



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Ninth Meeting of the AASPG Infrastructure and Information Management Sub-Group (IIM/SG9)

Dakar, Senegal, from 3 - 7 August 2026

Agenda Item 3: Achievements in Infrastructure and Information Management

3.6. Other Air Navigation initiatives

WP3.6D Outcomes of the Fifth Meeting of the AFI Volcanic Ash Exercise Steering Group

(Presented by Cameroon)

SUMMARY
This paper provides an update on the Fifth Meeting of the AFI Volcanic Ash Exercise Steering Group held virtually on 9 June 2026. Action by the meeting in paragraph 3
REFERENCE(S): ▪ AASPG/1 Report ▪ Doc 9766 Handbook on the IAVW ▪ ToR of AFI VOLCEX SG
Related ICAO Strategic Goal(s): <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 The Twenty-fourth Meeting of the AFI Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/24), held virtually from 1 to 8 November 2021, through the Decision 24/02, established the AFI Volcanic Ash exercise Steering Group (AFI VOLCEX/SG) to coordinate volcanic ash related events across the region.
- 1.2 The Steering Group successfully coordinated the first AFI volcanic ash exercise in the AFI region in November 2021 under the leadership of Cabo Verde, the second exercise in December 2023 under the lead of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the third volcanic ash exercise in February 2026 under the lead of Kenya.

- 1.3 The Fifth Meeting of the Steering Group (AFI VOLCEX/SG5) was held virtually on 9 June 2026 to deliberate on the outcomes of third exercise and provide guidance for the next volcanic event of the region.

2. DISCUSSION

- 2.1 Thirty-nine (39) participants from States of the AFI region and the Industry attended the meeting.
- 2.2 Key outcomes of the meeting included the election of Cameroon and Comoros as Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Steering Group.
- 2.3 The meeting also reviewed and endorsed the report of the third exercise as presented in WP3.6C, as well as the revised Terms of Reference, and the AFI VOLCEX Operating Instructions as provided in Appendices 1 and 2.
- 2.4 The Meeting commended the work done by Kenya and endorsed Cameroon's proposal to lead the fourth exercise in the AFI region in 2027.
- 2.5 The Meeting reviewed the Steering Group's future work programme, as set out in Appendix 3, and urged the Steering Group to coordinate closely with the Secretariat to implement the recommendations and lessons learned from the third exercise.

3. ACTIONS BY THE MEETING

- 3.1. The meeting is invited to:
 - a) Note the information in this paper.
 - b) deliberate on paragraphs 2.3 to 2.5 of this working paper

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