

**61ST CONFERENCE OF
DIRECTORS GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
ASIA AND PACIFIC REGION**

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AGENDA ITEM 4: AIR NAVIGATION

**METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES IN SUPPORT OF ASIA AND
PACIFIC AIR TRAFFIC FLOW MANAGEMENT
COORDINATION**

(Presented by the People's Republic of China)

INFORMATION PAPER

SUMMARY

This paper provides the Conference with an update on the progress made by China in implementing Action Item 60/24 from the 60th DGCA Conference, which relates to enhancing timely, harmonized and collaborative MET services in support of regional ATFM operations. It shares the outcomes and experiences of current practices, and sets out areas for future works.

METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES IN SUPPORT OF ASIA-PACIFIC AIR TRAFFIC FLOW MANAGEMENT COORDINATION

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The 60th DGCA Conference agreed the following action items regarding the meteorological (MET) services in supporting Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM) operations:

Action Item 60/24 (from the 60th DGCA Conference)

Recognizing the role of timely, harmonized and collaborative meteorological (MET) services in supporting Air Traffic Flow Management (ATFM) operations, the Conference encouraged States/ Administrations to:

- a) strengthen regional cooperation and coordination to support the provision of harmonized hazardous weather information and enhance forecast accuracy for ATFM;
- b) promote the sharing of MET information relevant to ATFM in accordance with ICAO provisions; and
- c) invest in the capacity building and skill development of MET personnel to ensure sustainable and resilient ATFM operations.

1.2 This paper provides the conference with an update on the progress and efforts made by China in implementing Action Item 60/24 from the 60th DGCA Conference, which relates to enhancing timely, harmonized and collaborative MET services in supporting ATFM operations, and shares the outcomes, experiences and future plans.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 In order to support the regional ATFM coordination efforts by certain ATFM units in the Asia-Pacific region, with the aim of promoting better alignment between flight traffic and airspace capacity and improving operational efficiency, MET services have been playing a critical role within the framework of regional ATFM coordination.

2.2 Over the past year, China has been continuously working to develop the capabilities of MET services to enhance MET support for regional ATFM. Especially, China has organized and carried out several activities to enhance MET service support for regional ATFM coordination.

2.3 Using the Asian Hazardous Weather Advisory and Coordination Platform (<https://www.aamets.com>) developed by China, a voluntary collaborative platform developed by China to facilitate regional meteorological coordination and information exchange, the Aviation Meteorological Center (AMC) of the Air Traffic Management Bureau(ATMB), Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) has been organizing weather coordination routinely with Meteorological Watch Offices (MWOs) in ATMB and Hong Kong Observatory (HKO), as well as those in Russia, Republic of Korea, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan on regional hazardous weather coordination, to improve the consistency of situational awareness and promote harmonized interpretation of hazardous weather affecting cross-border operations, while maintaining the responsibility of each MWO for the issuance of official meteorological information within its area of responsibility. The platform provides participating users with access to meteorological observations, forecast products and coordination materials shared in accordance with applicable national arrangements and relevant ICAO provisions.

2.4 AMC has participated in the APAC regional ATFM Coordination Calls with ATFM units from China, Hong Kong SAR of China, Singapore, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Republic of Korea successively since September 2025, to provide regional weather briefings intended to support collaborative situational awareness and ATFM planning. These briefings are supplementary to, and do not replace, operational meteorological services provided by the responsible meteorological authorities.

2.5 Regarding the sharing of MET information, according to the ongoing development of the Hazardous Weather Information Service (HWIS) under the ICAO MET Panel activities (Job Card METP.007.04 of ICAO MET Panel (METP) and its implementation plan), which is in response to long-standing global inconsistencies in the provision of harmonized en-route hazardous weather information, AMC and HKO have jointly conducted two rounds of HWIS trials in the Asia Pacific Region in September 2025 and April 2026. The trials were conducted with Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Mongolia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam, to evaluate proposed HWIS concepts and information-sharing arrangements under trial conditions and investigate ways to promote regional MET information sharing. The outcomes and recommendations of the two trials were submitted to the ICAO Working Group on Meteorological Requirements and Development (WG-MRAD) 5th and 6th meetings (METP WG-MRAD/5 SN/522 and METP WG-MRAD/6 SN/316) respectively, to be considered when formulating the ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) for HWIS.

2.6 Regarding the aeronautical MET personnel competency enhancement, AMC has organized the establishment of a regional ATFM coordination MET support group comprising technical experts, which specializes in targeted product development and optimization, and provides training on product preparation and weather briefing skills. AMC has also conducted technical exchanges with HKO through mutual visits, seminars and other forms of collaboration in order to improve the MET personnel's competency while enhancing forecasting technology and service capabilities.

2.7 In addition, AMC also organized an international training workshop on Aeronautical Meteorological Services from 2 to 6 December 2025. Twenty representatives in aviation meteorology from 10 countries including Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan and Vietnam, as well as about 20 Chinese representatives, attended this international coordinating workshop. The workshop was aimed to improve the regional hazardous weather coordination capacity, weather forecasting/ nowcasting technologies, the application of lightning data, aeronautical weather services, and the integration of MET information with air traffic control and ATFM.

2.8 In the future, China intends to explore the following areas for better MET services, including:

- a) investigating AI-based radar echo conversion and nowcasting applications utilizing FY-4B satellite data, subject to appropriate validation, verification and operational suitability assessments;
- b) enhancing numerical weather prediction capabilities through the use of AI-assisted techniques, supported by ongoing performance monitoring and quality management processes, alongside a gradual expansion of forecast coverage; and
- c) analyzing weather impacts on regional air traffic flow management, aiming to provide useful references for ATFM decision-making.

2.9 This paper also invites States and Administrations to consider opportunities for closer regional cooperation in aeronautical meteorology, such as (a) exploring regional weather consultation and coordinated weather briefing practices, consistent with ICAO provisions and respecting the responsibilities of States and designated meteorological authorities, (b) sharing meteorological data in support of regional ATFM, and (c) organizing technical exchanges and capacity-building activities for aeronautical MET personnel, to collectively enhance the quality of regional MET services.

2.10 China remains committed to supporting regional meteorological cooperation in accordance with ICAO SARPs, while respecting the roles and responsibilities of States and designated meteorological service providers.

3. ACTION BY THE CONFERENCE

3.1 The Conference is invited to note the information contained in this paper.

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