



International Civil Aviation Organization

ELECTRONIC BULLETIN

For information only

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OPERATIONAL SITUATION IN HAITI

1. On 12 January 2010, an earthquake measuring 7.0 on the Richter magnitude scale struck Haiti, 10 miles southwest of Port-au-Prince, causing extensive damage to general infrastructure and communications and a devastating impact on human life.
2. Acting on preliminary information and pending the reestablishment of communication with the Haitian civil aviation authority (OFNAC), coordinated contingency measures were swiftly put in place by the neighbouring States to help ensure the safety of flight operations within the Port-au-Prince flight information region (FIR). Once communication was reestablished, a plan to ensure a smooth flow of air traffic arriving and departing from Haitian airports and overflying the Port-au-Prince FIR was implemented with extraordinary effort from the OFNAC, in coordination with Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Netherlands Antilles, the United States and ICAO.
3. More recently, a fully operational mobile air traffic control tower was installed at the Port-au-Prince International Airport, staffed with United States Air Force (USAF) air traffic controllers. Air traffic flow management (ATFM) services, including a slot allocation scheme, have been put in place to safely and efficiently manage traffic throughout the Port-au-Prince FIR. Facilities from neighbouring States have also been used for staging flights, passenger evacuation and medical treatment of injured persons. Offers for air traffic controllers have been received from several States.
4. The airspace and airport capacity is increasing through coordination with the Haitian authorities, governments in the region, ICAO and other UN agencies. From 15 to 26 January 2010, a total of 1,404 flights operated through the Port-au-Prince International Airport. The Haitian authorities, in coordination with the United States Transportation Security Administration (TSA), have established security measures at the airport, focusing on screening passengers and passport validation.
5. ICAO is committed to providing all possible assistance, advice and coordination to ensure that response to this emergency is provided promptly and with the highest level of harmonization. ICAO would like to thank all authorities that have expeditiously provided support during this emergency.
6. For enquiries relating to any aspect of this message, please contact Ms. Nancy J. Graham, Director of the Air Navigation Bureau, at ngraham@icao.int.

Issued under the authority of the Secretary General