



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization

Twenty-First Meeting of the ICAO Aeronautical Information Services – Aeronautical Information Management Implementation Task Force (AAITF/21)

Bangkok, Thailand, 19 – 22 May 2026

Agenda Item 4: AIS-AIM Updates

TIMELY SHARING OF NOTAMS DURING CONTINGENCY SITUATIONS

(Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper emphasizes the importance of timely and reliable information sharing during contingency situations, including natural disasters and military conflicts. Following discussions held in 2025 on similar contingency events in the Asia-Pacific Region, this paper provides a follow-up on recent experiences and highlights the essential role of NOTAMs in supporting situational awareness and crisis coordination. The paper also encourages States to ensure the availability of AIS points of contact, including outside official working hours.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In 2025, the meeting discussed the importance of timely sharing information during contingency situations affecting international aviation operations in the Asia-Pacific Region. The discussion highlighted the critical role of coordination among States and the importance of NOTAM dissemination in maintaining situational awareness during emergencies and rapidly evolving operational situations.

1.2 Since that discussion, several contingency events have occurred within and around the Asia-Pacific Region, including earthquakes, volcanic activity, military conflicts, and related airspace disruptions. These events once again demonstrated the importance of timely information exchange for supporting safe and efficient air traffic management operations.

1.3 In a number of cases, operational impacts extended beyond the affected State, influencing international aviation operations across adjacent FIRs and neighbouring States. These situations required timely coordination and information exchange among States, international organizations, and operational stakeholders.

1.4 Recent experiences reaffirmed the importance of maintaining effective communication channels among designated focal points listed in the ATM Point of Contact (POC) List. In several contingency situations, information exchange between concerned States supported the assessment of operational impacts and facilitated decision-making regarding the possible convening of the Crisis Coordination Team (CCT).

1.5 However, in some instances, information related to operational impacts and associated NOTAMs was not shared in a sufficiently timely manner. In particular, situations involving military-led actions or rapidly evolving natural disasters sometimes resulted in delays in coordination and dissemination of operational information.

1.6 These experiences highlighted the continuing importance of timely NOTAM dissemination and the availability of reliable communication channels during contingency situations, and demonstrated the need for continued follow-up actions by States and Administrations.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 In contingency situations such as earthquakes, volcanic activity, military conflicts, or other significant disruptions, the ICAO APAC ATM Section initiates communication with the concerned States using the ATM Point of Contact (POC) List. However, depending on the severity of the event, communication with the designated focal points may not always be immediately possible.

2.2 Under such circumstances, NOTAM information becomes one of the primary sources for obtaining situational awareness regarding airspace restrictions, airport operational status, navigation facility outages, and other operational impacts affecting international aviation.

2.3 The APAC Office primarily refers to the United States Defence Internet NOTAM Service (DINS) and official State NOTAM websites for this purpose. However, it has been observed that some States do not maintain publicly accessible NOTAM websites or do not provide NOTAM information to DINS. In addition, certain military-related NOTAMs are not shared through publicly available systems.

2.4 These limitations may delay the APAC Office's ability to accurately assess operational impacts during rapidly evolving situations. Therefore, timely coordination with AIS focal points remains essential for obtaining complete and up-to-date NOTAM information.

2.5 Accordingly, States are encouraged to ensure that AIS focal points listed in the ATM POC List include contact personnel and communication means that remain reachable outside official working hours, particularly during emergencies and contingency situations.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) urge States/Administrations to ensure that AIS focal points listed in the ATM POC List include contact personnel or contact details that are reachable outside official working hours; and
- c) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

— END —