KZOA 1130/1530		✓	✓	
SAEF 1130/1530	✓	✓	✓	
CWUL 1145/1545	✓	✓	✓	
KZOA 1145/1545		✓	✓	
ENOR 1200/1600	✓	✓		
FAJS 1200/1500	✓	✓	✓	
RCAA 1200/1600			✓	✓
UKFV 1200/1800	✓	✓		
UKFV 1200/1800	✓	✓		
CWEG 1210/1610	✓	✓	✓	
EDBB 1230/1630	✓	✓	✓	
NZZO 1237/1637	✓	✓	✓	
NZZO 1238/1638	✓	✓	✓	
NZZO 1239/1639	✓	✓	✓	
ENOR 1245/1645	✓		✓	
LKAA 1245/1500	✓	✓		
YMMM 1250/1330	✓	✓	✓	✓
EKDK 1300/1600	✓	✓	✓	
LIRR 1300/1900	✓	✓		
LPPO 1300/1700	✓	✓	✓	
LRBB 1300/1700	✓	✓	✓	
YBBB 1300/1900		✓		✓
YMMM 1300/1900		✓		✓
SBRE 1315/1715	✓	✓	✓	
EGTT 1400/1700	✓	✓		
ESAA 1400/1700	✓	✓	✓	

<b>SIGMETs</b>	<b>SADIS</b>	<b>SADIS</b>	<b>ISCS</b>	<b>AFTN</b>
(for simplicity, only the MWO location indicator, issue time and valid time are included)	<b>satellite</b>	<b>FTP</b>	<b>satellite</b>	
SBCW 1400/1700	✓	✓	✓	
CWUL 1430/1830	✓	✓	✓	
SBBS 1430/1830	✓	✓	✓	
FAJS 1500/1800	✓	✓	✓	
HECC 1500/2100	✓	✓	✓	
ULAM 1500/2100		✓	✓	
UUYW 1500/2100		✓	✓	
UUYW 1500/2100	✓	✓		
SAEF 1530/1930	✓	✓	✓	
SBRE 1545/1945	✓	✓	✓	
EKDK 1600/1900	✓	✓	✓	
ENOR 1600/2000	✓	✓	✓	
RCAA 1600/2000			✓	✓
RCAA 1600/2000			✓	✓
SBCW 1600/1900	✓	✓	✓	
SBCW 1615/1915	✓	✓	✓	
NZZO 1622/2022	✓	✓	✓	
EDBB 1630/2030	✓	✓	✓	
EGPX 1630/2230	✓	✓		
ZHWH 1630/2230				✓
EGTT 1700/2300	✓	✓		
ESAA 1700/2000	✓	✓	✓	
LPPO 1700/2100	✓	✓	✓	
CWEG 1720/2120	✓	✓	✓	
CWUL 1725/2125	✓	✓	✓	
SBRE 1740/2140	✓	✓	✓	
SBCW 1745/1910	✓	✓	✓	
FAJS 1800/2100	✓	✓	✓	
UKFV 1800/2400	✓			
SARR 1830/2230	✓	✓	✓	
SBBS 1830/2130	✓	✓	✓	
SBAZ 1830/2230	✓	✓		
YBBB 1900/0100		✓		✓
YMMM 1900/0100		✓		✓
SBCW 1910/2315	✓	✓	✓	

<b>SIGMETs</b>	<b>SADIS</b>	<b>SADIS</b>	<b>ISCS</b>	<b>AFTN</b>
(for simplicity, only the MWO location indicator, issue time and valid time are included)	<b>satellite</b>	<b>FTP</b>	<b>satellite</b>	
SBCW 1915/2315	✓	✓	✓	
SBCW 1915/2315	✓	✓	✓	
LIRR 1930/0130	✓	✓		
SAEF 1930/2330	✓	✓	✓	
SBBS 1930/2330	✓		✓	
SBRE 1945/2345	✓	✓	✓	
SBAO 1955/2345	✓	✓	✓	
ENOR 2000/2400	✓	✓	✓	
RCAA 2000/2400			✓	✓
SBCW 2000/2315	✓	✓	✓	
VGZR 2000/2400	✓	✓	✓	✓
CWUL 2025/0025	✓	✓	✓	
SBBS 2030/0130	✓		✓	
SBBS 2030/2230	✓		✓	
SBBS 2030/0330	✓	✓	✓	
RJTG 2040/0040	✓		✓	✓
FAJS 2100/2400	✓	✓	✓	
ULAM 2100/0300	✓	✓	✓	
DTTC 2300/0500	✓	✓	✓	
SBAZ 2300/0200	✓	✓		
SBAZ 2300/0200	✓	✓		
SBCW 2315/0415	✓	✓	✓	
SBCW 2315/0415	✓	✓		
SBCW 2315/0415	✓	✓	✓	
SBCW 2315/0515	✓	✓	✓	
SBAO 2345/0345	✓	✓	✓	
SBRE 2345/0345	✓	✓	✓	
RJTG 2350/0350	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Total number</b>				
<b>198</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>38</b>

**Unavailability of SIGMETs in Hong Kong, China in 2005**

SIGMETs from the following MWOs/FIRs were not received throughout the whole year 2005:

<b>MWO location</b>	<b>ICAO location indicator of MWO</b>	<b>ICAO location indicator of FIR served</b>
<b>Cambodia</b> Phnom-Penh	VDPP	VDPP
<b>China</b> Kunming Lanzhou Shenyang Urumqi	ZPPP ZLLL ZYTX ZWWW	ZPKM ZLHW ZYSH ZWUQ
<b>DPR of Korea</b> Pyongyang	ZKPY	ZKKK
<b>Indonesia</b> Ujung Pandang	WAAA	WAAF
<b>Lao PDR</b> Vientiane	VLVT	VLVT
<b>Maldives</b> Male	VRMM	VRMM
<b>Mongolia</b> Ulan Bator	ZMUB	ZMUB
<b>Myanmar</b> Yangon	VYYY	VYYY
<b>Nauru</b> Nauru I.	ANAU	ANAU
<b>Nepal</b> Kathmandu	VNKT	VNSM
<b>Pakistan</b> Karachi Lahore	OPKC OPLA	OPKR OPLR
<b>Solomon Islands</b> Honiara	AGGH	AGGG
<b>Thailand</b> Bangkok	VTBD	VTBB