



International Civil Aviation Organization

**FOURTEENTH MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS/NAVIGATION/SURVEILLANCE
AND METEOROLOGY SUB-GROUP OF
APANPIRG (CNS/MET SG/14)**



Jakarta, Indonesia, 19 – 22 July 2010

Agenda Item 9: Regional Implementation of International Airways Volcano Watch (IAVW)

**NEW ZEALAND PARTICIPATION ON THE INTERNATIONAL
VOLCANIC ASH TASK FORCE**

(Presented by New Zealand)

SUMMARY

This paper sets out the main issues that New Zealand will be seeking progress on at the upcoming International Volcanic Ash Task Force meeting.

This paper relates to:

Strategic Objectives:

- A. Safety – Enhance global civil aviation safety
- D. Efficiency – Enhance the efficiency of aviation operations

Global Plan Initiatives:

- GPI-18 Aeronautical information
- GPI-19 Meteorological Systems

1 Introduction

1.1 In response to the unprecedented interruption to United Kingdom and European air traffic by the Icelandic Eyjafjalajokull volcanic event in April and May 2010, ICAO has formed a special Task Force to expedite a review and recommendations for enhancing ICAO volcanic ash related Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs)

1.2 The First meeting of the IVATF will be held at ICAO, Headquarters from 27 to 30 July 2010. The Secretary of the group is Dr. Olli M. Turpeinen, C/MET/AIM, assisted by Mr. Raúl Romero, Secretary of the IAVWOPSG.

2 Term of References

2.1 The International Volcanic Ash Task Force (IVATF) is a multi-disciplinary global group and a focal point and coordinating body of all work related to volcanic ash being carried out by ICAO at the global and regional levels. It will address issues related to air traffic management (ATM), airworthiness, aeronautical meteorology (MET) and atmospheric sciences and is tasked to identify work that needs to be undertaken, together with plans on how to progress them relying, to the extent possible,

on existing bodies, such as the International Airways Volcano Watch Operations Group (IAVWOPSG) and the EUR/NAT Volcanic Ash Task Force. It is not a panel, nor is it a study group; therefore, the IVATF is not expected to develop ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) or guidance material; any need for amendments to ICAO provisions, which are identified will be forwarded to the appropriate ICAO body for further action.

2.2 Between the meetings, the work will be progressed by the sub-groups with the following areas of expertise (the name of the group in brackets):

- i. ATM (ATM sub-group);
- ii. airworthiness (AIR sub-group);
- iii. science (S sub-group); and
- iv. international airways volcano watch (IAVW coordination group).

3 The Composition of the IVATF

3.1 The IVATF comprises all of the VAAC provider States (including New Zealand), geoscience communities, and the full spectrum of aviation industry representative groups, as well as the European Commission.

4 Agenda of the First IVATF Meeting

4.1 The meeting agenda currently comprises 5 main items, four of which relate directly to the proposed work of the sub-groups:

- i. Results of the EUR/NAT VATF Meetings
- ii. Review of operational response to volcanic ash aircraft encounter and notification and warning for VA (ATM sub-group)
- iii. Development of ash concentration thresholds (AIR sub-group)
- iv. Improvement of ash detection/avoidance systems (Science sub-group)
- v. Improvement and harmonization of dispersion models and their visual presentation (IAVW Coordination Group).

5 New Zealand Objectives

5.1 The New Zealand delegation to the IVATF will be seeking progress on the following key issues through the work of the plenary and sub-groups:

- i. The development of clear volcanic ash tolerance standards for aircraft engines and airframes in terms of density/volume, time, ash composition, and power settings.
- ii. The design and deployment of better satellite sensors that will give global information on ash plume density, and ground based systems to validate such measurements.

- iii. The addition of volcanic ash sensors on aircraft that would provide information to pilots to make tactical manoeuvring decisions.
- iv. The enhancement of volcano observation and monitoring programmes.
- v. The development of better information dissemination and communications protocols between all parties.
- vi. The development of global standard ATM procedures and systems for VA episodes.
- vii. The development of global standard airline operations procedures for VA episodes.

6 IVATF Website

For reference, the ICAO IVATF web site is located at:

<http://www2.icao.int/en/anb/met-aim/met/ivatf/default.aspx?PageView=Shared>

7 Action required by the Meeting

- 7.1 The meeting is invited to note the information presented in this paper.
