

International Civil Aviation Organization



ICAO

WORKING PAPER

ICAO Asia and Pacific (APAC)

Twenty-Seventh Meeting of the Meteorology Sub-Group
(MET SG/27)

Bangkok, Thailand, 04 to 08 September 2023

Agenda Item 4: Regional guidance material

NOTIFICATION AND GUIDANCE FOR SIGMET TESTS

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper discusses disseminating the notification and guidance for the annual ICAO SIGMET tests and invites the Meeting to consider action to facilitate the dissemination of the ICAO State letter on SIGMET tests to the operational units expected to participate in the SIGMET tests.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Analysis of the annual ICAO SIGMET test results has indicated that in some cases, the operational units expected to participate in the SIGMET tests did not receive the SIGMET test schedule and guidance material disseminated by ICAO and, therefore, did not participate in the SIGMET tests.

1.2 This paper discusses the dissemination of the SIGMET test schedule and guidance and invites the Meeting to provide updated SIGMET test focal point information to facilitate the notification of the 2023 ICAO APAC SIGMET tests to the participating units.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The ICAO APAC SIGMET tests in 2023 are scheduled on the second, third and fourth Wednesday of November, as follows:

- 09 November – SIGMET test for tropical cyclone;
- 15 November – SIGMET test for volcanic ash; and
- 22 November – SIGMET test for weather and other phenomena (apart from tropical cyclone and volcanic ash).

2.2 The operational units expected to participate in the SIGMET tests include meteorological watch offices (MWOs), tropical cyclone and volcanic ash advisory centres (TCACs and VAACs),

regional OPMET databanks (RODBs) and world area forecast centres (WAFCs).

2.3 Guidance material on the APAC SIGMET tests 2023, including the complete list of operational units invited to participate, the procedures and specific tasks required of each participating unit, and the SIGMET test schedule, will be disseminated by ICAO APAC State letter in September 2023.

2.4 ICAO sends the State letters to the official email addresses¹ of the Member States' Meteorological Authorities, Meteorological Agencies and State letter Coordinators for onward dissemination to the relevant units within their State.

2.5 In addition, to facilitate the onward dissemination of the SIGMET test guidance and notification to the relevant units within States, ICAO copies the State letters to the SIGMET test focal point addresses provided directly by States to the ICAO APAC Office.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 This paper invites the Meeting to:

- a) Note the information in this paper;
- b) Consider taking action to ensure the Member States' Meteorological Authority, Meteorological Agency, and State letter Coordinator disseminate the ICAO APAC State letter on SIGMET tests to the relevant units within their State;
- c) Consider providing the ICAO APAC Office with SIGMET test focal point addresses by 20 September 2023; and
- d) Discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

¹ Each State's Civil Aviation Authority is responsible for submitting and updating the State's official contact information via the ICAO Secure Portal.