



ICAO

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the AFI Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/25)

8 to 9 November 2022

Agenda Item 3: Implementation of air navigation goals, targets and indicators, including the priorities set in the regional air navigation plan

3.6 Other Air Navigation Initiatives

Outcomes of the First Meeting of the Steering Group of the AFI Volcanic Ash Exercise (AFI VOLCEX/SG1)

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY	
<p>This working paper presents the outcomes of the first meeting of the AFI Volcanic Ash Exercise Steering Group, held virtually in July 2022.</p> <p>Action by the Meeting is provided in paragraph 3</p>	
<p>REFERENCES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ APIRG/23 Report ▪ APIRG/24 Report ▪ Terms of References of the AFI Volcanic Ash Exercise Steering Group (AFI VOLCEX/SG) ▪ AFI VOLCEX 21/01 Report ▪ ICAO Doc 9766 Handbook on the IAVW 	
<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	<i>A – Safety; B – Capacity and Efficiency</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 support of safety in the event of a volcanic eruption.
- 1.2. In accordance with the guidance provided in ICAO Doc 9766, a volcanic ash exercise steering group may be established by a Planning and Implementation Regional Group (PIRG) to coordinate all related aspects of the organization and conduction of the exercises in the geographical location of the PIRG.
- 1.3. This working paper presents the draft decisions of the first meeting of the AFI Volcanic Ash Exercise Steering Group established by APIRG/24.

2 DISCUSSION

- 2.1 The APIRG/23 Conclusion 23/28 called for ICAO assistance in planning and conducting a coordinated regional Volcanic Ash exercise by 31 December 2021.
- 2.2 The Decision 24/02 of the Twenty-fourth APIRG meeting established the AFI Volcanic Ash Exercise Steering Group (AFI VOLCEX/SG) to coordinate all aspects related to the planning and conducting of the volcanic ash exercise.
- 2.3 The AFI VOLCEX/SG coordinated and supervised the conduct of the First Volcanic Ash Exercise led by Cape Verde in November 2021. In accordance with the provisions of the ToR of the AFI VOLCEX/SG, the Group held its first meeting in July 2022 to review the report of the AFI VOLCEX 21/01 and consider the lessons learnt from this first exercise
- 2.4 The first meeting of the AFI VOLCEX/SG was held virtually on 5 July 2022. Twenty-four (24) participants, representing five (5) Volcano Observatory States, two (2) Airlines, ESAF and WACAF Offices attended the meeting. The meeting discussed six (6) agenda. The outcomes are in attached as an Appendix to this paper.

3 ACTION BY THE MEETING

- 3.1. The meeting is invited to:
 - a) Take note of the information presented in this working paper; and
 - b) Endorse the decisions presented in the Appendix to guide the activities of the AFI Volcanic Ash exercise Steering Group.