

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
First Meeting of the AFI Volcanic Ash Steering Group (AFI VOLCEX/SG1)

(Virtual, 5 July 2022)

Agenda Item 3 - Review of the ToR of the AFI VOLCEX/SG
WP-3.1 Term of Reference of the AFI VOLCEX/SG

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY
<p>This paper presents the terms of reference for the AFI Volcanic Ash Exercises Steering Group (AFI VOLCEX/SG) for review and update by the meeting.</p> <p>Action by the meeting in paragraph 3</p>
<p>REFERENCE(S):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ToR of AFI VOLCEX/SG • AFI VOLCEX 21/01 Report • Doc 9766 Handbook on the IAVW
<p>Related ICAO Strategic Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A – Safety, B – Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. In accordance with the provisions in Appendix F of ICAO Doc 9766, Volcanic ash exercises should be conducted by ICAO on a regional basis in order to practice and develop inter-agency response to volcanic activity, in order to maintain safety, regularity and efficiency of aviation in the event of a volcanic eruption.
- 1.2. Furthermore, A volcanic ash exercises steering group may be established by a PIRG [ICAO Planning and Implementation Regional Group] to coordinate all aspects of the organization and conduct of the exercises. The steering group should have representatives from, as a minimum, the volcanic ash advisory centres (VAACs) concerned, air navigation service providers (ANSPs), airspace users and regulators.
- 1.3. The terms of reference of the AFI VOLCEX/SG, as adopted at the Twenty-fourth Meeting of the AFI Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/24), through its *Decision 24/02 - Establishment of a Volcanic Ash Exercises Steering Group in the AFI Region*, is provided at **Appendix 1** to this paper for review and possible update by the meeting.
- 1.4. This paper proposes a review and an update of the TOR of the Steering Group to adapt it to the context.

2. DISCUSSIONS

- 2.1. The terms of reference of the AFI VOLCEX/SG are based on the guidance contained in *ICAO Doc 9766 – Handbook on the International Airways Volcano Watch, Appendix F – Guidance for conducting volcanic ash exercises in ICAO Regions*.
- 2.2. A proposed update to the terms of reference document of the AFI VOLCEX/SG is provided at the **Appendix 2** to this paper to provide additional guidance on attributes of the AFI VOLCEX/SG including the composition, administration, and functions of the group.

3. ACTIONS BY THE MEETING

- 3.1. The meeting is invited to:
 - a) Note the information contained in this paper;
 - b) Discuss and consider the proposed updates to the terms of reference of the AFI VOLCEX/SG, as necessary; and
 - c) Consider the consolidated version of the updated TOR of the AFI VOLCEX/SG for submission to the IIM/SG5 Meeting.

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