



**Agenda Item 1: Review of Project H2 – Implementation of the International Airways
Volcano Watch (IAVW)**

Analysis of IAVW Implementation in the SAM Region

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY	
This working paper contains the status of IAVW Implementation in the SAM Region.	
References:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annex 3 – <i>Meteorological Service for International Civil Aviation</i>• Doc 9691 – <i>Manual on Volcanic Ash Radioactive Material and Toxic Chemical Clouds</i>• Doc 9766 – <i>Handbook on International Airways Volcano Watch (IAVW)</i>• Reports of GREPECAS AERMET Subgroup Meetings• Report of the Meeting on Volcanic Ash Contingency Plans for the SAM Region• Report of the SAM COM/MET 2015 Meeting• Report of the OPMET/2014 Meeting• Report of the SIP of VONA (Volcano Observatory Notice for Aviation) format	
ICAO strategic objectives:	<i>A - Safety</i> <i>B – Air navigation capacity and efficiency</i> <i>E – Environmental protection</i>

1. Introduction

1.1 ICAO Annex 3 includes in Chapter 3, as part of the States' Meteorological Offices, the States' Volcanic Ash Advisory Centres and Vulcano Observatories.

1.2 Annex 3, in Chapter 7 and Appendix 5, indicates that Meteorological Watch Offices should prepare and disseminate SIGMET for volcanic ash and radioactive material, besides other phenomena.

1.3 GREPECAS AERMET Subgroup included in its agenda, until its disbanding, IAVW implementation with its different related tasks.

1.4 GREPECAS/16 turned the AERMET Subgroup agenda into MET Programme Projects.

1.5 The Secretariat, in 2014, developed a Special Implementation Project (SIP), related to the utilization of the VONA, in which five States with Volcano Observatories were included, but VONA utilization has not been implemented in their communications with the aeronautical community.

2. Discussion

2.1 The implementation of Project H2 – Implementation of the International Airways Volcano Watch (IAVW) provided continuity to SIGMET exercises on volcanic ash, which have been carried out since 2009.

2.2 In addition, the development of the Guide for the preparation and dissemination of SIGMET messages for the CAR/SAM Regions was completed.

2.3 Also, the Secretariat, when noting that every Volcano Observatory of SAM States operates under the States' institutions, different to the meteorological authority or the civil aviation authority, prepared a Special Implementation Project (SIP) related to VONA implementation in these observatories.

2.4 For this task, the following States were visited:

- Argentina
- Ecuador
- Colombia
- Guyana
- Panama

2.5 The purpose of the Project was to promote the letters of cooperation agreement among MET, AIM and ATM units, and the volcano observatories for volcanic eruptions or presence of volcanic ash clouds occurrences in the FIRs under the watch responsibility.

2.6 In June 2015, the Secretariat prepared the final version of the Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan for the SAM Region. The ATM (Air Traffic Management), MET and AIM (Aeronautical Information Management) experts were involved in this task in order that the referred plan includes all the information related to all the areas affected by a volcanic eruption. Work was also developed on the adjustment of this Plan to the template recommended by the IVATF (International Volcanic Ash Task Force), group created by ICAO after the incidents related to the Eyjafjallajökull volcano.

2.7 The task of the Contingency Plan for Radioactive Material became a responsibility of the ATM area. Nevertheless, the OPMET/2014 and COM/MET/2015 meetings reviewed the documentation related to SIGMET on radioactive material and formulated recommendations regarding the revision of the AFTN addresses template of the Area Control Centres, available in the website <http://www.icao.int/safety/meteorology/iavwopsg/Quick%20Launch%20Menu%20Documents/Nuclear%208-letter-code%20database.pdf>, in addition to the revision of the ATS/MET cooperation agreements to include procedures related to the presence of radioactive material in the FIRs under their watch responsibility.

3. Suggested action

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) take note of the information provided in this working paper; and
- b) agree on the actions considered necessary.