



International Civil Aviation Organization

**SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS/NAVIGATION/SURVEILLANCE AND
METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP (CNS/MET SG/16) OF APANPIRG**

Bangkok, Thailand, 23 – 27 July 2012

Agenda Item 11: Meteorological advisories and warnings

3) implementation of advisories and warnings - aerodrome warnings (including tsunami) - SIGMET for radioactive clouds - wind shear alerts & warnings

SUMMARY OF METWSG/4 MEETING

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents a summary of the METWSG/4 meeting, held in Montréal, from 15 to 18 May 2012

This paper relates to –

Strategic Objectives:

A: Safety - *Enhance global civil aviation safety*

C: Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of Air Transport - *Foster harmonized and economically viable development of international civil aviation that does not unduly harm the environment*

Global Plan Initiatives:

GPI-9 Situational awareness

GPI-19 Meteorological Systems

1. Introduction

1.1 The fourth meeting of the Meteorological Warnings Study Group (METWSG/4) was held at the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Headquarters in Montréal, Canada, from 15 to 18 May 2012. The meeting was partly hosted by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) at their Headquarters, also in Montréal, Canada.

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2. Discussion

2.1 The meeting is reminded that the METWSG is tasked with activities concerning, inter alia, the review of operational requirements for the provision of warnings for meteorological hazards including the improvement of guidance for criteria, coding and issuance of SIGMET to meet evolving needs of flight operations.

2.2 Highlights from METWSG /4 include agreement on the development of a final proposal to the MET Divisional Meeting on SIGMET implementation that would include: development of a concept of operations for a global or multi-regional advisory system and criteria for the selection of regional advisory centres by the respective planning and implementation regional groups (PIRG)s; development of a revised format for the advisory information; development of an amendment proposal to Annex 3 to introduce an advisory system based on the concept of operations, in coordination with the Secretary; and development of a proposal for further study into a phenomenon-based notification system rather than a FIR-based system for hazardous meteorological conditions (Action agreed 4/1 refers).

2.3 To help improve the guidance on issuance of SIGMET, the group decided to: develop generic guidance on the issuance of SIGMET for each ICAO Region to consider for use in their respective SIGMET guides to remove inconsistencies; investigate the possibility of splitting Annex 3, Table A6-1 into its component parts relating to SIGMET, AIRMET and special air reports; and provide a report for consideration by the group by 15 March 2013 (Action agreed 4/3 refers). This is further discussed in WP/17 to the CNS/MET SG/16 meeting.

2.4 The group also agreed to develop proposals to modify Annex 3 relating to: generic provisions for the uncertainties in the provision of meteorological information; the geographic descriptors for phenomena in SIGMET; and tsunami warnings where national public safety plans incorporating the aerodrome exist.

2.5 Other issues discussed that METWSG will action or report back to include: SIGMET categories for thunderstorms; air reports for turbulence and icing; and the implementation of air reports.

2.6 The summary of discussions and follow-up table from the METWSG/4 meeting, as well as the associated METWSG documentation, is available at the METWSG website: <http://www.icao.int/safety/meteorology/METWSG/Pages/default.aspx>.

3. Action by the Meeting

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information contained in this paper.
