

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
Fifth Meeting of the AFI Volcanic Ash Steering Group (AFI VOLCEX/SG5)
(Virtual, 9 June 2026)
Agenda Item 1 - Adoption of the Agenda and Election of the Chairperson
WP-1.2 Election of the Chairperson
(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY
<p>The Paper presents the item related to the election of the Chairperson to conduct the business of the AFI VOLCEX Steering-Group</p> <p>Action by the meeting in paragraph 3</p>
<p>REFERENCE(S):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ToR of AFI VOLCEX SG • APIRG/25 Report • Doc 9766 Handbook on the IAVW
<p>Related ICAO Strategic Objective(s):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A – Every Flight is Safe and Secure</i> • <i>C – Aviation Delivers Seamless, Accessible and Reliable Mobility for All</i>

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Volcanic ash exercises should be conducted by ICAO on a regional basis to practice and develop inter-agency response to volcanic activity, in order to maintain safety, regularity and efficiency of aviation in the event of a volcanic eruption.
- 1.2. In accordance with the guidance provided in ICAO Doc 9766, a volcanic ash exercises steering group may be established by a PIRG to coordinate all aspects of the organization and conduct of the exercises. The steering group should have representatives from, as a minimum, the volcanic ash advisory centres (VAACs) concerned, air navigation service providers (ANSPs), airspace users and regulators.
- 1.3. The Twenty-fourth Meeting of APIRG held virtually from 1-8 November 2021, established through Decision 24/02, the AFI Volcanic Ash Exercise Steering Group (AFI VOLCEX/SG) to play the role of coordinating the volcanic ash exercise activities in the Region.
- 1.4. This paper is related to election of the Chairpersons to conduct the business of the AFI VOLCEX/SG

2. DISCUSSIONS

- 2.1. In accordance with the Terms of reference of the AFI VOLCEX Steering Group as approved by APIRG/25 through Decision 25/34, the VOLCEX SG is led by a chairperson elected at the beginning of the regular annual meeting of the Steering Group (SG). The Chairperson shall be elected from the representatives designated by member States of the SG. The same ToRs states that a Vice-Chairperson

may be elected from the said representatives if necessary. Furthermore, the term of the Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson shall be for a maximum period of two years.

2.2. In 2022, APIRG/25, through Decision 25/31, elected Kenya, through Mr. Fredrick Etemesi, to guide the work of the Regional VOLCEX Steering Group.

2.3. In light of the rotational nature of the chairmanship, the Chairperson should be elected from among the WACAF Volcano Observatory States. Accordingly, the Secretariat proposes Cameroon and Comoros as candidates for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively, to lead the activities of the Steering Group.

3. ACTIONS BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Take note of the information provided in this paper;
- b) Deliberate on paragraph 2.3 of this working paper.

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