



# REPORT

## TRAINING WORKSHOP ON SIGMET FOR WACAF STATES

*(Dakar, Sénégal, 06 – 08 December 2010)*

# SUMMARY

<b>PART I – HISTORY</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1. Objectif de l’atelier.....	3
1.2. Office and Secretariat .....	3
1.3 Working Language.....	3
1.4 Participants.....	3
1.5 Agenda.....	4
<b>PARTIE II - RESULTS OF THE WORKSHOP AND ACTIONS SUGGESTED</b>	<b>4</b>
Appendix I.....	7

## **PART I – HISTORY**

### **1.1. Objectif de l’atelier**

1.1.1 The ICAO Regional Office for West and Central Africa (WACAF) in Dakar, has organized a training workshop on SIGMET through the implementation of the ICAO Special Project (SIP/2010) for Meteorological Watch Offices (MWO) officers in WACAF States. The objective of this workshop was to strengthen the capacity of MWO officers for a better enforcement and issuance procedures in this area for the issuance and delivery of reliable SIGMET information in accordance with Amendment 75 to ICAO Annex 3 applicable since 18 November 2010.

1.1.2 One of the main purpose of the workshop was to raise awareness in States of current SIGMET provisions, the need for coordination between MET and ATS personnel and the forthcoming SIGMET advisory trial being held in April 2010 for which active participation is needed from AFI States.

### **1.2. Office and Secretariat**

1.2.1 The workshop was conducted in the conference room of ICAO Dakar Office, from 6 to 8 December 2010.

1.2.2 The meeting was opened by Mr Mam S. Jallow, Acting Director of the ICAO Western and Central Africa (WACAF) Regional Office, Dakar. In the opening speech, Mr Jallow welcomed the workshop participants and emphasized the importance of the workshop with special regard to ICAO strategic objectives in the field of air navigation security and safety. Mr. Benoît OKOSSI Akoa, ICAO Regional Officer for Meteorology in the WACAF Regional Office, acted as Secretary/Moderator of the workshop assisted by Mr. Neil Halsey, ICAO Technical Officer for Meteorology in the MET/AIM Section at HQ, as training lecturer and Mrs Diagne Siby, ICAO Regional Office Assistant. Moreover, Dr. Herbert Puempel, Chief of the Aeronautical Meteorology Section at WMO, also moderated (through video teleconference systems) the exchange of views on Agenda item related to the fundamental roots constituting the scientific basis of SIGMET.

### **1.3 Working Language**

1.3.1 The workshop was conducted in the French and English languages and relevant documentations were provided in both languages, using CD and USB electronic flash..

### **1.4 Participants**

1.4.1 Five (5) Meteorological Watch Offices (MWO) out of nine (9) WACAF MWOs attended this workshop including ASECNA member States. These MWO were represented by high level specialists in the Air Traffic Management, Communications and Meteorology. In total, 13 participants attended this training forum. The list of participants is given at **Appendix 1**.

## **1.5 Agenda**

1.5.1 The following Agenda was adopted.

- Item 1: Review of ICAO and WMO provisions on SIGMET
- a) ICAO Annex 3/WMO No. 49, Volume 2;
  - b) Doc 8896, Manual on Aeronautical Meteorology Practices;
  - c) Doc 7474 AFI Regional Air Navigation Plan, Vol. 1 - Basic ANP, Vol. 2 - FASID;
  - d) AFI Regional SIGMET Guide (ESAF and WACAF).
- Item 2: Rules and procedures for issuing SIGMET WS (thunderstorms, turbulence, icing, mountain waves, and sand storm).
- Item 3: Rules and procedures for issuing SIGMET WV (volcanic ash).
- Item 4: Rules and procedures for issuing SIGMET WC (tropical cyclones).
- Item 5: Communication procedures and tests SIGMET.
- a) Procedures and tests
  - b) MET/ATS coordination to ensure that aircraft reports are received.
  - c) Information on the upcoming SIGMET trial in AFI which is due to start in April 2011.
  - d) Additional technical assistance/guidance from WMO
- Item 6: The practice (presentations by States or organizations).
- Item 7: Practical Session.
- Item 8: Any other business.

## **PARTIE II - RESULTS OF THE WORKSHOP AND ACTIONS SUGGESTED**

### **2.1 Results**

2.1.1 Following discussions on two (2) presentations from WMO, three (3) from MET/AIM Section and three (3) from Regional Office WACAF, followed by practical exercises, the following results were obtained:

- Presentations were given over three days to emphasize the detailed requirements for SIGMET format and dissemination, the need to coordinate with ATS on the exchange of aircraft reports and meteorological support to assist in the provision of SIGMET both internally and available from other States.
- Information was obtained from participants on difficulties experienced in implementation. Advice was given regarding training, meteorological use of satellite imagery and sources of information to assist developing States (eg. ICAO IAVW advisory centres).
- It is expected that the implementation of SIGMET provisions will improve from the MWOs in Brazzaville, Dakar, Niamey, Kano, Sal and over time from the remaining

MWO under the ASECNA umbrella once the training material is passed on to those concerned.

- Training materials in the form of presentation is attached.

## **2.2 Actions Suggested**

### **2.2.1 Receipt of supporting information**

1. Advisories from Toulouse
  - a) Check AFTN comms
  - b) Check SADIS receipt
  - c) Check internet for Toulouse VAAC website  
[www.meteo.fr/VAAC](http://www.meteo.fr/VAAC)
2. Special air reports
  - a) Letter of agreement MET/ATS (example provided in Doc 9377, Appendix 2) – This is a high-level agreement to supply information in both directions between MET and ATS authorities.
  - b) Use of informal contacts to obtain special air reports (cafeteria, personal friendships etc) – task for forecasters and other MET staff at airports (this works even if a formal letter of agreement is not signed!)

### **2.2.2 SIGMET requirements**

1. SIGMET format

An incorrect format will not necessarily reach users.  
Use Annex 3, Appendix 6, Table A6-1  
Further guidance in the AFI SIGMET Guide and in Doc 8896

*Note: The AFI SIGMET Guide has been specifically written to assist – please use it*

2. SIGMET dissemination

Check that SIGMET are addressed correctly to:

- a) Neighboring MWOs
- b) WAFCS London and Washington (for SADIS dissemination)
- c) Met Office – local requirements (may be in a neighboring State)
- d) Local ATS (local dissemination – part of agreement with ATS, see 2.a) above)
- e) OPMET databank (for global AFTN dissemination)

Note: All of the above must be included. If you're AFTN is not functioning then your SIGMET will go now here.

### **2.2.3 Routine checks for dissemination**

Check SIGMET reception routinely by finding it on SADIS and from the OPMET databank.

*Note: If the SIGMET does not appear on SADIS and the OPMET databank within 10 minutes then something is wrong and some action is required (check the addresses and the AFTN connection).*

*Appendix I*

**List of participants of the training workshop**

N°	PAYS - ORGANISATION	NOM & PRENOM	FONCTION	ADRESSE	TEL/FAX
1	CAMEROUN CCAA	Monsieur Cyrille ABONDO	Chef de Service en Charge de la Météorologie Aéronautique.	C/O CCAA P.O Box 6998 Yaoundé Cameroun	TEL 237 22 30 30 90 FAX 237 22 30 33 62 Abondocyrille@yahoo.com Cyrille.abondo@ccaa.aero
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<b>9</b>		Monsieur Abdoulaye TAYE	Chef Section Prévision Générale	Aéroport .S.Senghor BP 8184 Dakar Yoff Sénégal	Tel : 221 33 869 23 24 Fax : 221 33 820 04 03 Mob: 221 77 111 06 76 Email : Abdoulaye- taye@gmail.com
<b>10</b>	ASECNA	Mr. Nobila René OUEDRAOGO	Ingénieur de la Météorologie, Prévisionniste, Protectionniste à la Représentation de l'ASECNA au Sénégal	BP 29 784 DAKAR YOFF	Tel : 221 33 869 53 35 Fax : 221 33 869 23 52 Mob : 221 7 182 32 12 Email : nobilarene@yahoo.fr
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