



ICAO

*International Civil Aviation Organization***WORKING PAPER****Twenty-fifth Meeting of the Meteorology Sub-group
(MET SG/25)**

Online, 18 – 22 October 2021

Agenda Item 2: Review outcomes from previous meetings**REVIEW OUTCOMES FROM MET/S WG/11**

(Presented by Presented by Chairman of MET/S WG)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the outcomes of the MET/S WG/11 meeting, including developments in SIGMET co-ordination among the States in the region, SIGMET deficiencies, capacity building, and update of the SIGMET Guide.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The ICAO Asia and Pacific (APAC) Regional Office hosted the Eleventh Meeting of the Meteorological Services Working Group (MET/S WG/11) as a virtual meeting on 24 to 26 March 2021. The first day of the meeting, 24 March 2021, was a conjoint session with the Nineteenth Meeting of the Meteorological Information Exchange Working Group (MET/IE WG/19) to jointly discuss agenda items of relevance to both the MET/IE WG and MET/S WG. The meeting was attended by 121 participants from 24 States and Administrations. Mr. Chan Pak Wai, Assistant Director, Hong Kong Observatory, Hong Kong, China, presided as Chair of the meeting and Mr. Peter Dunda, Regional Officer Aeronautical Meteorology, ICAO Asia and Pacific Office, acted as Secretary.

1.2 To assist the MET SG in its work programme to improve the quality of meteorological services, in particular, observations, forecasts, advisories and warnings; including facilitating implementation of the international airways volcano watch (IAVW) and international tropical cyclone warning system, the MET/S WG/11 adopted the following agenda:

MET/IE WG/19 and MET/S WG/11 (Conjoint session – 24 March 2021)

Agenda Item 1: Volcanic ash advisory centre (VAAC) backup tests

Agenda Item 2: SIGMET tests

Agenda Item 2

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MET/S WG/11 (24 – 26 March 2021)

Agenda Item 1: Organizational matters

Agenda Item 2: Review of follow-up from previous meetings

Agenda Item 3: Planning and implementation of meteorological services

Agenda Item 4: Quality management of meteorological services

Agenda Item 5: Deficiencies in the provision of meteorological services

Agenda Item 6: Guidance and education related to the provision of meteorological services

Agenda Item 7: Future work programme and terms of reference

Agenda Item 8: Any other business

Agenda Item 9: Next meeting

1.3 MET/S WG/11 reviewed and updated its work programme, including actions completed since the previous meeting of the group (i.e., MET/S WG/10). This paper presents a summary of the outcomes from MET/S WG/11 for further review and action as necessary by MET SG/25.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 A copy of the MET/S WG/11 meeting report, and all related meeting documentation, is available at the following website: <https://www.icao.int/APAC/Meetings/Pages/2021-MET-S-WG11.aspx>

APAC States with active or potentially active volcanos without designated SVO

2.2 Significant progress had been made with the identification of State volcano observatory (SVO) for active or potentially active volcanos in APAC States and the remaining components of the action item included ICAO's processing of the proposal for amendment of the ANP, Table MET I-1, further consultation with the States identified with active volcanoes and no designated SVO and recommendations concerning the States with volcanoes of undetermined "active or potentially active" status and Australia's remote island volcanoes.

SADIS update

2.3 The Secretariat would disseminate a State letter to inform SADIS user States of the need to make necessary systems changes to integrate the new 0.25 degree WAFS hazard data into their SADIS user systems and software. This could be done in concert with informing States of the need to prepare for the proposed WAFS and SADIS changes planned for November 2023 and inviting States to inform ICAO of any need for related technical assistance.

SIGMET co-ordination

2.4 The SIGMET Coordination project between Guangzhou, Hong Kong, Kunming, Phnom-Penh, Sanya and VATM in Vietnam transitioned to full operational status from 1 November 2020. There were a total number of 296 coordination carried out in 2020, with 89% of the coordination in consensus. Regular teleconferences were held to review coordination cases and attain mutual

understanding between MWOs. Ad hoc meetings on tropical cyclones and other hazardous weather phenomenon were set up to raise situational awareness and for better coordination.

2.5 The South and South-Eastern Asia (SSEA) SIGMET Coordination project between the MWOs of Indonesia and Sri Lanka, supported by Hong Kong, China, transitioned to full operational status on 1 February 2021. Trial long term forecast was also discussed in regular review meetings that assisted the MWOs to assess the trend of the convection activities over the area in the season ahead. The project looks forward to expand the coordination with neighbouring FIRs on SIGMET coordination.

2.6 The international cooperation scheme of the Collaborative SIGMET Issuance (CSI) among six member States: Japan, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, continued, with the various outcomes, such as WC SIGMET handover procedure and new SIGMET coordination trials (Myanmar - Malaysia and Phillipines - Malaysia - Singapore), and the CSI Workshop held in January 2021 via on-line to discuss further enhancement and expansion of SIGMET coordination in the Region.

2.7 The operational forecasters from the Meteorological Service of New Zealand (MetService NZ) and the Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) collaborated about the borders of the NZZO, YMML and YBBB Flight Information Regions (FIRs). Both organisations made use of video conferencing tool to collaborate.

MET deficiencies

2.8 The Pacific Island Aviation Weather Services (PIAWS) Panel task team was assisting Pacific Island States in resolving their MET deficiencies. The PIAWS Panel task team provided States concerned with suggested plans for the open deficiencies on meteorological observations, volcanic activity information, and WAFS forecast information. In view of the above, the PIAWS Panel task team (and MET/S WG, air navigation deficiencies ad hoc group) anticipated further significant progress towards the resolution of the above deficiencies during 2021.

SIGMET Guide update

2.9 There was a draft proposal for inclusion in the Asia/Pacific Regional SIGMET Guide that provided guidance on SIGMET issuance in scenarios whereby volcanic ash was forecast to cross FIR boundaries. The WG did not concur on the adoption of the proposed guidance material for possible inclusion in Regional SIGMET Guide and the ad hoc group was requested to continue to develop the proposal taking into consideration the need for input from the end user community and consider global coordination with ICAO regions.

Any other business

2.10 The next meeting of the MET/S WG was proposed to be held on 30 March 2022 for conjoint session of MET/S WG/12 and MET/IE WG/20, and on 30 March to 01 April 2022 for MET/S WG/12.

3 CONCLUSION

3.1 The MET/S WG works towards the resolution of SIGMET deficiency in the region, including keeping in view the development of SIGMET co-ordination effort and monitoring the issuance of SIGMET, especially for those States with deficiencies. Technical support would be rendered to the Pacific Island States

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4. ACTION BY THE MEETING

4.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the information in this paper; and
- b) Propose further updates to the terms of reference and work programme of MET/S WG, as necessary.
