



International Civil Aviation Organization

**FIRST MEETING OF THE ASIA/PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL
ADVISORIES AND WARNINGS IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE
(METWARN/I TF/1)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 23 – 25 March 2011

Agenda Item 2: Review educational material

- a) **Monitor the developments of IAVWOPSG and METWSG with reference to guidance on radioactive cloud and Tsunami**

GLOBAL PROGRESS ON GUIDANCE ON RADIOACTIVE CLOUD

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents an update on the global progress on guidance on radioactive cloud information.

This paper relates to:

Strategic Objectives:

A. Safety

Global Plan Initiatives:

GPI-18 Aeronautical information

GPI-19 Meteorological Systems

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Twentieth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APANPIRG/20) Conclusion 20/69 calls for further guidance on the issuance of SIGMET on radioactive cloud. The International Airways Volcano Watch Operations Group (IAVWOPSG) determined that additional Standards were not necessary (IAVWOPSG/5 Decision 5/23 refers) and that guidance be included in Part II of the Manual on Volcanic Ash, Radioactive Material and Toxic Chemical Clouds (Doc 9691) (IAVWOPSG/5 Conclusion 5/24 refers). References to the IAVWOPSG Decision and Conclusion are provided in the **Attachment**.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The ad-hoc group fulfilling IAVWOPSG/5 Conclusion 5/24 is drafting guidance material that will be considered at the IAVWOPSG/6 meeting in September 2011. Three States (Australia, New Zealand and the United States) are expected in this meeting that are on the IAVWOPSG ad-hoc group and may further advise the group on developments of guidance material for the issuance of SIGMET on radioactive cloud.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to

- a) note the information in this paper, and
- b) obtain updates by States who are members of the IAVWOPSG ad-hoc group drafting guidance material on radioactive cloud information.

Agenda Item 9: Any other business**9.1 IMPROVED NOTIFICATION CONCERNING THE ACCIDENTAL RELEASE OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL INTO THE ATMOSPHERE**

9.1.1 The group reviewed the report concerning the progress made by VAAC London in the implementation of procedures for the direct notification to ACCs regarding the release of radioactive material. In this regard, the group noted that VAAC London was using two GIS facilities which were available via the ICAO website whereby the FIR affected could be quickly identified from an input of latitude and longitude. The group was pleased to note that, in order to assist VAAC London in this respect, ICAO was working on the provision of a permanent database of all FIRs with their associated 8-letter ACC AFTN addresses. Furthermore, the group agreed that such a database, which should be global in nature, could be available online and updated regularly and included as part of a new FASID table in the air navigation plan (ANP). In this regard the following conclusion was formulated:

Conclusion 5/22 — Development of a global database of ACC AFTN addresses

That,

- a) ICAO consider the inclusion of a global database of AFTN addresses of ACC as a FASID table; and
- b) once the global database is available, VAAC London conduct tests of the Nuclear Emergency Message in co-ordination with other VAACs and nominated ACC's and report back to the IAVWOPSG/6 Meeting.

9.2 NEED FOR GUIDANCE MATERIAL RELATED TO THE ISSUANCE OF SIGMET ON RADIOACTIVE CLOUDS (FOLLOW-UP OF APANPIRG CONCLUSION 20/69)

9.2.1 The group noted that the twentieth meeting of the ASIA/PAC Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APANPIRG/20), when reviewing the process for the dissemination of information concerning the release of radioactive material into the atmosphere by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to VAAC London and to regional specialized meteorological centres (RSMCs), had noted that the role of MWOs was to issue SIGMET for radioactive cloud in a highly simplified form in order to ensure their timely dissemination. In this regard APANPIRG had felt that there was a need for additional development of ICAO provisions related to SIGMET on radioactive clouds and called for the IAVWOPSG to consider the development of guidance material related to the issuance of SIGMET on radioactive clouds. The group noted that, according to Annex 3, 3.4 g) and Appendix 6, 1.1.4, MWOs should issue SIGMET for radioactive clouds intended mainly for its corresponding ACC/FIC. The group agreed that the information that civil aviation primarily needed in a SIGMET, was the provision of information concerning the location, duration and date and time of the release and that this warning be issued immediately upon receiving the information from IAEA. Additional information could be provided later in future SIGMETs using other sources such as RSMCs. Therefore, the group agreed that, except for issues related to guidance material, there was no need for the

time being to propose additional SARPs for SIGMET for radioactive clouds and formulated the following decision:

Decision 5/23 — Development of additional SARPs on SIGMET on radioactive clouds

That, there is no need for the time being to develop additional SARPs related to SIGMET for radioactive clouds.

9.2.2 Regarding the development of additional guidance material, the group discussed the need of guidance regarding SIGMET for radioactive cloud to be included in Part II of *Manual on Volcanic Ash, Radioactive Material and Toxic Chemical Clouds* (Doc 9691). In this regard, the group formulated the following conclusion:

Conclusion 5/24 — Development of guidance on the issuance of SIGMET for accidental release of radioactive material into the atmosphere

That, an ad hoc working group consisting of Australia, Canada (Rapporteur), France, New Zealand, United Kingdom, United States, IATA and WMO be tasked to:

- a) develop draft guidance material for MWOs in view of assisting them to issue SIGMET for radioactive cloud, for inclusion in Doc 9691 *Manual on Volcanic Ash, Radioactive Material and Toxic Chemical Clouds*; and
- b) provide a report back to the IAVWOPSG/6 Meeting.

9.3 **DATE AND VENUE OF THE IAVWOPSG/6 MEETING**

9.3.1 The group recalled that it was intended to convene IAVWOPSG meetings every 18 months and that the meetings were held at ICAO regional offices on a rotational basis to ensure a regional participation. The group also recalled that at the Fifth Meeting it had been understood that the sixth meeting should be convened in the African Region (IAVWOPSG/4 Report, paragraph 9.3 refers). Therefore the group agreed that the sixth meeting of the IAVWOPSG be held at the ICAO Western and Central African Regional Office, Dakar, Senegal, in September, 2011.

No. and deliverable		Title/Action	Follow-up action (target/completion date in brackets)
5/19	9	<p>Development of requirements for "Space Weather"</p> <p>That, an ad-hoc working group consisting of the members of Argentina, Australia, Canada, France, New Zealand, United Kingdom, United States (Rapporteur), IATA, IFALPA and IFATCA, in consultation with ICAO and WMO be tasked to:</p> <p>a) develop draft operational requirements for space weather, including draft guidance material, as necessary; and</p> <p>b) prepare a report with suggested milestones for the development and roll-out of space weather service for international air navigation, for consideration by the IAVWOPSG/6 Meeting.</p>	<p>Argentina, Australia, Canada, France, New Zealand, United Kingdom, United States (Rapporteur), IATA, and IFATCA, in consultation with ICAO and WMO</p> <p>Draft requirements; progress report</p> <p>(6 June 2011)</p>
5/21	3	<p>Volcanic ash related messages</p> <p>That, the Secretary present a proposal for consideration by the IAVWOPSG/6 Meeting related to the follow-up of EANPG 51/26 and 51/31 b).</p>	<p>Secretariat</p> <p>Proposal related to the EANPG follow-up</p> <p>(18 July 2011)</p>
5/22	2	<p>Development of a global database of ACC AFTN addresses</p> <p>That,</p> <p>a) ICAO consider the inclusion of a global database of AFTN addresses of ACC as a FASID table; and</p> <p>b) once the global database is available, VAAC London conduct tests of the Nuclear Emergency Message in co-ordination with other VAACs and nominated ACC's and report back to the IAVWOPSG/6 Meeting.</p>	<p>Secretariat</p> <p>Inclusion of global database on the IAVWOPSG website</p> <p>(30 November 2010)</p> <p>VAAC London, other VAACs and selected ACCs</p> <p>Conduct of tests; a progress report</p> <p>(January 2011)</p>
5/24	3	<p>Development of guidance on the issuance of SIGMET for accidental release of radioactive material into the atmosphere</p> <p>That, an ad hoc working group consisting of Australia, Canada (Rapporteur), France, New Zealand, United Kingdom, United States, IATA and WMO be tasked to:</p> <p>a) develop draft guidance material for MWOs in view of assisting them to issue SIGMET for radioactive cloud, for inclusion in Doc 9691 <i>Manual on Volcanic Ash, Radioactive Material and Toxic Chemical Clouds</i>; and</p> <p>b) provide a report back to the IAVWOPSG/6 Meeting.</p>	<p>Australia, Canada (Rapporteur), France, New Zealand, United Kingdom, United States, IATA and WMO</p> <p>Draft guidance; a progress report</p> <p>(6 June 2011)</p>