

CHANGES TO TERMINAL AERODROME FORECASTS (TAFs)

1 From **5 November 2008**, consequent to the implementation of Amendment 74 to ICAO Annex 3, Standards and Recommended Practices (SaRPs)- Meteorological Service for International Air Navigation, changes to the TAF format, issuance arrangements and issue times are being made.

2 Changes to TAF Format

2.1 In order to facilitate the introduction of 30 hour TAF periods, the format of validity and change groups (TEMPO, BECMG, FM) in TAFs will incorporate the day of the month. These changes will also be reflected in the format used for TAFs of validity period shorter than 30 hour.

2.2 Example: 24 hour TAF for EICK:

TAF EICK 091055Z **0912/1012** 25013KT 9999 SCT012 BKN025 BECMG **0912/0914** 21015KT sct010 bkn015 TEMPO **0914/0922** 22018G30KT 4000 RA SCT007 BKN010 BECMG **0922/1001** 27012kt 9999 sct018 sct030 tempo **1003/1012** 28014g28kt 5000 SHRA sct009 bkn017cb=

Issue time: format does not change.

Validity group: should be read as 1200 on the 9 of the month to 1200 on the 10 of the month.

First BECMG group should be read as 1200 on the 09 of the month, to 1400 on the 09 of the month.

First TEMPO group should be read as from 1400 on the 09 of the month to 2200 on the 09 of the month.

Second BECMG group should be read as 2200 on the 09 of the month to 0100 on the 10 of the month.

Second TEMPO group should be read as from 0300 on the 10 of the month to 1200 on the 10 of the month.

2.3 Some states regularly use the FM change group in TAF coding. The following example 24 Hour TAF illustrates the use of the FM group:

TAF EINN 091104Z 0906/1006 13004KT 3000 br sct005 BECMG 1008/1010 24010kt 9999 SCT018CB BKN022 TEMPO 0912/0919 25018G32KT 3000 +SHRA SCT010 BKN016cb **FM091930** 20005KT 9999 BKN020 TEMPO 1002/1006 4000 BR=

In the above example 'FM091930' should be read as from 1930 on the 09 of the month.

3 Introduction of 24 Hour TAFs

From **5 November 2008**, Amendment 74 to Annex 3 will allow only one TAF per aerodrome to be valid at any time- disallowing the current practice of issuing 2 TAFs for some airports (e.g the FT and FC for EINN). In order to comply with this new regulation, as and from **0000z 5 November 2008**, EINN, EIDW, EIKN, EICK and EIME will no longer have a 9 hour short TAF. Instead, all will have 24 hour TAFs according to the following schedule.

Issue Time (UTC) Validity (UTC)

2300 0000 – 2400

0500 0600 – 0600

1100 1200 – 1200

1700 1800 – 1800

(as and from **5 November 2008**)