



Agenda Item 2: Review of Project H3 – Implementation of the MET Information Quality Management System (QMS/MET)

Analysis of QMS/MET Implementation in the SAM Region

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY	
This working paper presents the current status of QMS/MET Implementation in the SAM Region.	
References:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annex 3 – <i>Meteorological Service for International Civil Aviation</i>• Guide for the Implementation of the Quality Management System in the CAR/SAM Regions• STANDARD ISO 9001	
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, Chapter 2, paragraph 2.2.2 specifies that “Each Contracting State should ensure that the designated meteorological authority referred to in 2.1.4 establishes and implements a properly organized quality system comprising procedures, processes and resources necessary to provide for the quality management of the meteorological information to be supplied to the users listed in 2.1.2.”

1.2 In paragraph 2.2.3, Annex 3 recommends that the quality system established, in accordance with paragraph 2.2.2, should conform to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9000 series of quality assurance standards and should be certified by an approved organization.

1.3 The Standard specified in 2.2.2 should have been implemented in the States since 12 November 2012.

1.4 In order to assist States, within Project H3 – QMS/MET Implementation, a QMS/MET implementation guide for the CAR/SAM Regions was prepared, which was accessible to States for their utilization.

1.5 Standard ISO 9001 is the model recommended by ICAO Annex 3 and has changes, which have been published on 15 September 2015.

2. Analysis

2.1 The QMS/MET Guide has been available to States since 2011 with the purpose of providing assistance in the implementation of the STANDARD before the date established by ICAO Annex 3.

2.2 The implementation process of this STANDARD has not been adjusted to the expectations of the Secretariat. The overview related to QMS/MET Implementation, currently shows that seven States have implemented and certified their QMS/MET, while the other seven States have made great progress in the implementation processes.

2.3 The Secretariat is aware of the effort developed by the States for QMS/MET implementation, which is reflected in the information provided above. However, when reviewing QMS/MET certifications, it can be inferred that not all the offices providing aeronautical meteorological services of the airports, included in the ANP CAR/SAM AOP Table, have implemented the QMS/MET.

2.4 Even though, during the last year a new impulse has been given to the implementation of the STANDARD with great progress in Bolivia, Ecuador, Panama and Uruguay, the completion of the process, as well as the certification, has not yet been achieved in these States.

2.5 The Meeting should be aware of the efforts carried out by the Secretariat to achieve the QMS/MET implementation. The activities developed in support of the States could be described in Seminars, technical assistance missions, missions for gap analysis and courses on leader auditors of Standard ISO 9001.

2.6 The Meeting should also consider the support received in the Region from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) through the organization of seminars, and the participation of the WMO Officer, as lecturer, in the seminars organized by ICAO.

2.7 However, as shown in Table 1, the results do not reflect the efforts carried out by the Secretariat.

Table 1: Current status of QMS/MET Implementation in the SAM Region

QMS/MET Implementation – SAM Region			
STATE	Implemented	Certified	In process of certification
Argentina	✓	✓	
Bolivia	In process of implementation		20%
Brazil	✓	✓	
Chile	✓	✓	
Colombia	✓		Not initiated
Ecuador	In process of implementation		Not initiated
Guyana	✓		Not initiated
Guyana Francesa	✓	✓	
Panama	In process of implementation		30%
Paraguay	✓	✓	
Peru	✓	✓	
Suriname	✓	✓	
Uruguay	In process of implementation		30%
Venezuela	✓		Not initiated

2.8 The activity for 2015 included technical assistance for the development of a Gap Analysis by MET Auditors to the following States:

- Bolivia
- Ecuador
- Panama
- Uruguay

2.9 In addition, the Secretariat has organized two teleconferences to follow up this process, besides the task related to MET Personnel Competencies Assessment, which should be concluded before December 2016.

2.10 In the last teleconference carried out 11 November 2015, the following was informed by States:

- **Bolivia:** The Internal Audit was carried out and the resolution of “non-conformities” is in process. The budget for the hiring a certification company has been assigned and the process is expected to be concluded in December 2015.

- **Ecuador:** Work is being developed with the State Secretariat of Ecuador, in charge of the Certification of State's Management Systems, in order to achieve the Implementation in the Civil Aviation Authority and the Certification of AIM and MET Processes. The process is planned to be completed for the first semester of 2016.
- **Panama:** Work is being developed with a consulting company to complete the implementation process, and progress is currently 70%. According to the expectations, they expect to achieve the certification for December 2015.
- **Uruguay:** QMS/MET implementation process is currently 80%. An External Audit has been carried out and certification process will start in February 2016.
- **Colombia:** All QMS/MET documentation is prepared for the AIS/COM/MET Group of the Civil Aviation Authority (*Unidad Administrativa Especial de Aeronáutica Civil -UAEAC*) of Colombia. However, there is no information about the QMS/MET implementation status by the aeronautical meteorological service provider in Colombia, which is the *Instituto de Hidrología, Meteorología y Estudios Ambientales (IDEAM)*, or about the certification plans.
- **Venezuela:** Regarding QMS/MET all the documentation is prepared and in some offices implemented. There is no information about the certification plans.
- **Guyana:** The QMS/MET documentation has progressed 90%. An external audit has been carried out, but "non-conformities" were not reviewed regarding their resolution.

3. Discussion

3.1 The Meeting should analyze all the information provided in this working paper in order to consider planning the completion of QMS/MET implementation processes.

3.2 States that have completed QMS/MET implementation and certification processes of aeronautical meteorological services provided in the main airports, shall consider planning an extension of this implementation to all the airports presented in the ANP CAR/SAM AOP Table.

3.3 States that have not completed the QMS/MET implementation process are urged to make all the efforts for the completion of this task.

4. Suggested action

4.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) take note of the information provided in this working paper;
- b) review and analyze the Table 1 and updated it if necessary;
- c) agree on the actions considered necessary.