

(28.X.2011)

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**JOINT MEETING:  
CBS EXPERT TEAM ON AIRCRAFT BASED  
OBSERVATIONS  
(Third Session)  
AND  
AMDAR PANEL  
(Fourteenth Session)**

ITEM: 5.3

Original: ENGLISH ONLY

(QUEBEC CITY, CANADA, 2-4 NOVEMBER 2011)

**AMDAR PANEL FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

***Future Governance of the AMDAR Programme***

*(Submitted by the Secretariat and the AMDAR Panel Chairman)*

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**SUMMARY AND PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT**

To provide background information and recommendations relating to the future governance of the AMDAR Programme and the role of the AMDAR Panel in the transition period for the full integration of the AMDAR programme into WMO and its relevant technical commissions' structures.

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**ACTION PROPOSED**

1. The Joint Meeting is invited to note the information contained in the document.
  2. The Joint Meeting is invited to consider the recommendations made in the document.
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## BACKGROUND

1. The following summarises the steps that have now been taken and completed by WMO, the AMDAR Panel and ET-AIR towards the integration of the AMDAR Programme under WIGOS and the WWW Programme:

- 1) Moved the responsibility for AMDAR from the WMO Commission for Aeronautical Meteorological (CAeM) to the Commission for Basic Systems (CBS);
- 2) Created an Aircraft Observations Unit (AIR) within the WMO Observing Systems Division (OSD), with responsibilities for Aircraft Observations and technical coordination of the AMDAR Programme including AMDAR Panel activities;
- 3) Established a CBS Expert Team on Aircraft Observations (ET-AIR) as approved by CBS XIV (March 2009) adopting the recommendation made by CBS Implementation-Coordination Team (ICT-IOS-5) September 2008.
- 4) The inclusion of AMDAR Theme Leaders on Aircraft Measurements within the Commission for Instruments and Methods of Observations (CIMO) working structure.
- 5) Transferal of the AMDAR Technical Coordinator's responsibilities and role into WMO and the WMO Secretariat, which are now contained within 50% of the role of the Scientific Officer, Aircraft-based and Remotely-sensed Observations (SO/ARO) and fully funded within the WMO Regular Budget;

2. The final step (6) to be taken is for full support for AMDAR activities to be funded within the WMO Regular Budget (2015-2018).

3. In relation to the final step under which AMDAR activities are fully funded within the WMO Regular Budget, the Joint Meeting might consider what this actually means, particularly in terms of the existence of the AMDAR Panel and the operation of the AMDAR Panel Trust Fund (TF).

4. As, previously agreed by the Joint Meeting, at completion of all steps, the structure of the AMDAR Programme will move from that depicted in figure 1 below, to the fully WMO-coordinated structure as depicted in figure 2.

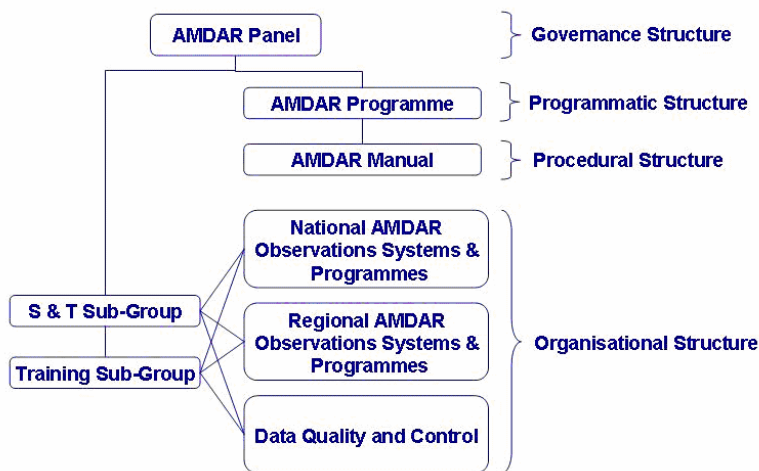


Figure 1. The Structure of the AMDAR Panel prior the integration into WMO and its TCs structures.

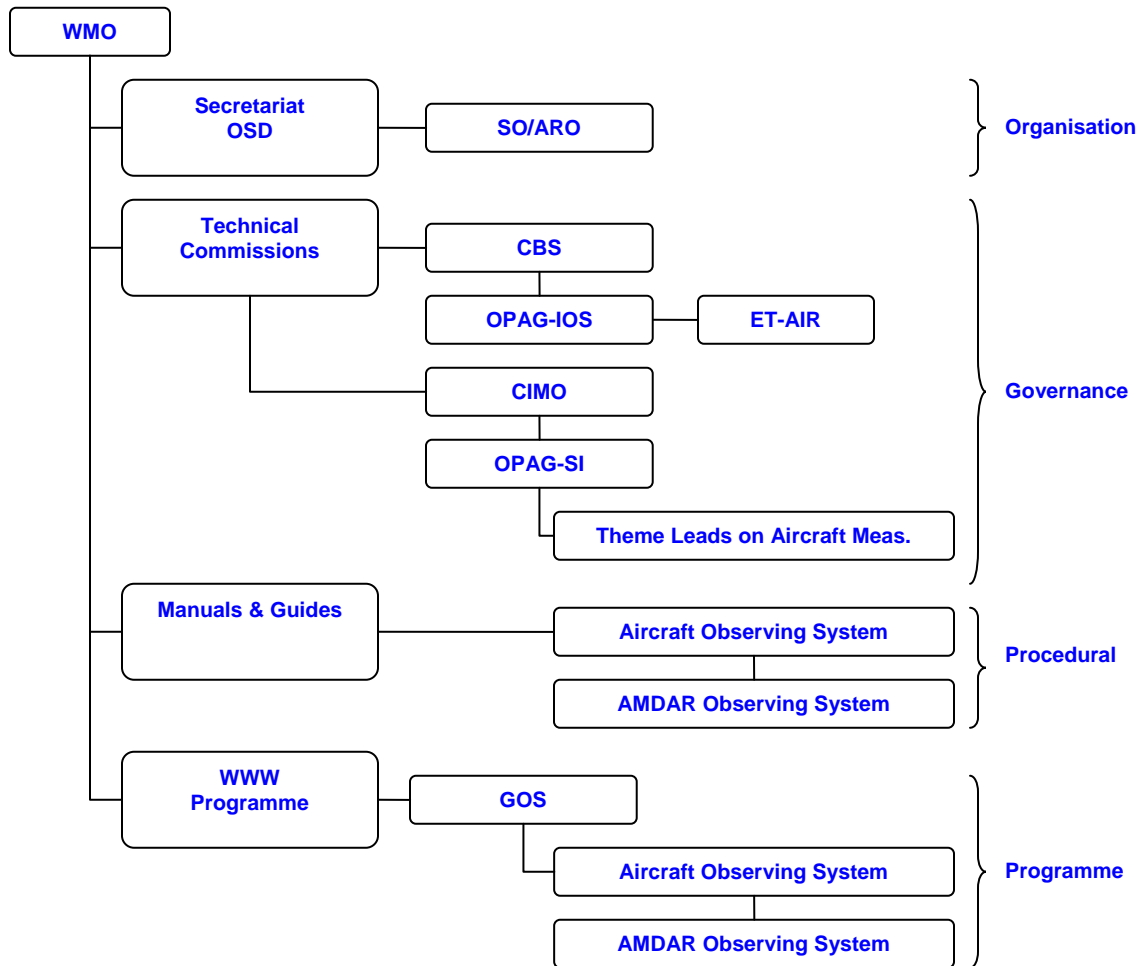


Figure 2. The recommended structure of the AMDAR/Aircraft Observations.

5. At the current time, it can be considered that the Organisational Structure and the Governance Structure are in place within WMO. However, the Programmatic Structure currently has the AMDAR Programme jointly coordinated by the AMDAR Panel and CBS through the Secretariat (SO/ARO) and the activities of ET-AIR under CBS; and, the Procedural Structure is still in a transitional stage that requires work to complete.

6. When the AMDAR Programme becomes fully integrated under the WWW Programme, it will cease to be referred to as the AMDAR Programme and, under WMO terminology, should be referred to as the AMDAR Observing System, a sub-system of the Aircraft Observations System under the Global Observing System.

### TOWARDS COMPLETION OF THE INTEGRATION PROCESS

7. Figure 2 suggests that the AMDAR Panel does not exist in the future. If this is to be the case, then the AMDAR Panel and ET-AIR should determine a course of action that transfers the work programme of the Panel and to ET-AIR as well as the administration of the TF to the WMO Secretariat and CBS.

8. Note that, under the current Terms of Reference of the TF:

- 1) *Authority for the disbursement of funds, in respect of contracts and agreements properly concluded, will be delegated to the Chairperson of the AMDAR Panel, together with the Secretary-General of WMO, or his representative. The Chairperson of the AMDAR Panel will authorize the Secretary-General of WMO, or his representative to disburse the funds by means of a written communication to the WMO Secretariat.*
- 2) *Where required by their internal regulations, individual contributors to the AMDAR Fund may wish to negotiate additional conditions governing the application, conditions of deposit and disbursement of funds. Such additional conditions shall not inhibit the efficient and proper use of the Fund nor modify the intent of the Fund. They shall require the acceptance in writing by the Chairperson of the AMDAR Panel and the Secretary General of WMO or his representative.*
- 3) *The Fund shall be maintained on a continuous basis and amounts standing to the credit of the Fund at the end of any annual period shall remain in the Fund for use in the subsequent period.*
- 4) *All funds credited to the AMDAR Fund, including those for VCP purposes, shall be subject to these terms of reference and to the terms of reference of the AMDAR Panel.*
- 5) *Following cessation of AMDAR Panel activities the Trust Fund will be closed.*
- 6) *The Trust Fund will be closed when all remaining funds are exhausted.*

9. **Recommendation 1:** The Joint Meeting may consider making a proposal to OPAG-IOS and CBS that the AMDAR Programme is to now be considered a sub-programme of the World Weather Watch Programme and that, from 2015, all activities of the AMDAR Programme will be coordinated only through CBS.

10. Under this scenario, it would be likely that the final AMDAR Panel meeting would be held in 2014.

11. **Recommendation 2:** The Joint Meeting to consider a course of action whereby the AMDAR Panel and CBS will work towards transition of the full AMDAR work programme from the AMDAR Panel to CBS and CIMO under the administration of the Secretariat by 2015.

12. **Recommendation 3:** The AMDAR Panel to consider how best to handle the transition of the management of the TF after the AMDAR Panel cease after 2014.

13. **Recommendation 4:** The Joint Meeting ensure that the work programme of the Panel and ET-AIR places high priority on completion of the transition of the Procedural Structure through the integration of the AMDAR Manual into the WMO regulatory material with a view to completing or at least significantly advancing this work by the end of 2014.

14. **Recommendation 5:** If these recommendations are adopted, then these actions should be reflected within the Report to CBS under time 6.3.