

**WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION**

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**COMMISSION FOR BASIC SYSTEMS**  
OPEN PROGRAMME AREA GROUP  
ON INTEGRATED OBSERVING SYSTEMS

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**EXPERT TEAM ON AIRCRAFT-BASED OBSERVING SYSTEMS**  
**FIRST SESSION**

ITEM: 5.2.3

Original: ENGLISH

Geneva, Switzerland, 10-13 September, 2013

## **GLOBAL AND REGIONAL ABO & AMDAR PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT**

Improving and Optimising Global Coverage With Supplementary AMDAR Data  
*(Submitted by the Secretariat)*

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### **SUMMARY AND PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT**

To outline possible mechanisms and means for expanding the coverage of the AMDAR observing system through the production of additional Supplementary AMDAR Data.

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### **ACTION PROPOSED**

The Session is invited to note and discuss the information contained in the document.

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## **IMPROVING AND OPTIMISING GLOBAL COVERAGE WITH SUPPLEMENTARY AMDAR DATA**

### **Background**

1. At the AMDAR Panel 15<sup>th</sup> Session, the Panel discussed the possibility of developing a more coordinated approach to international collaboration on the production of “Supplementary AMDAR Data” towards improving and optimising global AMDAR data coverage. Supplementary AMDAR Data (SAMDAR) is defined to be AMDAR data that is produced by an AMDAR programme outside of its “routine” national or regional data coverage boundaries and requirements, either as in-kind support of the WWW Programme or through a bilateral arrangement with another country or region.
2. To this end, the Secretariat has requested that operational AMDAR programs provide statistical information on both their current and potential programme coverage within their status reports provided to ET-ABO Session 1 under item 3.1. It is expected that this AMDAR programmatic information might be utilised to determine the volume of potential SAMDAR available and how it might be realised and resourced.
3. At the current time, there are several sources of SAMDAR already being provided by national and Regional AMDAR Programmes:
  - a. The E-AMDAR Programme commits a percentage of its programme resources to the provision of SAMDAR in support of the World Weather Watch Programme;
  - b. The E-AMDAR Programme has several bilateral agreements with WMO Member NMHSs to produce SAMDAR at a number of international airports outside of the EUCOS domain;
  - c. The Australian Bureau of Meteorology has a bilateral agreement with New Zealand whereby the Australian AMDAR Programme produces a partially optimised data coverage over the New Zealand region, for which the NZ MetService reimburses the Bureau for the SAMDAR produced over that region.

### **Production and Administration of SAMDAR**

4. The development and administration of bilateral agreements for the handling of arrangements between countries for the provision of SAMDAR can be a burden for AMDAR programme operators and administrators. It may be that this process could be streamlined by WMO taking on an intermediary role in assisting in developing and establishing agreements or MoUs between NMHSs and also between operational programmes and other data user organizations to support the production of SAMDAR. The AMDAR Trust might also be utilised in this process through: 1) reception and utilisation of targeted contributions by Members or organizations to support the production of global SAMDAR; and, 2) facilitating a method of payment for SAMDAR produced as a result of bilateral agreements.
5. It may also be possible that such an administrative system could eventually be extended to support a collaborative approach to the production of other 3<sup>rd</sup> party ABO data sources, such as TAMDAR and AFIRS.
6. ET-ABO is invited to consider:
  - a. the results of the request for programmatic statistical data under item 3.1 and assess the potential for global AMDAR programme expansion and optimisation through the wider production of SAMDAR; and,
  - b. A centrally, WMO-coordinated approach to SAMDAR administration as outlined above.