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Fort-de-France, Martinique, 15 to 17 July 2026

Agenda Item 4: Follow-up of the activities of the E/CAR/CATG

REGIONAL COORDINATION OF AERONAUTICAL METEOROLOGY IN THE CARIBBEAN

(Presented by the Secretariat)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Information Paper presents the regional coordination framework for aeronautical meteorology in the Caribbean through the Aeronautical Meteorology Task Force (MET/TF). It provides an overview of the role of the MET/TF, its membership, current areas of work and the opportunities it offers to support implementation activities within the Eastern Caribbean. The paper also describes the complementary relationship between the E/CAR/CATG and the MET/TF, highlighting how both mechanisms can contribute to identifying implementation priorities, promoting regional cooperation and supporting States and Territories in the implementation of aeronautical meteorology capabilities. States remain responsible for implementing national aeronautical meteorology requirements, while regional mechanisms facilitate coordination, exchange of experiences and cooperation activities in support of implementation.

Strategic Objectives:

- Every Flight is Safe and Secure
- Aviation is Environmentally Sustainable
- Aviation Delivers Seamless, Accessible, and Reliable Mobility for All
- No Country Left Behind
- The International Civil Aviation Convention and Other Treaties, Laws and Regulations Address All Challenges
- The Economic Development of Air Transport Assures the Delivery of Economic Prosperity and Societal Well-Being for All

References:

- ICAO Annex 3 — Meteorological Service for International Air Navigation
- ICAO Doc 10157 — Procedures for Air Navigation Services — Meteorology (PANS-MET)
- ICAO Doc 9750 — Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP)
- Aeronautical Meteorology Task Force (MET/TF) Terms of Reference and Work Programme
- Cooperation activities between the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the Caribbean Meteorological Organization (CMO) related to aeronautical meteorology

1. Introduction

1.1 Aeronautical meteorology is an essential component of the air navigation system, supporting air traffic management, aerodrome operations, flight planning, operational resilience and aviation safety.

1.2 Within the North American, Central American and Caribbean Regions, regional coordination of aeronautical meteorology is conducted through the Aeronautical Meteorology Task Force (MET/TF), operating under the North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group framework and in close cooperation with the Caribbean Meteorological Organization (CMO), States, Territories, meteorological authorities and international organizations.

1.3 The MET/TF provides a regional platform for cooperation, coordination and exchange of experiences related to the provision, oversight and modernization of aeronautical meteorological services.

2. Regional Coordination Framework

2.1 The MET/TF brings together representatives from Civil Aviation Authorities, aeronautical meteorological service providers, meteorological safety oversight inspectors, Air Navigation Service Providers, meteorological authorities and international organizations involved in the provision, oversight and implementation of aeronautical meteorology requirements throughout the Region.

2.2 The participation of both service provision and safety oversight personnel enables the discussion of implementation challenges from operational, technical and regulatory perspectives, facilitating the identification of practical and coordinated solutions.

2.3 Through its regional activities, the MET/TF promotes cooperation among States and Territories while supporting harmonized implementation of aeronautical meteorology requirements and the exchange of regional best practices.

3. Current Areas of Work

3.1 The MET/TF work programme addresses common implementation challenges affecting States and Territories throughout the Region. Current areas of work include:

- a) strengthening Quality Management Systems (QMS) for aeronautical meteorological services;
- b) implementation of digital meteorological information exchange and the ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange Model (IWXXM);
- c) modernization of aeronautical meteorological services and associated governance arrangements;
- d) coordination between oversight authorities and service providers;
- e) operational resilience, contingency planning and continuity of services; and
- f) regional cooperation and exchange of implementation experiences.

3.2 Through these activities, the MET/TF promotes regional cooperation, exchange of implementation experiences, identification of common challenges and development of harmonized approaches to support aeronautical meteorology implementation activities across the Region. These efforts contribute to supporting States and Territories in the establishment and maintenance of essential aeronautical meteorology capabilities, while preparing for future modernization initiatives related to digital information exchange, operational resilience and the evolution of air navigation systems.

4. Relevance to Eastern Caribbean States and Territories

4.1 Eastern Caribbean States and Territories share a number of common operational technical and resource challenges associated with the provision of aeronautical meteorological services supporting international air navigation.

4.2 Regional cooperation provides opportunities to identify common priorities, exchange technical expertise, leverage experiences from neighboring States and facilitate the implementation of practical solutions adapted to the operational realities of the sub-region.

4.3 The existing regional coordination mechanism provided through the MET/TF offers an avenue to address common implementation priorities while preserving national responsibilities for planning, funding and implementation. Such priorities may range from the establishment of essential aeronautical meteorology capabilities to modernization initiatives supporting digital information exchange, operational resilience and future air navigation system developments.

5. Relationship Between E/CAR/CATG and the MET/TF

5.1 The Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Technical Group (E/CAR/CATG) and the Aeronautical Meteorology Task Force (MET/TF) perform complementary functions within the regional implementation framework.

5.2 The E/CAR/CATG provides a forum for identifying implementation priorities affecting air navigation services within the Eastern Caribbean Sub-region, while the MET/TF provides a regional mechanism to address aeronautical meteorology implementation matters through cooperation among States, service providers, safety oversight authorities and international organizations.

5.3 Aeronautical meteorology priorities identified through the E/CAR/CATG may support the development of activities under the MET/TF work programme. Likewise, outputs, guidance material, best practices and implementation experiences developed through the MET/TF may assist Eastern Caribbean States and Territories in establishing essential meteorological capabilities, planning modernization activities and addressing implementation challenges identified through E/CAR/CATG.

5.4 States remain responsible for planning, funding and implementing national aeronautical meteorology capabilities. Regional mechanisms such as the E/CAR/CATG and the MET/TF support coordination, identification of priorities, exchange of best practices and cooperation activities intended to facilitate implementation efforts.

6. Conclusion

6.1 An established regional mechanism already exists to support aeronautical meteorology activities in the Caribbean through the MET/TF and its cooperation with States, Territories, meteorological authorities, service providers and international organizations.

6.2 Continued interaction between the E/CAR/CATG and the MET/TF may assist Eastern Caribbean States and Territories in identifying common implementation needs, promoting harmonized approaches and enhancing cooperation in support of aeronautical meteorology implementation.

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