



Agenda Item 4: Report on GESEA and Subgroups activities and deliverables

**FRAMEWORK FOR ATM CONTINGENCY MANAGEMENT
IN THE CAR/SAM REGIONS (CAR/SAM RACF)**

(Prepared by the Rapporteur of the GT LOA PLAN ATS of the SG1)

SUMMARY

The purpose of this Study Note (NE) is to introduce the draft of the new document called "Central American, Caribbean and South America Region Air Traffic Management Contingency Framework (CAR/SAM RACF)". In addition, it describes the key aspects resulting from the comparative analysis with the current "Framework Plan for ATS Contingencies of the SAM Region (MCATS/SAM)", highlighting the conceptual evolution of this new framework and proposing to the meeting the formation of an Ad Hoc Working Group in the SAM Region for its comprehensive review before its formal adoption by GREPECAS.

References:

- Annex 11 — Air Traffic Services
- Doc 7030 — Regional Supplementary Procedures
- LAR 211 – Air Traffic Management
- Framework Plan for SAM Region ATS Contingencies (MCATS/SAM) - Amendment 1: SAMIG /27 – 3 June 2022
- Borrador del CAR/SAM Region Air Traffic Management Contingency Framework (CAR/SAM RACF) - V 2.0

1. Background

1.1 Annex 11 – Air Traffic Services – provides in paragraph 2.32 that ICAO Contracting States must develop and promulgate contingency plans for the airspace under their responsibility, in order to implement them in the event of interruption or eventual interruption of ATS services and their related support services. Annex C also provides guidelines for the preparation, promulgation and implementation of such plans.

1.2 During 2020, Subgroup 1 of the SAM Airspace Study and Implementation Group (GESEA), worked on the preparation of the Framework Plan for ATS Contingencies of the SAM Region. As a result of this work, at the TWENTY-FIFTH WORKSHOP/MEETING OF THE SAM IMPLEMENTATION GROUP (SAM/IG/25) - held, virtually, from November 02 to 04, 2020 -, said Subgroup presented the document called "*Framework Plan for ATS Contingencies of the SAM Region (MCATS/SAM)*", which was included in the Final Report of SAM/IG/25 as Appendix B. It was approved by the meeting as a reference document for the standardization of the ATS contingency plans of the Member States of the SAM Region.

1.3 In 2022, the first amendment to MCATS/SAM was made, which included the modification of *Appendix E – TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE CONTINGENCY COORDINATION TEAM (CST)* –, and the introduction of *Appendix I – HARMONIZATION PROCESSES FOR ATS*

LEVEL 2 CONTINGENCY PLANS. This amendment was approved in SAM/IG 27, held virtually, from May 31 to June 3, 2022.

1.4 From June 1 to 5, 2026, in Panama City, the "*Workshop on the ATM Contingency Management Framework of the CAR /SAM Region*" was held, promoted by ICAO's Regional Offices for South America (SAM) and North America, Central America and the Caribbean (NACC), with the support of ICAO headquarters and the Civil Aviation Authority of Panama.

1.5 The main objective of this Workshop was to socialize the document called "*CENTRAL AMERICAN, CARIBBEAN AND SOUTH AMERICA REGION AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT CONTINGENCY FRAMEWORK (CAR/SAM RACF)*" and address its revision, in order to subsequently present it to the Regional Planning and Implementation Group CAR/SAM (GREPECAS) for approval and dissemination. This document stipulates key guidelines for the management of airspace during large-scale interruptions – whether caused by natural disasters, armed conflicts or technical incidents – that result in the total or partial suspension of the provision of Air Traffic Services, and that affect two or more States or Regions.

1.6 It should be noted that this Workshop was held in compliance with the conclusions of the Fourteenth Air Navigation Conference (AN-Conf/14) and the 42nd Session of the ICAO Assembly, linked to the pressing need to strengthen global resilience through the efficient management of crises and contingencies, and to harmonize regional response strategies to safeguard the safety and continuity of international air traffic. The Recommendation issued by AN-Conf/14 - Recommendation 1.1/2 - Resilience of the air navigation system - provides:

"(...) that ICAO (...) (c) together with States and industry, develop comprehensive guidance on air traffic contingency management, including the recovery phase, as well as regional frameworks, to support the implementation of Annex 11 — Air Traffic Services. (...)".

1.7 The ICAO Council has also identified seven priority areas, among which "*Crisis Preparedness and Response*" stands out. Its purpose for the 2026-2028 triennium is to create a comprehensive and adaptable crisis response program within ICAO, aimed at supporting States in fulfilling their obligations under the Chicago Convention and in coordination with other sectors, thus strengthening their response capacities to ATS contingencies, health emergencies and humanitarian crises.

1.8 In this regard, different workshops are being developed related to ATS contingency management at the regional level in MID; NACC and SAM; APAC and AFI, in order to develop standard reference frameworks at the global level. It is expected that each of these Regions will have its own ATS contingency framework by the end of 2027, after the corresponding review and approval by their PIRGs.

2. Analysis

2.1 The document "*CENTRAL AMERICAN, CARIBBEAN AND SOUTH AMERICA REGION AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT CONTINGENCY FRAMEWORK (CAR/SAM RACF)*" promotes a **comprehensive and systemic approach** to ATS contingencies. This approach involves:

- the management of Air Traffic Services and those that have an impact on the control and recovery of air operations in the event of an ATS contingency;
- promoting collaborative decision-making (CDM) through the participation of all stakeholders – including in the preparation of ATS Contingency Plans – thus adopting a systemic approach to safety;

- global, regional and national planning of responses to ATS contingencies; y,
- the strengthening of coordination actions among stakeholders through the formation of contingency teams (CCT; CCC; and ACG).

2.2 In line with what was stated in the previous paragraph, the reference framework establishes three levels of management of an ATS contingency, namely:

- **Level 1:** Contingency event that remains within the delimited airspace of the State and that can be managed at the local level;
- **Level 2:** A cross-border contingency event that requires collaboration between two adjacent States; and,
- **Level 3:** A cross-border contingency event at the subregional, regional or interregional level that requires the collaboration of more than two States.

2.3 In the same sense, this framework stipulates the constitution of the following committees and working groups to address ATS contingencies, also determining their roles, functions and responsibilities:

- **CCC** – Contingency Coordination Committee;
- **ACG** – ATM Contingency Group; and,
- **CCT** – Contingency Coordination Team.

2.4 In addition, it introduces the "**ATM CM Cycle**" to ensure that contingency management is a continuous and cyclical process. Under this approach, management is not limited to responding to the disruption of Air Traffic Services (ATS) and its subsequent recovery, but requires active progression through four differentiated and interconnected phases. The systematic application of these phases strengthens the resilience, safety and continuity of ATS and air operations. These phases are:

- 1) Planning and Preparedness;
- 2) Response;
- 3) Recovery; and
- 4) Post-assessment.

2.5 On the other hand, and in order to apply contingency measures in accordance with the resulting operational scenario, the analysis of two (2) aspects is proposed and classified according to their scope and potential impact on air traffic flows: degree of provision of ATS and availability of the airspace under jurisdiction. By virtue of this, the prevailing contingency category is determined: **CATEGORIES A; B; C; D; E and F.**

2.6 As indicated in paragraph 2.1, it is promoted that contingency arrangements and procedures are established collaboratively and **that the personnel involved are continuously trained** in respect of them through – among other training activities – the performance of desk exercises (TABLETOP) and the development of workshops (WORKSHOP) at the national, subregional, regional, and interregional levels.

2.7 The creation of a "**Regional Risk Registry**" is encouraged, with an update periodicity of at least two (2) years. This registry will compile the risks associated with ATS contingencies to determine their level of impact by evaluating their probability of occurrence and severity. The document will be available for consultation on the websites of the ICAO NACC and SAM Regional Offices.

2.8 On the other hand, the RACF stipulates the use of **traffic information broadcasts by aircraft (TIBA) procedures**. Consequently, and in accordance with ICAO Annex 11, it is necessary to establish a VHF radiotelephone frequency (RTF) to warn pilots of other aircraft in the vicinity. LAR 211 provides for the frequency 123.45 MHz as such. However, it should be noted that ICAO Document 7030 does not provide for the use of this frequency, as it is for the Middle East/Asia (MID/ASIA) and Pacific (PAC) regions. Consequently, since this regulatory framework will also be applied in the CAR Region, it is essential to jointly agree on the reference frequency between the two regions.

2.9 Although the MCATS/SAM also addresses the matter from a comprehensive approach, it has certain differences with respect to the RACF. First, it classifies contingencies into only three types (Alpha, Bravo and Charlie) according to the availability and safety of the airspace and limits its scope exclusively to the SAM Region.

For its part, the RACF incorporates specific provisions for ATS contingencies derived from volcanic ash. Also, unlike the MCATS/SAM – which includes the call tree within the documentation itself – the RACF will make available and update this scheme directly on the website of the ICAO NACC and SAM Regional Offices.

Finally, as indicated in paragraph 2.5, the RACF establishes the "ATM CM Cycle" as a process of continuous improvement that contributes to the preparation and adequate approach to these situations, and introduces a model template to record the measures to be applied according to the category of the contingency in question.

2.10 It is important to consider that the RACF will replace the current ATM Contingency Frameworks and Plans of the CAR and SAM Regions.

2.11 For all the above, it is necessary to adopt the necessary actions for the transition from the application of the MCATS/SAM – which exclusively reaches the SAM Region – to the adoption and execution of the provisions of the CAR/SAM RACF – which also includes the CAR Region. To this end, it is considered pertinent to form an Ad Hoc Working Group composed of five (5) SLA specialists from the SAM Region. This team will focus on:

- a) Conduct the comprehensive review of the draft CAR/SAM RACF, which is available in English;
- b) Evaluate the harmonization of the regional TIBA frequency; y,
- c) Present a consolidated proposal from the SAM Region in order to continue its treatment with specialists from the CAR Region.

2 Suggested actions

2.3 The Meeting is invited to:

- 2.3.1 To take note of the information provided in the present study note; y
- 2.3.2 To issue such comments as it deems necessary with respect to the RACF (attached as an **Appendix** to this Note) and the determination of the TIBA frequency of regional application, and
- 2.3.3 To approve the formation of an ad hoc group to address the revision of said framework.

END



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

CENTRAL AMERICAN, CARIBBEAN AND SOUTH AMERICA REGION AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT CONTINGENCY FRAMEWORK

(CAR/SAM RACF)

Version 1.0, June 2026

Approved by GREPECASX and published by
the ICAO NACC and SAM Regional Offices

CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of ICAO concerning the legal status of any State, territory, city or area or its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontier or boundaries.

CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

**CENTRAL AMERICAN, CARIBBEAN AND SOUTH AMERICA REGIONS ATM
CONTINGENCY FRAMEWORK**

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CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

FOREWORD

Guidelines for contingency measures for application in the event of disruptions of air traffic services (ATS) and related supporting services were first approved by the Council on 27 June 1984 in response to Assembly Resolution A23-12, following a study by the Air Navigation Commission and consultation with States and international organizations concerned, as required by the Resolution. The guidelines, published in Attachment C to Annex 11 — *Air Traffic Services*, were subsequently amended and amplified in light of experience gained with applying contingency measures in various parts of the world and differing circumstances.

This document provides guidelines to ensure the safe and orderly flow of international air traffic across the ICAO Central American, Caribbean (CAR) and South America (SAM) Region in the event of disruptions of ATS or related supporting services, when they may lead to contingency events, and to preserve the availability of major (ATS) routing, in such circumstances. This document replaces and supersedes the CAR and SAM Region ATM Contingency Plans. To support air navigation services providers (ANSPs) in developing their national contingency and emergency plans, a National ATM Contingency Plan Template, air traffic services (ATS) Emergency Response Template and Tower Emergency Plan Template are available on the ICAO NACC and SAM Offices websites [link].

This document describes the regional contingency framework, including the arrangements and procedures to support effective regional collaboration, minimize the impact of disruption, and ensure the continued safety of flight operations, in accordance with the provisions of Annex 11.

Implementing the regional framework will prepare the region to respond to and manage contingency events effectively. States are responsible for ensuring they comply with the ICAO provisions concerning contingency and emergency planning and implementation.

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CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

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RECORD OF AMENDMENTS

Amendment Number	Effective Date	Initiated by	Paragraph/ Reference	Remarks
1				

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CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

149	ACC	Area Control Center
150	ACG	ATM Contingency Group
151	AIS	Aeronautical Information Service
152	ANS	Air Navigation Services
153	ANSP	Air Navigation Service Provider
154	APP	Approach
155	ATC	Air Traffic Control
156	ATFM	Air Traffic Flow Management
157	ATM	Air Traffic Management
158	ATS	Air Traffic Services
159	ATS unit	Air Traffic Services Unit
160	BPE	Basic Planning Elements
161	CA	Contingency Arrangements and Procedures
162	CAA	Civil Aviation Authority
163	CAT	Contingency Category
164	CCC	Contingency Coordination Committee
165	CCT	Contingency Coordination Team
166	CDM	Collaborative Decision-Making
167	CNS	Communications, Navigation, Surveillance
168	CR	Contingency Route
169	CTA	Control Area
170	FIC	Flight Information Center
171	FIR	Flight Information Region
172	FIS	Flight Information Service
173	FLAS	Flight Level Allocation Scheme
174	FPL	Flight Plan
175	GNSS	Global Navigation Satellite System
176	IATA	International Air Transport Association
177	IVATF	International Volcanic Ash Task Force
178	LoA	Letter of Agreement
179	MET	Meteorological
180	RACF	Regional ATM Contingency Framework
181	RCC	Rescue Coordination Center
182	RSC	Rescue Sub-centre
183	SAR	Search and Rescue
184	SMS	Safety Management system
185	SRA	Safety Risk Assessment
186	TWR	Tower
187	VAAC	Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre

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CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The CAR/SAM Region Air Traffic Management (ATM) Contingency Framework has been developed to assist in providing for the safe and orderly flow of international air traffic in the event of disruption or potential disruption of air traffic services (ATS) and related supporting services and infrastructure in the CAR/SAM Region, in accordance with the provisions of ICAO Annex 11 – *Air Traffic Services*, Chapter 2, 2.32 and its Attachment C. This framework will assist States, air navigation service providers (ANSPs), and involved aviation stakeholders in developing their own national contingency plans. It must be noted that Airports and associated Airport Emergency Plans are not in the current scope of the framework, but can be added in a future version of the RACF.

1.2 The framework includes contingency arrangements and procedures (CA) – a set of predefined contingency scenarios with their associated pre-agreed contingency arrangements and procedures between adjacent area control centers (ACCs), and relevant ATS units when required, that would be applied in most contingency events – to be implemented in cases when the airspace users decide to circumnavigate airspace(s) due to contingency-related events such as armed conflict, adverse weather, natural disasters, or public health emergencies. The framework also includes scenarios when the ATS are disrupted due to events such as ATM system failure, industrial actions, security, or pandemic, which might significantly affect traffic routing and increase air traffic movements in other airspace(s) and require cross-border coordination.

Note. Where the ATS are provided from a centralized area control center based on multilateral agreements among States, arrangements should be implemented to ensure that contingency management is part of such agreements, and special procedures may be required for the relevant ATS units, such as approach and towers in the States concerned. In this context, the term ACC encompasses the ATS units involved in contingency management.

1.3 The framework adheres to the full ATM contingency management cycle, which consists of four Phases: Planning and Preparedness, Response, Recovery, and Post-assessment.

1.4 The framework defines the roles, responsibilities and functions of the Contingency Coordination Committee (CCC), and the ATM Contingency Group (ACG) that manage contingency events from the State side. The framework also describes the role and responsibilities of the Contingency Coordination Teams (CCTs), as a mechanism, used with ICAO's support, to ensure effective regional coordination and collaboration in responding to and managing contingency events.

1.5 The framework supports preparedness to address contingency events at the national, regional and inter-regional levels through guidelines on the planning aspects and the arrangements and procedures to be implemented. It also provides guidance on the roles of each stakeholder and the process to be followed.

1.6 The ICAO NACC and SAM Regional Offices will coordinate with ICAO Headquarters and the Regional Offices concerned about any amendments to the RACF and its components.

1.7 The relevant ICAO Regional Offices will distribute this document to all States and international organizations within their regions.

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CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

1.8 This version and its updates are available on the ICAO NACC and SAM Offices websites [link].

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1.9 To help keep this document up to date, Stakeholders are encouraged to send their comments/suggestions for improvements to the ICAO NACC or SAM Regional Offices (icaonacc@icao.int or icaosam@icao.int).

1.10 The Framework comprises two main aspects: national and regional, as reflected in **Figure 1**. It also describes the regional ATM contingency planning principles and the basic planning elements.

Scope and scale of contingency response and event

1.11 To establish operational clarity, the RACF delineates the scope of disruptions across three distinct thresholds:

Crisis: The baseline term defining any macro-event (e.g., natural disasters, public health outbreaks) with a major, destabilizing impact on standard operations.

Emergency: A localized, abnormal act or failure directly impacting specific facility or aircraft operations.

Contingency: The specific ATM classification used when a crisis or an emergency degrades service levels or limits airspace availability, requiring a coordinated operational response. Not all emergencies or crises require a contingency response, particularly if they have no impact on regional traffic flow.

Escalation Example: A localized technical emergency, such as a catastrophic power failure resulting in an 'ATS Zero' at a major ACC, can rapidly escalate into a Level 3 contingency event by disrupting traffic flows across multiple neighboring Flight Information Regions (FIRs).

1.12 The following three levels describe the scale of a contingency:

Level 1: contingency event remained within the State's delineated airspace that can be managed locally;

Level 2: cross-border contingency event requiring collaboration between two adjacent States; and

Level 3: cross-border contingency event requiring collaboration of more than two States.

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1.13 To specify more clearly the necessary mitigation measures for any contingency scenario, the possible degradation of ATS could be due to human resources or any supporting services is presented in 4 statuses:

- ATS Normal,
- ATS Degraded – ATC available with limitations,
- ATS Degraded – FIS and Alerting Service available; and
- ATS Degraded – ATS Zero (complete loss of ATS).

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The airspace availability is described in three statuses:

- Airspace Available (full access to the whole airspace),
- Airspace Partially Available (access limited to the portion of the airspace impacted by the contingency event, but aircraft can operate in the other portion of the airspace), and

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CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

- Airspace Not Available (the airspace is closed or avoided by the airspace users, irrespective of whether the ATS is Normal or Degraded).

1.14 The following are the categories of contingency events that identify the **scope** of the event and its potential impact on traffic flows. These categories are based on combinations of airspace availability and status of air traffic services:

Category A – Airspace Available and ATS Degraded – ATC available **with limitations**.

Category B – Airspace **Partially Available** and ATS Normal.

Category C – Airspace **Partially Available** and ATS Degraded – ATC available **with limitations**.

Category D – Airspace Available or **Partially Available** and ATS Degraded – FIS **and Alerting service** available.

Category E – Airspace Available or **Partially Available** and ATS Degraded – **ATS Zero**

Category F – Airspace Not Available or Avoided by airlines and ATS Normal or Degraded.

1.15 The matrix in Table 1. provides the combinations of airspace availability and status of air traffic services:

	ATS Normal	ATS Degraded ATC partially available	ATS Degraded FIS	ATS Degraded Zero ATS
Airspace Available	Normal Situation	CAT A	CAT D	CAT E
Airspace Partially Available	CAT B	CAT C	CAT D	CAT E
Airspace NOT Available	CAT F	CAT F	CAT F	CAT F

Table 1. Matrix between airspace availability and status of air traffic services

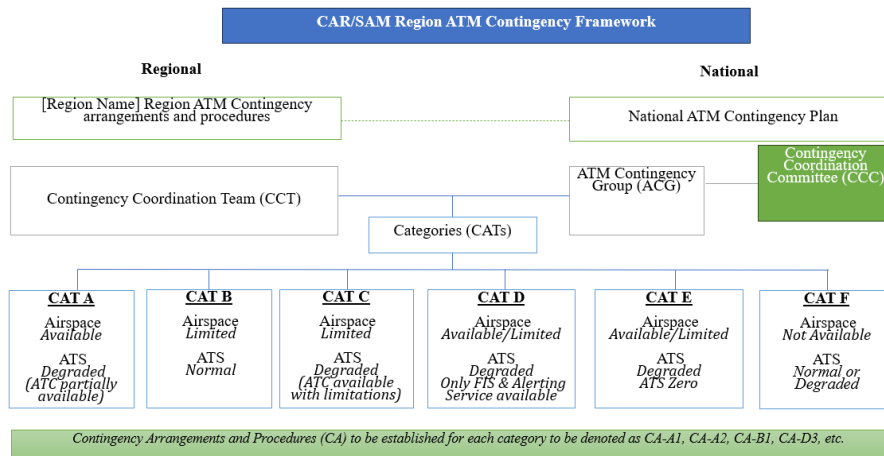


Figure 1. CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

1.16 Contingency events that would impact the availability of airspace and/or the provision of **ATS** include: industrial action, pandemic, earthquake, adverse weather, ATM system failure, volcanic ash, nuclear emergency, military activity, national security, political unrest, conflict zones, complete loss of facility operational capability, loss of manpower, global navigation satellite system (GNSS) radio frequency interference (RFI), cyber security, major events.

1.17 The relations of different contingency events with the national, regional, and global focus are provided in Table 2, for illustrative purposes (Reference ICAO EUR Doc 031).

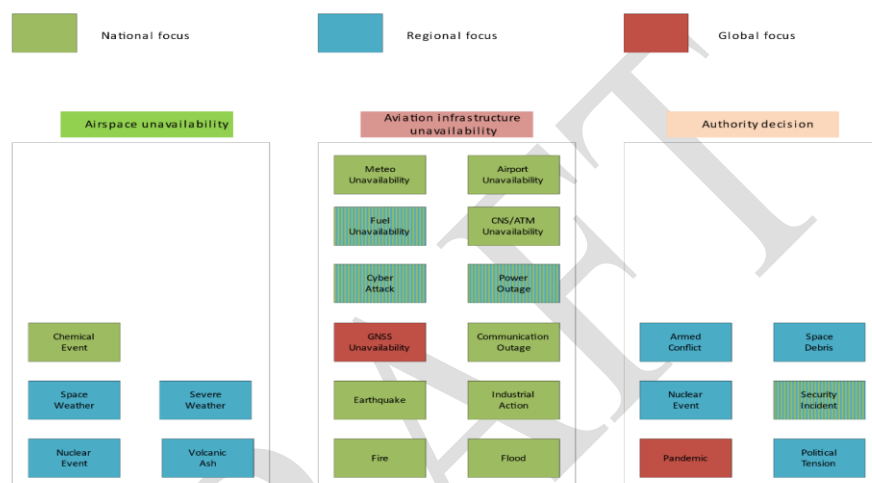


Table 2. Relations of different contingency events with the national, regional, and global focus

ATM Contingency Planning Principles

1.18 The ATM contingency planning principles in **Appendix A** form the basis for the development of contingency responses and management of any contingency event including bilateral and multilateral States contingency arrangements and procedures (CAs).

ATM Contingency Basic Planning Elements

1.19 The Basic Planning Elements (BPE) in **Appendix B** define the minimum recommended considerations for inclusion in contingency responses, such as those related to Administration, Plan Management, Airspace Management, ATM Procedures, Pilot/Operator Procedures, Communications Facilities and Procedures, Aeronautical Support services including AIS and MET, and Contact Details of involved facilities and focal points in contingency response and management.

1.20 **ANSPs** should establish and implement a mechanism to determine the safety and operational impacts of a contingency event promptly to ensure an effective and rapid response to such an event

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CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

1.21 States and ANPSs should include aspects of contingency management in the training programme of all personnel involved in contingency management including those related to the RACF and its components. Workshops and exercises at national, sub-regional, regional and inter-regional levels should be conducted annually to raise awareness and prepare the regions for effective response to contingency events.

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CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Focal Points

1.22 The list of CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Focal Points is available on the ICAO NACC and SAM Offices websites [link]. States and international organizations are urged to keep the contact details of their focal points up to date by contacting the ICAO NACC or SAM Regional Offices (icaonacc@icao.int or icaosam@icao.int).

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CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Monitoring Mechanism

1.23 The monitoring mechanism and status of CAR/SAM Region's readiness to respond to contingency events are available at the ICAO NACC and SAM Regional Offices websites [links].

MID Region Contingency Risk Register

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1.24 A risk registry for contingency events that reflects the assessment of the impact of such events based on their severity and probability should be conducted by the relevant regional group, periodically, but not more than two years apart. The registry is to be maintained on the ICAO NACC and SAM Regional Offices websites [link].

CAR and SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

CHAPTER 2

NATIONAL

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2.1 In accordance with Annex 11, air traffic services authorities shall develop and promulgate contingency plans for implementation in the event of disruption, or potential disruption, of air traffic services and related supporting services in the airspace for which they are responsible for the provision of such services. Such contingency plans shall be developed with the assistance of ICAO as necessary, in close coordination with the air traffic services authorities responsible for the provision of services in adjacent portions of airspace and with airspace users concerned.

2.2 Preparatory actions should include the initial development of contingency plan that covers responses to contingency events categories A to E that are likely to affect the availability of airspace for civil aircraft operations and/or the provision of air traffic services and supporting services.

2.3 The responsibility for appropriate contingency action for airspace over the high seas continues to rest with the State(s) normally responsible for providing the services until, and unless, that responsibility is temporarily reassigned by ICAO to other State(s) in accordance with the provision of Annex 11, 2.32

2.4 States are required to review their national ATM contingency plan and coordinate any amendments with neighbouring States and ICAO NACC and SAM Regional Offices periodically. Copies of the latest version of the National ATM Contingency Plan should be provided to the ICAO CAR and SAM Regional Offices for posting on their respective websites [link].

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2.5 Guidance material, an ATM Contingency Plan Template, and an Emergency Checklist have been developed to support States in developing their national ATM Contingency Plans and responding to contingencies and emergencies. These documents are available on the ICAO NACC and SAM Regional Offices websites [link].

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2.6 States are urged to conduct training for the personnel involved in contingency management as well as periodic contingency management tabletop exercises, as these are key elements for effectively responding to and managing a contingency event, supported by ICAO as required.

2.7 States should establish an ATM Contingency Group (ACG) responsible for planning, responding to and managing contingency events. During a contingency event, the ACG introduces contingency arrangements and procedures (in full adherence to CDM principles) and be able to provide up-to-date information at national and regional levels on the situation and associated contingency measures until the situation resumed to normal operation. The ACG should perform its tasks based on an established communication policy and coordination mechanism to communicate with internal and external stakeholders.

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2.8 A National Contingency Coordination Committee (CCC), comprising high-level representatives from aviation and non-aviation key stakeholders, should be established to serve as the central authority for information exchange and strategic coordination during disruptions. As the primary decision-making body, the CCC supports the ACG in executing contingency and recovery workflows. The ACG shall maintain a continuous feedback loop with the CCC, providing updates on the situation, the status of implemented measures, operational challenges, and required high-level interventions. If a State possesses an existing national crisis and disaster management entity, a distinct CCC is unnecessary, provided the roles and functions defined in this framework are formally adopted by that entity.

2.9 The terms ACG and CCC are used as indicative names. States might elect to use different terms, especially if already-established entities perform the same tasks.

CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

460 2.10 The ACG should be composed of the following as a minimum, other experts and representatives
461 may be invited to join as required:

- 462
- 463 a) ACC Manager as Lead;
- 464 b) Head of or their delegates: AIS, CNS, MET, RCC; Airspace Planning; CAA/ANS (regulator); facility maintenance; airport operation;
- 465
- 466 c) Military Liaison Officer;
- 467 d) Managers or supervisors of other ATS units, as required;
- 468 e) Representative(s) of aerodrome, as required; and
- 469 f) Representatives of local air operators, as required.
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471 2.11 The ACG functions should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- 472
- 473 a) develop national ATM contingency plan in coordination with all stakeholders;
- 474 b) ensure that all personnel involved in contingency management are competent and well trained;
- 475
- 476 c) conduct table-top exercises, local, national and cross-border exercises to test the preparedness for responding to contingency events;
- 477
- 478 d) convene promptly to exchange information to support the assessment of the situation responding to a contingency event;
- 479
- 480 e) identify which Contingency Arrangements and Procedures (CA) to apply;
- 481 *In cases when the event is not covered in a CA, then the ACG must explore contingency arrangements and procedures to be implemented;*
- 482
- 483 f) advise and coordinate with adjacent ATS units, ICAO Regional Office, and airspace users (IATA), if no other unit is in place to do so;
- 484
- 485 g) inform the CCC of the situation and indicate actions required from the CCC, if any;
- 486
- 487 h) activate the national ATM contingency plan and initiate the implementation of the associated contingency arrangements and procedures as reflected in the relevant CA;
- 488
- 489 *At this stage required NOTAMs should be issued by all the States concerned.*
- 490 i) keep always updated on the contingency situation;
- 491 j) review and update the contingency arrangements and procedures, as required;
- 492 k) participate and contribute to the discussions of the contingency coordination team (CCT) when established by ICAO and provide required information and updates;
- 493
- 494 l) exchange up-to-date information with the adjacent ATS authorities concerned to coordinate contingency measures;
- 495
- 496 m) notify the designated organizations of the contingency situation sufficiently in advance and/or as soon as possible thereafter;
- 497
- 498 n) take necessary action to issue NOTAMs in accordance with the contingency plan or as otherwise required by the particular contingency situation. NOTAMs Templates should be prepared in advance and used as far as possible. In the case of foreseeable
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CAR and SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

disruption, the advance notice should in any case not be less than 48 hours;

- o) prepare actions for the recovery phase ~~→~~ resumption of normal operations;
- p) assess and confirm if the situation is rectified and normal operations can be resumed;
- q) agree on the deactivation of the contingency plan ~~and~~ advise the CCT, if established, ~~;~~
- r) ~~cancel the~~ NOTAMs related to the contingency situation; ~~and~~
- s) conduct a post-event assessment for lessons learned

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2.12 The CCC should include high-level representation from the following as necessary:

- a) Civil Aviation Authority as Lead;
- b) ANSPs;
- c) Military Authorities;
- d) Airport Operators;
- e) Airspace users (Commercial air transport, business aviation, general aviation, cargo, state aircraft operations);
- f) Meteorological Authority, if not part of ANSPs;
- g) Search and rescue (RCC, RSCs, and mission control facilities);
- h) Ministry of Defence/National Security;
- i) Ministry of Finance;
- j) Ministry of Interior Affairs;
- k) Ministry of International Affairs;
- l) Ministry of Health;
- m) Ministry of Transportation;
- n) Ministry of Communication
- o) Other relevant authorities/agencies.

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2.13 The CCC functions should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- a) convene rapidly to exchange information and provide high-level support and resources to the ACG in responding to and managing contingency events, as required;
- b) take actions, such as mobilizing resources for the provisions of ATS;
- c) facilitate coordination between civil and military authorities for the effective management of the airspace, including the establishment of contingency routing as applicable;
- d) coordinate internally and with the States and organizations concerned for actions that require high-level decision-making, as necessary.

2.14 The following provides the step-by-step actions to be taken in case of a contingency event:

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Note. The title "ACC Manager" is used throughout this document for illustrative purposes; in some States, these functions may be performed by an equivalent position. Additionally, these tasks may be delegated to designated staff acting on behalf of the Manager

- 1- The ACC supervisor to action as per the applicable standards of operations;
- 2- ACC supervisor to inform the ACC Manager to assess the situation;
- 3- ACC Manager as the Lead calls for the ACG;
- 4- The ACG decides which CA to apply;
- 5- The ACG Lead advises the adjacent States, ICAO Regional Office and IATA;
- 6- The ACG Lead informs the CCC, indicating if actions are required from the CCC;
- 7- ACG Activate the contingency plan (arrangements and procedures to be implemented);
- 8- NOTAM issuance by all the States concerned (affected FIRs), as applicable;
- 9- Contingency Response goes Live – ACG to call for meetings (in-person or via video conference);
- 10- ACG monitors and continuously assesses the situation;
- 11- ACG reviews and introduces adjacemnts to the contingency arrangements and procedures as needed;
- 12- Contingency event ceased – ACC Manager advises the adjacent States and ICAO Regional Office and the CCC;
- 13- Deactivation of contingency plan (Cancellation of NOTAMs)
- 14- ACG to carry out a post-implementation assessment for improvements.

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2.15 When informing the ICAO Regional Office (ref. step 5) or based on information received by ICAO, a Contingency Coordination Team (CCT), as described in Chapter 3, may be established and follow the following steps:

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- 1- To assess the situation, the need, and the scope of the CCT, the ICAO Regional Officer/ATM (RO) coordinates with the following:
 - a. ICAO Headquarters and other Regional Offices concerned;
 - b. Contingency Focal Points of States concerned;
 - c. IATA; and
 - d. Other organizations as needed.
- 2- ICAO Regional Office activates the CCT and calls for the first CCT Meeting
- 3- CCT agrees on the implementation of contingency arrangements and procedures (CA);
- 4- CCT monitors and continuously assesses the situation;
- 5- ICAO arranges for periodic meetings (usually via web conference) of the CCT;
- 6- ICAO shares the outcome of CCT meetings and updates received;
- 7- Contingency event ceased – ICAO deactivates the CCT. In the event of a long running but stable contingency, the CCT may be put into monitoring status; and
- 8- CCT members carry out post-implementation assessments for improvements.

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CAR and SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

CHAPTER 3

REGIONAL

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3.1 A Contingency Coordination Team (CCT) would be established with the support of the ICAO NACC and SAM Offices to effectively respond to and manage a contingency event involving more than one State (Level 2 or 3). CCT is a forum for exchanging information related to a contingency event and for agreeing on the implementation of necessary contingency arrangements and procedures in a collaborative manner.

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3.2 A Contingency Coordination Team (CCT) should be established from the following members:

- ICAO (Headquarters and Regional Offices);
- States concerned (CAA and ANSPs);
- IATA (representing airspace users affected by the contingency events); and
- other organizations and agencies as deemed necessary.

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3.3 The main functions of the CCT are not limited to the following:

- continuous monitoring of the information from all relevant sources;
- initiate action for the activation/deactivation of the contingency arrangements and procedures determined for the contingency event;
- arrange for the constant exchange of relevant information to the ICAO Regional Offices and Headquarters;
- and
- enable the exchange of up-to-date information among States directly concerned and States that would be potentially involved in contingency response; and

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3.4 Tactical ATC considerations during periods of overloading may require re-assignment of routes or portions thereof, which might be coordinated through CCT.

3.5 CCT should facilitate the agreement on alternative routes to maximize the use of existing available airspace, level of ATS, and communication, navigation, and surveillance.

3.6 In the event that ATS is disrupted, NOTAM should be published indicating the following:

Deleted: the Civil Aviation Authority shall publish the corresponding ...

- a) time and date of the beginning of the contingency measures;
- b) airspace available for landing and overflying traffic and airspace to be avoided;
- c) details of the facilities and services available or not available and any limits on ATS provision (e.g., ACC, APP, TWR and FIS), including an expected date of restoration of services if available;
- d) information on the provisions made for alternative services;
- e) ATS contingency routes that have been activated as alternate routes;
- f) procedures to be followed by neighbouring ATS units;
- g) procedures to be followed by pilots; and
- h) any other details with respect to the disruption and actions being taken that aircraft operators may find useful.

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3.7 In the event that the State/ANSP is unable to issue NOTAMs, arrangements will be made for another NOTAM Office to issue the required NOTAMs.

3.8 **Draft NOTAMs** are included as templates in each CAs to be used in case of a contingency event.

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3.9 **Contingency Routes (CRs)** might be developed in advance and be included in the Contingency Arrangements and Procedures in case the traffic cannot be accommodated on the current ATS route structure.

3.10 Where possible, aircraft on long-haul international flights should be given priority with respect to cruising levels.

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3.11 It is recognized that operators may incur economic penalties during a contingency event. Therefore, air traffic flow management (ATFM) measures should be implemented to the extent possible to make operations more predictable.

Traffic Information Broadcast by Aircraft (TIBA) Procedures

3.12 Traffic Information Broadcast by Aircraft (TIBA) procedures shall be applied in accordance with ICAO Annex 11 – *Air Traffic Services*, Attachment B. The TIBA frequency for the CAR/SAM Region is XXXXMHZ.

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CHAPTER 4

Contingency Arrangements and Procedures (CA)

4.1 Contingency Arrangements and Procedures (CAs) are designed to bridge the gap between the planning and implementation phases. They may include a set of pre-agreed contingency arrangements and procedures to be implemented by ATS units in response to contingency events.

4.2 The CAs should be developed and maintained based on a determination of the airspace availability and the status of air traffic services to be provided. The matrix below illustrates the link of each CA with the contingency category:

	ATS Normal	ATS Degraded ATC partially available	ATS Degraded Only FIS	ATS Degraded Zero ATS
Airspace Available	Normal Situation	CAT A CA-A[number]	CAT D CA-D[number]	CAT E CA-E[number]
Airspace Partially Available	CAT B CA-B[number]	CAT C CA-C[number]	CAT D CA-D[number]	CAT E CA-E[number]
Airspace NOT Available	CAT F CA-F[number]	CAT F CA-F[number]	CAT F CA-F[number]	CAT F CA-F[number]

Table 2. Contingency Arrangements and Procedures (Cas) Matrix

4.3 The CAs therefore cover a comprehensive range of contingency events; however, appropriate contingency arrangements and procedures might be required to address other contextual factors. Therefore, ANSPs are required to effectively engage with their neighboring States, airspace users (IATA) and ICAO, if needed, via the CCT, to agree on the specific CAs for such events.

4.4 CAs are required when the normal arrangements and procedures agreed upon in the ATS letters of agreement (LoAs) between adjacent ATS units cannot be applied, hence they are temporary in anature and should be periodically reviewed and updated as needed.

4.5 The following CAs, that should be detailed utilizing the template in Appendix C, can be populated and reused as required during contingency events. The CAs can be provided on a web-based platform or an app for easy access and utilization:

CA-A1:

Airspace is available as usual, but ATS is degraded due to events such as industrial action, pandemic, earthquake, nuclear emergency, adverse weather, ATM system failure, and GNSS RFI, which would affect the provision of ATS to some extent. In this kind of event, traffic will have access to the entire airspace; however, the ATS unit will be limited in providing services as usual.

CA-B1

ATS is normal; however, the airspace is limited due to contingency events such as Volcanic Ash, nuclear emergencies, military activity, and weather. In this kind of event, traffic would not have access to the affected portion of the airspace; accordingly, the ATS unit will have to accommodate traffic in the available airspace by introducing changes to the ATS route structure.

CA-C1

Airspace is limited, and ATS are degraded due to contingency events such as Volcanic Ash, nuclear emergencies, military activity, ATM system failure and adverse weather. This kind of event requires procedures to circumnavigate traffic away from the affected airspace, taking into consideration the limitations of ATS.

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CA-D1

Airspace is available or limited, but no air traffic control (ATC), only flight information services can be provided, due to a contingency event such as a pandemic, national security, industrial action, or ATM system failure. In this kind of event, air traffic control is affected, but other ATS will remain available or arranged. One contingency measure would be changing the airspace classification to Class G.

CA-E1

Airspace is available or limited, but ATS is unavailable (Zero ATS) due to a contingency event, such as a complete loss of facility operational capability, total loss of manpower, or security. In this kind of event, ATS could not be provided; however, traffic might still have access to, or operate within, the affected uncontrolled airspace. This may require neighboring ATS units to reroute traffic to avoid the affected airspace.

CA-F1

Airspace is not available or avoided due to an imposed closure by the State or when airlines avoid the airspace due to adverse weather, military activities, or natural disaster, despite the status of ATS (normal or Degraded). This kind of event requires neighboring ATS units to reroute traffic to avoid the airspace.

Chapter 5

Contingency Management Cycle

5.1 The contingency management should be a continuous, cyclic process recognizing that the effective management of disruptive events does not merely begin when air traffic services are lost and ends when the circumstances cease; however, it requires an active progression through four distinct, interconnected phases as illustrated in **Figure 2**:

Phase 1: Be Ready (Prepare/Plan)

Phase 2: Respond

Phase 3: Recover

Phase 4: Review & Improve

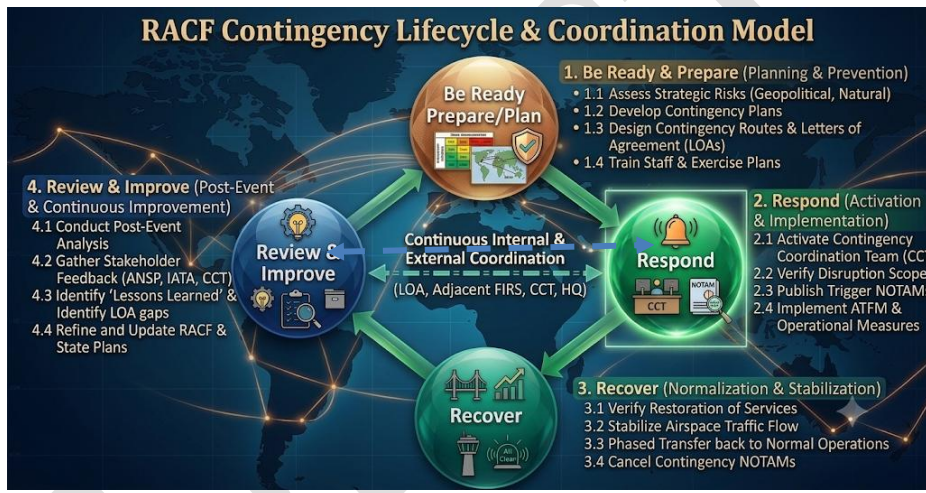


Figure 2. Contingency Management Cycle

5.2 By systematically applying these four phases, the region ensures that the aviation network maintains the maximum possible resilience, safety, and continuity during non-normal operations.

Phase 1: Be Ready (Prepare/Plan)

5.3 The foundational phase of the regional contingency loop focuses on proactive risk management, capability building, and vulnerability reduction.

5.3.1. Airspace Contingency Planning and Agreements:

- Promulgation of Plans: States must establish, promulgate, and maintain proactive contingency plans to address anticipated threat levels before an emergency unfolds.
- Bilateral and Multilateral Frameworks: States should establish formal cross-border understandings and regional coordination mechanisms to handle localized or widespread

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airspace closures effectively.

5.3.2. Threat and Safety Risk Assessments (SRA):

5.3.3. Hazard Identification: Regions must implement dynamic Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) processes to scan the horizon for geopolitical conflicts, severe weather, volcanism, public health crises, and system vulnerabilities.

- a) The "Three Rs" Principle: Planners must integrate Redundancy, Robustness, and Resiliency into critical ATM/CNS network layers. This includes preserving a Minimum Operational Network (MON) to safeguard navigation against primary system failures or signal degradation (e.g., systemic GNSS RFI).

5.3.4. Training, Testing, and Joint Exercises:

- a) Contingency management should be included in the training programmes of all personnel involved in contingency management.
- b) Simulations and Desktop Exercises: Airspace authorities, ANSPs, and aircraft operators must participate in desktop scenario training, computer simulations, and live "stress test" exercises.
- c) Regional Validation: Multi-national coordination exercises must be conducted at least once every two years with adjacent flight information regions (FIRs) to identify single points of failure and validate cross-border handling procedures.

Phase 2: Respond

5.4 The response phase is triggered when an unusual, hazardous, or disruptive event alters nominal service levels or compromises regional airspace integrity.

5.4.1. Contingency Coordination Team (CCT) Activation

- a) Level 1 Contingency will be managed by the ACG, keeping the ICAO Regional Office apprised of the development as required.
- b) Operational Bridging for Level 2 or 3: Upon a severe regional disruption, a CCT is activated to serve as an operational bridge between affected ANSPs, adjacent States, and international operators (including IATA).
- c) Tactical Flow Management: The CCT exchanges information among its members and coordinates contingency arrangements and procedures as required to ensure the safety and continuity of the traffic flow.

5.4.2. Civil-Military Cooperation and Dynamic Airspace Management

- a) Airspace avoidance: in case of hazardous activities to civil aircraft, safety protections must be implemented immediately through the temporary designation of restricted areas over a State's sovereign airspace or only danger areas over high seas.
- b) Promulgation of Constraints: All critical route adjustments, security constraints, and service degradations must be immediately broadcast via standardized, explicit NOTAM templates to maintain absolute network transparency.

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- c) Dynamic airspace management: through effective civil-military cooperation, manage the restricted areas (releasing them or changing their dimensions and time), allowing for the prompt establishment of contingency routing to support avoiding the affected airspace.

5.4.3. Interface with ICAO Headquarters Crisis Management Framework

Deleted: Mechanisms

- a) Escalation and Verification: If a disruption exceeds standard localized coping procedures or involves massive UN humanitarian responses, Regional Offices will interface with the ICAO Crisis Manager to verify and formally declare a designated crisis.
- b) Unified Communications Protocol: To prevent misinformation, all official communications and public statements during an officially designated crisis must be funneled exclusively through the ICAO Manager and senior legal/external relations teams.

Deleted: Management

Phase 3: Recover

5.5 The recovery phase manages the orderly transition from emergency/degraded contingency configurations back into normalized, baseline air traffic management operations.

5.5.1. Infrastructure Restoration and Stabilization

- a) System Re-verification: Prior to restoring normal flight routing parameters, verification should be conducted for the infrastructure and facilities if they were impacted by the contingency events.
- b) Workforce readiness: verification of the readiness of all personnel involved in the provisions of ANS.
- c) Notification: ensure aeronautical information is published well in advance to provide airspace users sufficient time to accommodate the changes in their operations.
- d) Handling Priority Air Traffic: During the recovery curve, priority should continue to be given to handling, parking allocation, and logistical provisioning to arriving or departing international humanitarian, search and rescue (SAR), and relief operations.

5.5.2. Stabilization of Contingency Teams

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- a) Gradual Deactivation: CCT and regional response components must remain active and accessible via a stable deactivation curve rather than shutting down abruptly. Oversight bodies must verify that the regional operational environment has permanently stabilized before formal deactivation occurs.
- b) Deactivation: Once it has been concluded that the operation is normal, the CCT will be deactivated by the ICAO Regional Office.

Deleted: Operation is normal, the CCT will be deactivated by

Phase 4: Review and Improve

5.6 As shown in **Figure 2.**, the loop connects the end of an operational cycle back to preparedness through comprehensive debriefing and systemic modification.

5.6.1. Post-Event Analysis and Just Culture

- a) Non-Punitive Systemic Debriefing: As soon as practicable following a contingency deactivation, a rigorous post-event evaluation must collect comprehensive feedback from all

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participating ANSPs, regulators, military stakeholders, and aircraft operators.

- b) Focus on Learning: Consistent with a Just Culture, the evaluation must avoid individual finger-pointing or blaming human errors. Instead, it must look structurally at system interfaces, procedure omissions, and latent technical holes.

5.6.2. Build Back Better" and Documentation Revision

- a) Integrating Lessons Learned: Findings from the review process must be incorporated into updated regional policies, organizational manuals, and local emergency frameworks to proactively mitigate future cost, safety, and efficiency degradations.
- b) Regulatory Compliance Reporting: To evaluate the ongoing success of these modifications, States within the region must complete and submit updated contingency plans to their accredited Regional Office at least once per calendar year.

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CHAPTER 6

CAR/SAM ATM VOLCANIC ASH CONTINGENCY PLAN

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- 890 6.1. The ICAO Air Traffic Management Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan Template provides
- 891 information on terminology related to volcanic ash contingency responses, and the *pre-eruption, start of*
- 892 *eruption, on-going eruption* and *recovery* phases of volcanic ash cloud events. Information is also
- 893 provided on air traffic services procedures, and on-air traffic flow management procedures.
- 894 6.2. The phases of volcanic eruption activity may be summarized as follows:
- 895 **Pre-Eruption Phase:** a volcanic eruption is expected.
- 896 **Start of Eruption Phase:** commences with the outbreak of the volcanic eruption
- 897 and entrance of volcanic ash into the atmosphere.
- 898 **On-going Eruption Phase:** commences with the issuance of the first volcanic ash
- 899 advisory (VAA) containing information on the extent and movement of the
- 900 volcanic ash cloud.
- 901 **Recovery Phase:** commences with the issuance of the first VAA containing a
- 902 statement that no volcanic ash is expected.
- 903 6.3. The actions to be taken by relevant Volcanic Observatories, Volcanic Ash Advisory
- 904 Centres (VAAC), MWOs, AIS Units and ACCs are described in ICAO Doc 9766 – *Handbook on the*
- 905 *International Airways Volcano Watch (IAVW)*.
- 906 6.4. Operators are required by ICAO Annex 6 – *Operation of Aircraft* to implement
- 907 appropriate mitigation measures for volcanic ash in accordance with their safety management system
- 908 (SMS), as approved by the State of the Operator/Registry. This document assumes that ICAO
- 909 requirements regarding safety management systems have been implemented by all States and aircraft
- 910 operators. Detailed guidance on Safety Risk Assessments (SRAs) for flight operations with regard to
- 911 volcanic ash contamination can be found in the manual on *Flight Safety and Volcanic Ash – Risk*
- 912 *Management of Flight Operations with Known or Forecast Volcanic Ash Contamination* (ICAO Doc
- 913 9974)
- 914 6.5. States' regulatory provisions and arrangements should be reviewed to ensure that, in
- 915 accordance with the guidance provided in ICAO Doc 9974:
- 916 a) Aircraft operators are required to include in their safety management system (SMS)
- 917 an identifiable safety risk assessment for operations into airspace forecast to be, or at
- 918 aerodromes known to be, contaminated with volcanic ash
- 919
- 920 b) Safety oversight procedures are used for the evaluation of operators' capability to
- 921 conduct flight operations safely into airspace forecast to be, or aerodromes known to
- 922 be, contaminated with volcanic ash.
- 923
- 924 6.6. States' airspace and airport management policies and procedures should be reviewed to

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925 ensure that (in accordance with the guidance provided in ICAO Doc 9974 – *Flight Safety and Volcanic*
926 *Ash* and the provisions of ICAO Doc 4444 – *PANS-ATM*, 15.8.1c and Note 2):

- 927 a) Airspace affected by volcanic ash cloud should not be ‘closed’.
- 928 b) Specification in NOTAM of alternate routing or other air traffic flow management
929 (ATFM)¹ measures to manage airspace constraints arising from volcanic ash cloud
930 should be solely for the purpose of ensuring the predictability and regularity of air
931 traffic, and should be based on an assessment of capacity and demand in airspace
932 affected by volcanic ash and/or by aircraft avoiding the volcanic ash cloud
- 933 c) NOTAM specifying alternate routing or other ATFM measures related to a volcanic
934 eruption or volcanic ash cloud should be issued separately from the
935 ASHTAM/NOTAM issued in accordance with Annex 15, 5.1.1.1, r and u;
- 936 d) Aerodromes should only be closed by NOTAM for periods of observed volcanic ash
937 contamination of the surface of the aerodrome movement area;
- 938 e) Airport capacity limitations of alternate aerodromes, including apron capacity,
939 should be considered, and recommendations for the use of other alternates considered
940 for inclusion in NOTAM (in c, above);
- 941 f) If required by State regulations, any declaration of a Danger Area or Restricted Area
942 should be confined to the pre-eruptive or erupting volcano and the area containing its
943 forecast or observed ejecta².

944 6.7. To ensure effective volcanic ash information, coordination and collaboration, States
945 should:

- 946 a) Establish a mechanism to provide regular and timely updates of information during a
947 volcanic eruption and/or ash cloud event to ensure all stakeholders are up to date with
948 current information, situation reports and contingency planning;
- 949 b) participate in volcanic ash exercises; and
- 950 c) consider establishing an internal crisis management centre, where applicable, to
951 support the collaborative and timely sharing of information such as volcanic
952 eruptions or other crises that will have a significant impact on airport and/or airspace
953 management

954 *Note: This is supplemental to the provisions of Annexes 3 and 15.*

955 6.8. AIS units are required under the provisions of Annex 15 to issue information relating to
956 volcanic ash cloud. Information may be issued in either NOTAM or ASHTAM format. Annex 15
957 specifies that ASHTAM shall include *Item E — Color code for level of alert indicating volcanic activity*.
958 Color-coded levels for volcanic activity are not provided by all volcanic observatories and/or Volcanic
959 Ash Advisory Centres (VAACs) in the Asia/Pacific Region, and only one State issues ASHTAM.
960 NOTAM format should be used to disseminate volcanic ash cloud information.

961 6.9. NOTAM issued for volcanic eruption or volcanic ash cloud should include all items of
962 information listed in the ASHTAM format except item I (closure of airspace and/or air routes). Color-

CAR and SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework

- 963 coded activity level information may be included in NOTAM if available.
- 964 6.10. Each State should ensure that a list of volcanoes relevant to the State is maintained at all
965 International NOTAM Offices, with volcano name, number and nominal position.
- 966 6.11. ICAO Doc 9691 *Manual on Volcanic Ash, Radioactive material and Toxic Chemical*
967 *Clouds* Appendix E – *Cross reference list of volcanoes and navigation aids* provides a list of ICAO
968 registered volcanoes. The information provided includes the following note:
- 969 *Note: Doc 9691 Appendix E requires that another list, the List of Volcanoes of the World*
970 *for VAAC Use, available at <http://www.volcano.si.edu/projects/vaac-data/> and*
971 *maintained by the Global Volcanism Program of the Smithsonian Institution, should be*
972 *used in case of any discrepancy between the Smithsonian database and the list published*
973 *in Doc 9691 Appendix E.*
- 974 6.12. The List of Volcanoes of the World for VAAC Use (Smithsonian Institution) should be
975 considered the definitive list of volcanoes for use in the CAR/SAM Region. The List of volcanoes is
976 updated frequently, without notification. States should ensure that relevant NOTAM Offices include in
977 their local procedures provisions for frequent checks of the list to ensure any changes are recorded and
978 used in ASHTAM/NOTAM and NOTAM Templates.
979
- 980 6.13. The CAR/SAM Region Volcanic Ash Plan is available on the ICAO NACC and SAM
981 Regional Offices websites [Link].
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- 983

CAR/SAM Region ATM Contingency Framework
Appendix A

APPENDIX A: ATM CONTINGENCY PLANNING PRINCIPLES

1. Area Control Centres (ACCs) and Flight Information Centres (FICs) should have a National ATM Contingency Plan to ensure the safe transit of international traffic in the event of disruption or potential disruption of ATS and related supporting services in the airspace for which they are responsible. ATM Contingency arrangements and procedures” would refer to measures with cross-border aspects (Level 2 or 3 of the RACF).
2. The overriding principle is that safety has primacy over efficiency and optimal levels and routes;
3. Contingency Operations might necessitate lower than normal airspace capacity to ensure safety.
4. System and ATC service redundancy are the most effective contingency capability.
5. Contingency Plan should define the following where applicable:
 - a. Contingency Routes supported by Flight Level Allocation Scheme (FLAS) and minimum navigation and height-keeping (e.g. RVSM or non-RVSM) capability for access;
Note: Contingency Route and/or FLAS need not be defined as the Contingency Plan states that all routes and/or levels remain available during contingency operations.
 - b. provisions for tactical definition and coordination of additional routes/FLAS and priority for access to accommodate selected non-scheduled operations such as humanitarian, medical evacuation and flood and fire relief (FFR) flights;
 - c. priority determination for routine scheduled and non-scheduled flights;
 - d. flights excluded from operations in contingency airspace, and minimum navigation and height keeping (RVSM) capability required for access to the contingency airspace;
 - e. specified minimum longitudinal spacing between consecutive aircraft entering the contingency airspace on non-separated ATS contingency routes;
 - f. Contingency communication arrangements including means of communication within contingency airspace and communications transfer arrangements for aircraft entering and leaving the airspace;
 - g. Details of delegation of air traffic services arrangements (if any);
 - h. Contingency points of contact
6. Contingency arrangements and procedures (arrangements between neighboring administrations) should be included in bilateral or multilateral agreements between States in all cases where the activation of the Contingency Plan would impact upon a neighboring State.
7. Close cooperation between neighboring administrations, together with supporting mechanisms for the tactical definition and promulgation of contingency routes.
8. Contingency routes must be vertically separated whenever lateral route spacing is less than the minimum specified by the State for contingency operations.
9. FLAS planning should include consideration of allocating the optimum flight levels to routes used by long haul aircraft, depending on the traffic density on the route, wherever practicable.

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Appendix A

- 1020 10. Spacing between contingency ATS routes should be in accordance with the applicable
1021 separation described in the *Procedures Air Navigation Services – Air Traffic Management (Doc*
1022 *4444) and Regional Supplementary Procedures (Doc 7030)*.
- 1023 11. Minimum longitudinal separation between aircraft operating on the same contingency route and
1024 not vertically separated should be 15 minutes or 120 NM. However, this may be reduced to 10
1025 minutes or 80 NM in conjunction with application of the Mach number technique authorized
1026 by the relevant authority and agreed in the appropriate LoAs or other contingency arrangements
1027 and procedures.
- 1028 12. Contingency ATS routes and FLAS, and contingency procedures, should be agreed between
1029 geographically grouped neighboring States to form sub-regional contingency plans.
- 1030 13. Contingency ATS routes should be published in the State AIP to permit the storing of route
1031 details in airspace users' navigation databases. Contingency arrangements and procedures
1032 should include the sovereign and, if applicable, also the High Seas part of the airspace.
- 1033 14. Airspace classifications for ICAO Classes A, B, and C airspace should remain unchanged as
1034 practicable during contingency operations to facilitate managed access to the airspace in
1035 accordance with the contingency plan. Classes D and E airspace may be reclassified as Class C
1036 or higher where necessary to preclude VFR operations.
- 1037 15. Ground and airborne navigation requirements should be defined if necessary
- 1038 16. Alternate aerodromes should be specified where necessary for the readiness of the airport
1039 control towers, approach units and airport operators.
- 1040 17. Airspace affected by volcanic ash cloud should not be closed to international civil aviation, where
1041 operators comply with the relevant ICAO provisions.
- 1042 18. Amended ATS routes, whether published or promulgated ad-hoc, may be prescribed as part of
1043 the air traffic flow management (ATFM) response to expected demand and capacity imbalance
1044 caused by aircraft avoiding volcanic ash cloud.
- 1045 19. Aerodromes should only be closed by NOTAM for periods of observed volcanic ash
1046 contamination of the surface of the aerodrome movement area.
- 1047 20. Closure of airports affected by volcanic ash deposition should be supported by a safety
1048 assessment conducted in collaboration between airport operators, aircraft operators and the air
1049 navigation service provider, in accordance with their respective safety management systems.
- 1050 21. Civil aircraft operations over or near conflict zones should be in accordance with ICAO Doc
1051 10084 and ICAO Doc 9554.
1052

APPENDIX B: BASIC PLAN ELEMENTS of a Contingency Plan

Element 1: Administration

- a) Record of signatories, version control and records of amendment.
- b) Definition of the objectives, applicable airspace and operations, and exclusions.

Element 2: Plan Management

- c) List of States and FIRs affected, and the agreed methods of notification in the event of pre-activation, activation and termination of the plan.

Contingency events may arise with insufficient advance notice to permit pre-activation of contingency plans

- d) Details of the arrangements in place for management of the plan, including:
 - i. Establishment of ATM Contingency Group (ACG) for 24-hour responding to and management of contingency and coordination of operational and supporting activities under the contingency plan; and
 - ii. establishment of a Contingency Coordinating Committee composed of high-level representatives from aviation and other stakeholders to act as a central agency for the purpose of exchanging information and coordinating activities during disruption. The CCC provides required high-level support to ACG and takes necessary action to restore the situation.
- e) Details of testing, review and reporting actions:
 - i. schedule of desktop and simulator testing;
 - ii. post-activation review (PAR) requirements:
 - a preliminary PAR report within 28 days of any activation or testing of contingency plans, including any recommendations to address deficiencies and implement improvements in contingency plans, arrangements, procedures and training.
 - a more comprehensive PAR report should be prepared for major contingency events, or any contingency event involving an air safety incident investigation.
A full PAR analysis of major events could take many months to complete.
 - input to the PAR from all parties affected by or involved in the response to the contingency is actively sought and considered;
 - bi-lateral or multi-lateral PAR for activation or testing of Level 2 and 3 contingency arrangements and procedures;
 - iii. timely reporting to ICAO APAC RO and other affected States of anticipated or experienced disruptions requiring activation of contingency plans.
- f) inclusion of contingency plans, arrangements and procedures in ATS and other involved personnel training and refresher training programmes;
- g) raising awareness of all parties involved in contingency.

Element 3: Airspace

- h) Procedures for dynamic management of the airspace;

Guidance on the dynamic management of restricted, prohibited and danger areas as well enhanced flexible use of airspace are contained in the ICAO manual *on Civil-Military in Air Traffic*

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Management (Doc 10088).

- i) Criteria for airspace classification changes and associated separation;
- j) CNS status and performance requirements; and
- k) Implementation of oriented track system in collaboration with neighbouring ACCs.
- l) Procedures for the Prior Permission Required (PPR) aeronautical information publication when required to access the airspace.

Element 4: ATM Procedures

- m) Details of re-routing to avoid the whole or part of the airspace concerned, normally involving establishment of:
 - i. strategic and tactical collaborative oriented track system providing additional routes or route segments with associated conditions for their use; and/or
 - ii. a simplified route network through the airspace concerned, together with a FLAS, to ensure that a standard minimum vertical separation is applied where less than a specified minimum lateral separation exists between routes.
- n) details of how domestic traffic, departing and arriving flights and SAR, humanitarian and State aircraft flights will be managed during the contingency period.
- o) procedures for transition from normal services levels to contingency services, and resume normal service.
- p) procedures for joining or departing a contingency route.
- q) details of reduced levels of service, if any, within the affected airspace.
- r) establishment of arrangements for controlled access to the contingency area to prevent overloading of the contingency system, utilizing allocated airspace entry times or, where ATFM capability exists, tactical ATFM measures.
- s) procedures for adjacent service providers to establish longitudinal spacing at the entry point, and to maintain such separation through the airspace;
- t) reassignment of responsibility for providing air traffic services, to the extent possible, in non-sovereign airspace and to international aircraft transiting sovereign airspace; and/or
- u) coordination and communications transfer procedures for aircraft entering and leaving the affected airspace.

Element 5: Pilot/Operator Procedures

- v) requirements for flight plan submission during the contingency period, including contingency route planning requirements, and arrangements if airspace is restricted or not available and no contingency route is available;
- w) emergency procedures, including TIBA and/or in-flight requirements for broadcast of position and other information, and for continuous listening watch, on specified pilot- pilot and GUARD VHF frequencies;
- x) requirements for display of navigation and anti-collision lights;
- y) requirements for climbing and descending well to the right of the centerline of specifically identified routes;

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- z) requirements for all operations to be conducted in accordance with IFR, including operating at IFR flight levels from the relevant Table of Cruising Levels in Appendix 3 of Annex 2, except when modified by a FLAS.

Element 6: Communications Facilities and Procedures

- aa) provision and operation of adequate air-ground communications, AFTN and ATS direct speech links;
- bb) specification of radio frequencies to be used for particular contingency routes.
- cc) log-on and connection management for CPDLC aircraft, where appropriate;
- dd) use of ADS-C automatic position reporting in lieu of voice position reporting to ATS.

Element 7: Aeronautical Support Services including AIS and MET

- ee) AIP Information regarding the Contingency Planning, and notification by NOTAM of anticipated or actual disruption of air traffic services and/or supporting services, including associated contingency arrangements, as early as practicable and, in the case of foreseeable disruption, not less than 48 hours in advance.
- ff) reassignment to adjacent States of the responsibility for providing meteorological information and information on status of navigation aids.

Element 8: Contact Details

- gg) contact details for the RCC responsible for the affected FIR(s), and coordination arrangements.
- hh) contact details of adjacent States ANSPs and other international organizations participating in the contingency plan.
- ii) prior notification requirements for adjacent FIR activation of Level 2 and 3 contingency arrangements.

Note: The first priority response to any short notice contingency response should be the immediate handling of the air situation, followed by the activation of the contingency plan.

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Appendix C

[ACC]									
Contingency Arrangements and Procedures (CA-A1)									
This CA contains arrangements to ensure the continued safety of flight operations during the disruption. The plan has been prepared in accordance with ICAO Annex 11 – <i>Air Traffic Services</i>, Chapter 2, paragraph 2.32 and Attachment C to provide the ATS procedures, contingency route structure, and other arrangements, to be used on a temporary basis, while air traffic services are being provided from [ATS Unit NAME] but with some limitation than normal situation.									
Point of Contact Name:			Contact details:				Agreed Date:		
Airspace Status			ATS Status				Level of Response		
Airspace	Available	Partially Available	Not Available	ATS	Normal	ATC available with limitations	FIS and Alerting services are available	Zero ATS	States
									Level 1 – One State
									Level 2 – Two adjacent States
									Level 3 – more than two States
Events details									
Due to: (select from risk register what to apply)				Date:				Start Time:	
Example: ATCO shortage (or strike) ATM System failure VAC Natural Disaster Power supply/infrastructure failure				GNSS interference/spoofing Cyber attack Weather Airport unavailability Other (e.g. SWX space weather, Pandemic, fuel shortage)				Status	
								COM	
								SUR	
								NAV	
								Aerodrome	
Conditions: (depending on the percentage of impacted ATS operations, a description of “What has to be done to solve the issue by whom and when ” has to be defined)								Description	
Explain the cause:									
Actions								Status	
Adjacent ACCs				Contact					
ACC A									
ACC B									
ACC C									
IATA									
ICAO									
ATS OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES									

<i>Issuing NOTAM</i>		
<i>Rerouting scheme</i>		
<i>Separation standards LAT LONG</i>		
<i>Separation standards Vertical</i>		
<i>ATFM Flow Control</i>		
<i>Capacity Restrictions/Limitations</i>		
<i>Level Restrictions or FLAS</i>		
<i>Airspace Classification</i>		
<i>Transfer of Control</i>		
<i>Position Reporting TIBA</i>		
<i>Overflight Permissions</i>		
<i>Instructions for Overflying traffic</i>		
<i>Procedures for flights to/from airports inside [Name of States]</i>		
<i>Filing of flight plans</i>		
<i>Pilot operating procedures</i>		
<i>Prior Permission Required (PPR)</i>		
<i>Interception of civil aircraft</i>		
<i>Airport impacts</i>		

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