

IAVWOPSG-Memo/54
27/4/12

MEMORANDUM

Ref: AN 10/18.2

To: Members, International Airways Volcano Watch Operations Group
From: Secretary, IAVWOPSG
Subject: **Recommendations arising from IVATF/3 of relevance to the IAVWOPSG**
Action: Members to:
a) note the information, and
b) inform by 25 May 2012 of any objections to the inclusion of IVATF Recommendations 3/2 and 3/7 in the current IAVWOPSG Work Programme.

As the group is aware, the third meeting of the International Volcanic Ash Task Force (IVATF/3) held at ICAO Headquarters, Montréal, on 15 to 17 February 2012 formulated, *inter alia*, the following recommendations:

Recommendation 3/2 — That, the International Airways Volcano Watch Operations Group (IAVWOPSG) be tasked to invite the World Organization of Volcano Observatories (WOVO) through the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) to develop further suitable guidance material as part of IAVWOPSG Conclusion 6/23, in view of fostering the increased use of the aviation colour code and the volcano observatory notice for aviation (VONA) by volcano observatories.

Recommendation 3/7 — That, the International Airways Volcano Watch Operations Group (IAVWOPSG) be encouraged to periodically review the manual on *Flight Safety and Volcanic Ash – Risk management of flight operations with known or forecast volcanic ash contamination* (ICAO Doc 9974) and, where necessary, recommend revision for the consideration of the Operations Panel (OPSP).

In this regard, the group may wish to acknowledge that the next opportunity for the group to consider the above mentioned recommendations will be at the IAVWOPSG/7 Meeting in March 2013.

Therefore, the Secretariat considers it necessary to allow the early inclusion of IVATF Recommendations 3/2 and 3/7 in the current IAVWOPSG Work Programme as part of the work being undertaken as a follow-up to the IAVWOPSG/6 Meeting. Therefore, the group is invited to agree that, in order to take advantage of the time elapsing until March 2013, this Memorandum serves as the formal notification for the review of IVATF Recommendations 3/2 and 3/7. You are kindly requested to notify me by 25 May 2012 of objections, if any, to including these recommendations in the current IAVWOPSG Work Programme.

Additionally, the group is invited to note the relevance of IVATF Recommendation 3/11, copied below, in its current and future work.

Recommendation 3/11 — That, taking into account the lack of a global user requirement, the spread of uncertainties in volcanic ash observing and forecasting, and noting the scientific and operational progress in enhancing volcanic ash advisory centre (VAAC) best practices, the IVATF recommends that work on developing modeled volcanic ash concentrations information for users be discontinued.

Lastly, please note that all documentation covering the IVATF/3 Meeting can be found at <http://www.icao.int/safety/meteorology/IVATF>.

Best regards,

(signed by)
R. Romero