



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

Secrétariat

7 bis, avenue de la Paix – Case postale 2300 – CH 1211 Genève 2 – Suisse

Tél.: +41 (0) 22 730 81 11 – Fax: +41 (0) 22 730 81 81

wmo@wmo.int – www.wmo.int

Weather • Climate • Water
Temps • Climat • Eau

Our ref.: OBS/OSD/AIR/AMDAR-Cont.-2013

GENEVA, 22 April 2013

Subject: Contribution to the AMDAR Panel Trust Fund

Dear Sir/Madam,

You will recall that the Aircraft Meteorological Data Relay (AMDAR) Panel was established in March 1998 in line with the directive of the forty-ninth session of the Executive Council (1997), that a Panel should be established, to coordinate and promote AMDAR development and operations globally, so as to enhance the upper-air component of the Global Observing System of the World Weather Watch Programme.

In 2012, the AMDAR Panel and the Secretariat completed the agreed process for the finalization of the integration of the AMDAR programme into the WMO Technical Commissions' structure. An Expert Team on Aircraft-based Observing Systems has been formed under the Commission for Basic Systems (CBS), the Open Programme Areas Group on Integrated Observing Systems (OPAG-IOS) for 2013-2016 and the Commission for Instruments and Methods of Observations (CIMO) approved the formation of a Task Team on aircraft-based observations. Together these teams will provide a legacy of the WMO AMDAR Panel, and their work programmes and activities will continue to be supported by the AMDAR Trust Fund under agreed and approved Terms of Reference¹. As a result of this outcome, and as was notified in a correspondence to WMO AMDAR Panel Members in January 2013 (11688-13/OBS/OSD/AIR/AMDAR Panel), the AMDAR Panel, at its 15th session (Boulder, USA, November 2012), agreed that the necessary governance and management structures were now in place within WMO, that all offices of the AMDAR Panel should be vacated and that all activities of the AMDAR Panel should cease at the conclusion of the session.

The CBS and CIMO Teams have already developed a [comprehensive strategy, work plan and budget](#) that are based on the workplan of the WMO AMDAR Panel and the [actions relevant to aircraft-based observations and AMDAR](#) from the CBS Implementation Plan for Evolution of the GOS. This workplan will build on the significant recent achievements of the AMDAR Panel which include:

To: Permanent Representatives (or Directors of Meteorological or Hydrometeorological Services) of Members of WMO (PR-6698)

cc: President CBS)
President CIMO) (for information)
Chair CBS/ET-ABO)

¹ See: http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/www/GOS/ABO/ABO_Work_Program.html

- Completion of a [Study on AMDAR Coverage and Targeting for Future Airline Recruitment](#) and the formulation of plans for a new and invigorated approach to AMDAR expansion and enhancement including the appointment of an AMDAR Development Officer;
- Commencement of work on the development of an Implementation Plan for Water Vapor Sensing Capability for AMDAR;
- Hosting of the Workshop on Aircraft Observing System Data Management, held in Geneva, 5-8 June 2012;
- Collaboration with the USA Federal Aviation Administration and other organizations towards the definition of a standardized approach to turbulence and the application of Eddy Dissipation Rate within the AMDAR system;
- Near completion of work on a standard for AMDAR Onboard Software requirements; and
- Establishment of a [News & Events website](#) in support of AMDAR outreach activities, the production and publication of the first four editions of the WMO AMDAR Panel Newsletter and revision and update of the [WMO Aircraft-based Observations website](#).

For more information, see the [Final Report of the 15th Session of the WMO AMDAR Panel](#).

Contribution to the AMDAR Trust Fund

In line with the Resolution 3 (Cg-XVI), you are invited to provide financial support to the AMDAR Trust Fund so as to ensure ongoing support of technical development and capacity-building related to AMDAR, in particular for the following very important activities associated with the Aircraft-Based Observations Program:

- Employment of an AMDAR Development Officer to support coordination of national and regional AMDAR program development;
- Consultancy work on various matters including: Study on Current & Future Communications & Technology Impact on AMDAR;
- Attendance at aviation standards forums and other meetings;
- Holding of technical workshops and seminars;
- AMDAR Software developments; and
- Establishment of a global aircraft-based observation Data Center.

Contributions to support specific activities and initiatives

You may also wish to consider providing support for specific, currently unfunded activities related to the program:

1. Development of an online training and information module on AMDAR at an expected cost of around CHF 100K; and/or
2. Attainment of general aircraft certifications for the implementation of AMDAR water vapor measurement at an expected cost of CHF 300-400K per aircraft type.

Or, you may wish to consider providing support for other specific ongoing activities in the [Aircraft-Based Observations work program](#).

I would, therefore, be most grateful for an indication of whether your country will contribute to the AMDAR Trust Fund for the period 2013 in support of AMDAR activities and the related projects and initiatives. In the affirmative, an early indication of the amount that you may be able to contribute to the Trust Fund or other support that you are prepared to offer would be much appreciated.

Yours faithfully,



(J. Lengoasa)
for the Secretary-General