



*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**

1) review of METWARN/I TF/2 meeting

**UPDATE ON REGIONAL CONTINGENCY PLAN**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

**SUMMARY**

This paper provides an update on the progress of developing an Asia/Pacific regional contingency plan.

This paper relates to

**Strategic Objectives:**

- A. Safety
- C. Sustainability

**Global Plan Initiatives:**

- GPI-18 Aeronautical information
- GPI-19 Meteorological Systems

**1. Introduction**

1.1 The Fourteenth Meeting of the Communications/Navigation/Surveillance and Meteorology Sub-group to APANPIRG (CNS/MET SG/14) adopted Decision 14/30 that calls on the Meteorological Advisories and Warnings Implementation Task Force (METWARN/I TF) to develop a framework of regional contingency plan for weather phenomenon that includes volcanic ash, tropical cyclone, radioactive cloud and tsunami. The Terms of Reference of the METWARN/I TF provide a link to the Meteorology/Air Traffic Management Task Force (MET/ATM TF) in that the contact points provided in the contingency plan be attained by the latter. Point of contact information for contingency plan is published at the following website: [http://www.icao.or.th/edocs/contact\\_volcanic\\_%20ash.pdf](http://www.icao.or.th/edocs/contact_volcanic_%20ash.pdf).

1.2 Furthermore, in its first meeting, the METWARN/I TF made progress in developing a framework on contingency plans that includes phenomenon of volcanic ash, tropical cyclone, tsunami and radioactive cloud. The framework on contingency plans was presented to the ATM/AIS/SAR/SG/21 (2011) as WP/05, which is reproduced in the **Attachment 1**. The ATM/AIS/SAR/SG/21 called for a Regional ATM Contingency Plan Task Force (RACP/TF) to be formed, reporting to the ATM/AIS/SAR

**Agenda Item 11(1)**

23/07/12

Sub-Group, in its Draft Conclusion 21/10 that was subsequently adopted by APANPIRG/22 – Conclusion 22/9 – that, a RACP/TF be formed, reporting to APANPIRG through the ATM/AIS/SAR Sub-Group for planning, coordination and implementation of a regional ATM contingency plan, with a link to the METWARN/I Task Force.

**2. Discussion**

2.1 The meeting is reminded that the ad-hoc group formed by METWARN/I TF/1 (2011) to work on the framework on contingency plans consisted of members from Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Indonesia, Philippines and Malaysia. Ad-hoc group members present at the METWARN/I TF/2 meeting (April 2012) reported no further progress by the group; the meeting agreed to refresh the ad-hoc group membership with additional members from Japan and the International Federation of Airline Pilots' Associations (IFALPA) and to initiate continued action against the tasks of the group in 2012. A proposed, renewed work plan for the ad-hoc group is provided in the **Attachment 2** (METWARN/I TF/2 Action agreed 2/8 refers).

2.2 An ad-hoc, conjoint session was held between the RACP/TF/1 Chair and Secretariat and the OPMET/M TF/10 - METWARN/I TF/2 meetings (April 2012) to discuss and clarify the linkage specified in the TOR of the groups. A brief summary of the discussions/outcomes follows:

- The link between the RACP/TF and METWARN/I TF was discussed, including the requirement for each of these Task Forces to develop an understanding of the other's needs; while primarily considered in response to volcanic ash, this link is also a necessary facilitator to the contingency response to other catalysts such as nuclear emergencies (radioactive cloud);
- Consideration of ATM requirements for information type coding, frequency of information update, and dynamic notification of affected airspace;
- The METWARN/I TF Secretariat would present a working paper on regional contingency planning for weather phenomena to RACP/TF/2;
- A recommendation would be made (at METWSG/4) that States arrange to receive Tsunami warnings directly from the responsible National body or from the appropriate International Tsunami Warning Centre; and
- The RACP/TF Secretariat advised the meeting that any contingency planning for tsunami and other phenomena such as tropical revolving storms and volcanic activity needed to take into account protection of ATM facilities, navigation aids and ATS surveillance installations, and the consequential effect on aerodromes and Air Traffic Flow Management.

**3. Action required by the Meeting**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information in this paper; and
- b) provide further input to the **Attachments** for consideration by the METWARN/I TF, RACP/TF and the ATM/AIS/SAR/SG.

-----



*International Civil Aviation Organization*

**The Twenty-First Meeting of the APANPIRG ATM/AIS/SAR Sub-Group  
(ATM/AIS/SAR/SG/21)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 27 June – 01 July 2011

**Agenda Item 5: Review of Other Relevant Meetings**

**METEOROLOGICAL ADVISORIES AND WARNINGS IMPLEMENTATION TASK  
FORCE (MET/WARN/1 TF) CONTINGENCY PLANNING**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

**SUMMARY**

This paper provides a summary on the progress of developing an APAC regional contingency plan for volcanic ash and other significant weather phenomena, which is intended to contribute of the Asia/Pacific Regional ATM Contingency Plan.

This paper relates to-

**Strategic Objectives:**

*A: Safety – Enhance global 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-6 Air traffic flow management

GPI-7 Dynamic and flexible ATS route management

GPI-18 Aeronautical information

GPI-19 Meteorological Systems

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The Fourteenth Meeting of the Communications/Navigation/Surveillance and Meteorology Sub-group to APANPIRG (CNS/MET SG/14) adopted Decision 14/30 on the Meteorological Advisories and Warnings Implementation Task Force (METWARN/I TF) to develop a framework of regional contingency plan for weather phenomenon that includes volcanic ash, tropical cyclone, radioactive cloud and Tsunami. The Terms of Reference of the METWARN/I TF provide a link to the Meteorology/Air Traffic Management Task Force (MET/ATM TF) in that the contact points provided in the contingency plan be attained by the latter.

1.2 As of April 2011, 17 States and 2 Special Administrative Region had provided point of contact information (APANPIRG Decision 21/9 refers). A reminder was sent to States who had not yet responded on 2 February 2011 (MET/ATM TF/2 action 2/3 refers). This information is published at the following website: [http://www.icao.or.th/edocs/contact\\_volcanic\\_%20ash.pdf](http://www.icao.or.th/edocs/contact_volcanic_%20ash.pdf).

**2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 In addition to contact points, the first meeting of the Meteorological Advisories and Warnings Implementation Task Force (METWARN/I TF/1) made progress in developing a framework on contingency plans that included volcanic ash, tropical cyclone, tsunami and radioactive cloud phenomenon, which is provided in the **Attachment**.

2.2 Furthermore, WP/13 of the METWARN/I TF/1 meeting described arrangements related to volcanic ash between Singapore and Indonesia (MET/ATM TF/2 Action Agreed 2/4), which recently expanded their arrangement with Thailand and the Philippines. This meeting considered this arrangement and others in the Region to find commonalities amongst arrangements in the region in developing regional contingency plans (METWARN/I TF/1 Action Agreed 1/13 refers). This information was provided to the assist the work of any Regional ATM Contingency Plan Task Force established by this meeting (METWARN/I TF/1 Action Agreed 1/14 refers).

2.3 The METWARN/I TF/1 meeting discussed the importance of Collaborative Decision Making (CDM) in sharing information and determining who and how an overall decision for a sub-region should be made. Such arrangements are being practiced by Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines and Malaysia.

**3. ACTION REQUIRED BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information in this paper, and
- b) provide input to the **Attachment** with consideration to current sub-regional contingency plans.

.....

(Derived from METWARN/I TF/1  
Appendix E to the Report)

---

## **Framework for APAC Regional Contingency Plans**

### **Representatives**

Singapore (Edmund; Krishnan)- (Rapporteur), Australia (Shona), New Zealand (Keith), USA (Steve); Indonesia (Indra, Masrian); Philippines (Dario, Bartolome); Malaysia (Jamil); Thailand (Perapol Begkhuntod)

### **Critical topics:**

#### **What is the purpose of contingency plan for Volcanic Ash and Radioactive Cloud?**

- To ensure the continued safety of air transport in the event of volcanic ash (VA)/radioactive cloud/tsunami/tropical cyclone.

The Asia Pacific Contingency plan:

- Needs to give direction/guidance to someone who isn't an expert/has no knowledge of the situation
- Should show the end-to-end progress and shows how information can flow between agencies and States
- Should avoid duplicating information but make reference/point to it (There is already SARPS in Annex 3, IVA operations manual; PANS-ATM; regional SIGMET guide). A consolidated document is needed – but needs Secretariat support to ensure it remains up to date.
- Should be applicable for more than one phenomenon: initially only for phenomena VA, radioactive cloud; tsunami and tropical cyclone. As they have advisory centres, Area Control Centre/RSMC or equivalent
- **Should this really be about contingency plan or rather how collaborative decision making will work within a region?**
- Needs a common definition so that people understand its purpose and role and what information will be covered
- Needs to define what the operational need is for a contingency plan for each State.
- Needs to identify what is the critical information that different organisations/States need

#### **Identify procedures and requirements that are unique to the Asia Pacific region.**

e.g.: those not defined by Annex 3,

- **Collaborative decision making**

The Contingency Plan needs to define how collaborative decision making works for VA for Asia Pacific.

(Derived from METWARN/I TF/1  
Appendix E to the Report)

---

The Contingency plan needs to capture work already underway to promote CDM and suggest improvements.

- **Dissemination of information**

The Contingency plan needs to define information flows.

The Contingency plan needs to identify operational focal points.

The Contingency plan needs to establish a forum for discussion – virtual, teleconference, etc.

The Contingency plan needs to outline the management of timeliness of decisions, especially in adjoining airspace.

- **Action plans**

Not for intra-state activities, but action plans for regional and interactions between States.

#### **The Contingency plan needs to address what is not working currently**

- **VONA (Volcano Observatory Notice for Aviation)**

No reference in Annex 3, only in the handbook which is guidance not binding.

- **Provide guidance on what to do if SIGMETs don't agree cross FIRs.**
- **Define handover processes for MWO for SIGMETs as phenomena cross FIR**
- **Consider potential role of Regional Watch offices**

#### **Who else needs to be involved?**

- ATM (Air Traffic Management)
- AOC (Airline Operations Centre)
- Advisory Centres
- Weather Observatories
- RSMC (Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre)
- RODB (Regional OPMET Data Bank)
- MWO (Meteorological Watch Office)
- ANSP (Air Navigation Service Provider)

#### **Additional Specialist advice required:**

- IVATF (International Volcanic Ash Task Force)
- Medical (radioactive)
- Tsunami Warning Centres
- IATA

-----

## Attachment 2

Proposed work plan for the (METWARN/I TF) ad-hoc group to work on the framework on contingency plans for weather phenomenon that includes volcanic ash, tropical cyclone, radioactive cloud and tsunami:

1. Review membership and rapporteur:
    - a. Singapore
    - b. Australia (*Michael*)
    - c. Indonesia
    - d. Malaysia (*Mr. V.P.R Nathan, The Deputy Director - ATM Sector*)
    - e. New Zealand (*Keith*)
    - f. Philippines
    - g. Thailand
    - h. United States
    - i. Japan (*Jun*)
    - j. IFALPA (*Heinz*);
  2. Review multi-lateral State (contingency) practices (e.g. Singapore-Indonesia);
  3. Review the framework of regional contingency plans (**Attachment 1**);
  4. Take into consideration similar work in other Regions, e.g. review relevant outcomes from NAT SPG/47 report, Conclusion 47/7  
[http://www.paris.icao.int/documents\\_open/files.php?page=2&subcategory\\_id=156&order=&get\\_order=desc&user\\_number\\_result=](http://www.paris.icao.int/documents_open/files.php?page=2&subcategory_id=156&order=&get_order=desc&user_number_result=));
  5. Review outcomes from the RACP/TF/1 and ATM/AIS/SAR/SG/22 meetings (2012);
  6. Further develop the framework of regional contingency plans, in coordination with the RACP/TF;
  7. Prepare a WP to discuss the framework of regional contingency plans at RACP/TF/2 (March 2013); and
  8. Report on accomplishments of the ad-hoc group at METWARN/I TF/3 (March 2013).
-