

To

EUMETNET Members

1st August 2014

**Observations Programme Management Team and E-AMDAR Operational Service Management:
Migration to Table Driven Code Forms (TDCF) – announcement of E-AMDAR aircraft data will cease
in TAC (FM42) format**

Dear colleagues,

As of November 2010 the BUFR exchange became standard WMO practice. EUMETNET's E-AMDAR Operational Service has been providing approximately 50% of aircraft data in BUFR format for many years. In May 2012 the new WIGOS AMDAR BUFR Template TM311010 v7 was adopted by WMO CBS IPET-DRC. Since 11th March 2014 data of 3 aircraft have been disseminated onto the GTS encoded in the new WIGOS AMDAR BUFR Template. Global NWP centres had been involved in the initial testing phase and notified the E-AMDAR Operational Service Management being able to read and process the data. Thus the E-AMDAR Operational Service Management is planning to stop the GTS dissemination of traditional FM42 messages and to ingest all E-AMDAR aircraft data in WIGOS AMDAR BUFR Template TM311010 v7 into GTS on 3rd November 2014.

The UK Met Office will transmit E-AMDAR bulletins in both BUFR (FM94) and TAC (FM42) until 11:00 UTC on Monday 3rd November 2014. All E-AMDAR data will migrate to the WIGOS AMDAR BUFR Template TM311010 v7 (adopted by IPET-DRC May 2012). Any E-AMDAR data with a nominal time in the period of 11:00-12:00 UTC may be transmitted in both formats. From 12:00 UTC on Monday 3rd November 2014, the transmission of E-AMDAR bulletins in TAC format on the GTS will cease.

An official WMO notification about this change will be released at least two months in advance of the effective date of the change.

We would very much appreciate if you could forward this letter to the GTS message switching section and the users of AMDAR aircraft data in your NMHS. In case that your NMHS is not ready for a stop of the E-AMDAR FM42 message dissemination or switch to WIGOS AMDAR BUFR Template TM311010 v7 please inform us by Email to eucos@dwd.de and Steve.Stringer@metoffice.gov.uk as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,



Observations Programme Manager
GIE EUMETNET