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منظمة الطيران
المدني الدولي

国际民用
航空组织

Ref: T17/6-0489

13 July 2017

Subject: **1. Regional Awareness Seminar on the AFI Air Traffic Management Volcanic Ash Douala, Cameroon, 4-7 September 2017; and**
2. Coordination Meeting of Flight Information Regions (FIRs), Douala, Cameroon, 8 September 2017.

Action required: Confirm participation by 18 August 2017

Sir/Madam,

I wish to refer to Conclusion 18/53 of the eighteenth meeting of the AFI Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/18) held in Kampala, Uganda from 27 to 30 March 2012, which called for the conduct of an awareness Seminar on the AFI Air Traffic Management Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan.

In this regards, I have the honour to inform you that ICAO has approved a Special Implementation Project (SIP) for the organization of an Awareness Seminar on the AFI Air Traffic Management (ATM) Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan (VACP) with the objectives of:

- Making all aviation stockholders in the AFI region aware of the ATM Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan (AFI VACP);
- Supporting its implementation through the establishment and implementation of regular VACP exercise procedures; and
- Proposing further improvements to the VACP.

Please be informed that the opportunity provided for by the gathering of ATM experts will be used to coordinate, harmonize and facilitate implementation of some outstanding regional programmes, including, new ATS Route Designators and update of ATS Letters of Agreement.

In this regard, I have the honour to inform you that the Cameroon Civil Aviation Authority (CCAA) has kindly offered to host both the ATM VACP Seminar and the Coordination Meeting back-to-back from 4 to 8 September 2017. The events will take place at the Hotel SAWA located at 488 rue de Verdun-Bonanjo, Douala, Cameroon.

The seminar and coordination meeting would be facilitated by resource persons from the ICAO Regional Offices in Dakar, Nairobi and Paris, and other experts in the global ATM community, Airspace Users and international organizations. It is important to note that the success of this seminar is highly dependent on the ability of participants to understand and apply the AFI Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan, as part of the ATM Contingency Plan.

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You are therefore requested to include in your delegation, experts in the fields of Air Traffic Management, ATS Route Planning, Aeronautical Information Management, Aeronautical Meteorology, as well as ANS regulators. In addition, the delegation should include officials with up-to-date knowledge of operational issues relating to the airspace in which your administration is responsible for the provision of air traffic services.

In order to facilitate discussions and align the AFI Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan with the ATM Contingency Plan and other national Volcanic Ash Contingency Plans, States and ANSPs that have experienced volcanic activity over the past ten years, are requested to give a presentation on such activities, their impact on flight safety and ATM operations; disruptions caused if any; how the contingency was managed; and lessons learned therefrom.

The Provisional Agenda, Registration Form and Information Bulletin with the list of hotels, are attached as Appendices A, B and C to this invitation letter. The seminar will be conducted in both English and French languages with simultaneous interpretation. Electronic documentation will be provided in English and no hard copies will be distributed.

I would appreciate it if you could confirm the participation of your administration at this seminar at your earliest convenience, preferably not later than 18 August 2017, by forwarding your response to the following email address icaowacaf@icao.int, copied to ATaylor@icao.int and AMane@icao.int using the Registration Form in Attachment B to this letter.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Mam Sait Jallow
Regional Director

Attachments: A – Provisional Agenda
B - Registration Form
C – Information Bulletin