



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION
AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP (APIRG)
FIRST MEETING OF THE ATM/MET TASK FORCE (ATM/MET/1)
(Nairobi, Kenya, 10-11 June 2013)

Agenda Item 4: Development of AFI VACP Exercises Procedure

DRAFT AFI VACP EXERCISES PROCEDURE

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper proposes a draft exercises procedure as required by the AFI volcanic ash contingency plan (VACP), to be reviewed by the Task Force and submitted to APIRG as the AFI VACP exercises procedure.

References:

- APIRG/18 Meeting Report;
- IAVWOPSG/7 Meeting Report;
- AFI VACP
- EUR/NAT VOLCEX OPINS

1. Introduction

1.1 In order to ensure a smooth implementation and effectiveness of the AFI volcanic ash contingency plan (VACP) in case of an actual volcanic eruption, annual AFI ATM/MET Task Force Volcanic Ash Exercises (VAEX/AFI) should be conducted. This paper develops a volcanic ash (VA) procedure to be used during the said exercises.

1.2 The VA exercises procedure given in **Appendix A** to this paper, is proposed to the task Force for review, adoption and submission to APIRG/19 meeting.

2. Discussion

2.1 As indicated in the Forward section of the AFI VACP, annual Volcanic ash exercises should be conducted to practice and develop inter-agency response to volcanic activity, in order to maintain safety, regularity and efficiency of aviation in the event of a volcanic eruption.

2.2 In this regard, the AFI ATM/MET Task Force has been tasked by APIRG to handle the planning of issues pertaining to Volcanic ash in the region, will arrange and coordinate the regional volcanic ash exercises. To this end, the Task Force should develop a procedure for the AFI Volcanic Ash Exercises (VAEX/AFI).

2.3 The procedure given in **Appendix A** was developed in accordance with the Template provided in Appendix G of the Seventh Meeting of the International Airways Volcano Watch Operations Group (IAVWOPSG/7) and the VA exercise instructions given in **Appendix B** were adapted from the European and North Atlantic Volcanic Ash Exercises Operating Instructions (EUR/NAT VOLCEX OPINS).

2.4 The meeting may wish to formulate the following

Draft Decision 1/xx: Adoption of the AFI VA Exercises Procedures

That,

- a) **the VA Exercises Procedures given at Appendix A is revised and adopted as the AFI VACP Exercises Procedures; and**
- b) **the AFI ATM/MET Task Force is invited to implement the said exercises and report to the APIRG ATM and MET Sub-groups.**

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The task Force is invited to:

- a) Note the information in this paper,
- b) Review Appendix A to this paper and,
- c) decide on the above draft Decision proposed for the Task Force's consideration.