



*International Civil Aviation Organization*

**FIFTH MEETING OF THE ASIA/PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL  
HAZARDS TASK FORCE (MET/H TF/5)**

Seoul, Republic of Korea, 18 – 20 March 2015

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**Agenda Item 2:      Review of follow-up from previous meetings**

**FOLLOW-UP TO ACTION ARISING FROM MET/H TF/4**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

**SUMMARY**

This paper presents an overview of the status of follow-up to the agreed action at the fourth meeting of the Meteorological Hazards Task Force (MET/H TF/4), held in Beijing, China, from 19 to 21 March 2014.

**1.      INTRODUCTION**

1.1            Reliable meteorological warnings and advisory information on tropical cyclone, volcanic ash and other phenomena that may be hazardous to flight play a key role towards improved pre-flight planning and in-flight safety. The main objective of the Meteorological Hazards Task Force (MET/H TF) is to improve the quality and implementation of meteorological advisories and warnings.

1.2            The fourth meeting of the Meteorological Hazards Task Force (MET/H TF/4) was held in Beijing, China, from 19 to 21 March 2014; including a conjoint session with the twelfth meeting of the ROBEX Working Group (ROBEX WG/12) on 19 March 2014. As well as progressing work on the MET/H TF work plan, MET/H TF/4 agreed to thirteen (13) action items that would contribute towards the overall objectives of the task force.

**2.      DISCUSSION**

2.1            A table summarizing the status of follow-up to the MET/H TF/4 agreed action is provided in the **Attachment** to this paper.

**3.      ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1            The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the status of follow-up the Attachment to this paper; and
- b) Provide further updates and discussion where relevant.

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ATTACHMENT

**FOLLOW-UP OF MET/H TF/4  
 AGREED ACTION**

Status on **13 March 2015**

(✓ = completed)

No.	Title/description	Follow-up action (target/completion dates in brackets)
4/1 (ROBEX WG 12/10)	<b>SIGMET Guide/VAAC back-up test procedures</b>  VAAC back-up test procedures between Wellington and Darwin to be included in the next amendment or edition of the APAC Regional SIGMET Guide	Secretariat to include VAAC back-up test procedures in SIGMET Guide  (Target date TBD in 2014, in coordination with ad-hoc group's revision of SIGMET Guide for presentation to MET SG/18) <b>IN PROGRESS; SIGMET Guide updates for consideration by conjoint session of ROBEX WG/13 and MET/H TF/5 provided in WP/C5 (presented by Secretariat).</b>
4/2 (ROBEX WG 12/11)	<b>SIGMET Guide/SIGMET test procedures</b>  a) List of WMO headings for SIGMET bulletins used by APAC MWOs (to be used for compilation of SIGMET test results) to be updated to reflect the limitations in WC SIGMET issuance from certain MWOs as notified by States in the next amendment or edition of the APAC Regional SIGMET Guide; and  b) Specific guidance for the issuance of test WC/WV SIGMET when a test advisory message for tropical cyclone/volcanic ash is not received to be included in the SIGMET test procedures in the next amendment or edition of the APAC Regional SIGMET Guide.	Secretariat to include (a) updated information on WC SIGMET issuance and (b) specific guidance for non-receipt of test advisory messages in SIGMET tests in SIGMET Guide  (Target date TBD in 2014, in coordination with ad-hoc group's revision of SIGMET Guide for presentation to MET SG/18) <b>IN PROGRESS; SIGMET test procedures (circulated 15/10/2014). SIGMET Guide updates for consideration by conjoint session of ROBEX WG/13 and MET/H TF/5 provided in WP/C5 (presented by Secretariat).</b>

No.	Title/description	Follow-up action (target/completion dates in brackets)
4/3 (ROBEX WG 12/12)	<b>SIGMET test results</b>  a) ICAO State letter urging States to resolve the errors identified in the 2013 SIGMET tests (reported by Japan and Singapore and provided in Attachments C3 and C4 to the Report); and  b) States to advise ICAO on any issues that cannot be resolved or require further coordination/assistance to address the SIGMET test errors.	(a) Secretariat to issue State letter (April 2014)  (b) States respond if necessary (June 2014) <b>IN PROGRESS</b> ; SIGMET test errors from 2013 SIGMET tests (reported by Japan and Singapore) now presented for consideration by conjoint session of ROBEX WG/13 and MET/H TF/5 in WP/C4 (presented by Secretariat) and may be circulated to States with errors from 2014 SIGMET tests.
4/4 (ROBEX WG 12/13)	<b>Proposal for amendment of FASID Table MET 1B – Cairns (YBCS)</b>  Update the regional air navigation plan, FASID Table MET 1B, to remove the requirement for MWO services at Cairns (YBCS) – in line with current requirements.	Secretariat (in coordination with Australia) to prepare and process the PfA (June 2014) <b>IN PROGRESS</b> ; draft proposal for amendment of FASID provided in ROBEX WG/13 WP/17 (presented by Secretariat) for endorsement by the group.
4/5 (ROBEX WG 12/14)	<b>Draft Asia/Pacific Regional SIGMET Guide (5th Edition)</b>  Comprehensive revision of the draft Asia/Pacific Regional SIGMET Guide (5th Edition) based on the suggested changes in Attachments C5, C6 and C7 to the Report.	Ad-hoc group comprising Australia (Rapporteur), Hong Kong-China, Japan, New Zealand and ICAO to produce the revised draft Asia/Pacific Regional SIGMET Guide (5th Edition) and forward to the Secretariat for inter-regional coordination then to the MET SG for further consideration (June 2014). <b>IN PROGRESS</b> ; SIGMET Guide updates for consideration by conjoint session of ROBEX WG/13 and MET/H TF/5 provided in WP/C5 (presented by Secretariat).
4/6	<b>Guidance on SIGMET for radioactive cloud</b>  Guidance on the issuance of SIGMET for radioactive cloud for possible inclusion in the Regional SIGMET Guide.	Ad-hoc group comprising China (Rapporteur), Hong Kong-China and Japan to develop guidance on the issuance of SIGMET for radioactive cloud and forward to the ad-hoc group revising the draft Regional SIGMET Guide (5th Edition) (June 2014). <b>IN PROGRESS</b> ; Further discussion provided in IP/3 (presented by China).
4/7	<b>Guidance on the use of SIGMET for radioactive cloud</b>  Guidance and/or training on the use of the information provided in SIGMET for radioactive cloud.	Secretariat to raise the issue with an appropriate ICAO group or user group (June 2014). <b>ON HOLD</b> ; pending outcomes of guidance development in 4/6 above.

No.	Title/description	Follow-up action (target/completion dates in brackets)
4/8	<b>Guidance on integration of aerodromes with national tsunami warning systems</b>  Guidance on how to integrate aerodromes into national tsunami warning systems where such systems are in place.	Ad-hoc group comprising Japan (Rapporteur) and Indonesia to review the tsunami survey results and develop regional guidance on the provision of tsunami warning information directly from the relevant tsunami warning centres to the ‘at-risk’ aerodromes (June 2014). <b>IN PROGRESS;</b> Draft tsunami warning guidance material for consideration by MET/H TF/5 provided in WP/5 (presented by Japan).
4/9	<b>Survey results for radioactive cloud and tsunami</b>  Information gathered by the surveys to be shared with other relevant groups.	Secretariat to forward the information gathered by the surveys to ICAO HQ to be shared with other relevant groups (May 2014). <b>ON HOLD;</b> pending outcomes of newly established MET Panel in 2015 which may assign an appropriate global group/s to which the survey information will be relevant.
4/10	<b>Notification of implementation of the new standardized international volcano database for the preparation of volcanic ash advisories</b>  Notification of the implementation of the new database for volcanic ash advisory (VAA) messages by VAAC Tokyo.	Secretariat to liaise with ICAO HQ to determine whether there are any requirements for notification to others such as the IAVW-related organizations, ATCs and MWOs in the VAAC Tokyo area of responsibility, as well as the EUR/NAT Regional Office (May 2014). <b>✓</b> <b>ICAO determined that special notification was not necessary as long as VAA information was disseminated in accordance with existing Annex 3 provisions.</b>
4/11	<b>Impact of non-implementation of the new volcano database on VAAC back-up arrangements</b>  VAAC back-up procedures between Darwin and Tokyo to be reviewed and updated if necessary to address the interim period before the new database is implemented by VAAC Tokyo.	VAAC Tokyo, in conjunction with VAAC Darwin, to review the impact of VAAC Tokyo not referring to the new volcano database and take necessary actions as required (May 2014).
4/12	<b>Updates to the SIGMET posters</b>  Revision of SIGMET posters to realign the posters with the SIGMET changes envisaged in Amendment 77 to Annex 3 in 2016.	Ad-hoc group consisting of Australia, Hong Kong-China and New Zealand (Rapporteur) to review and update the SIGMET posters to realign with Amendment 77 to Annex 3 in 2016. <b>IN PROGRESS;</b> Further discussion provided in WP/4 (presented by New Zealand).

No.	Title/description	Follow-up action (target/completion dates in brackets)
4/13	<p><b>MWO and ACC AFTN addresses for VAA information</b></p> <p>List of MWO and ACC locations and AFTN addresses for distribution of VAA information from VAACs Darwin and Wellington.</p>	<p>Secretariat to: (a) source the lists of MWO and ACC locations for distribution of VAA information from VAACs Darwin and Wellington; and (b) issue a State Letter requesting updates to the MWO and ACC location information for distribution of VAA information in the APAC Region, including AFTN addresses (May 2014).</p> <p><b>IN PROGRESS;</b> This action was overtaken by coordination necessary to update the MWO and ACC location and AFTN details to support the VAAC Darwin/Tokyo back-up test in October 2014. Further discussion provided in conjoint session in WP/C1 (presented by Secretariat).</p>

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