



**Agenda Item 8: Other business**

**Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan and volcanic ash SIGMET exercises**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

<b>SUMMARY</b>	
This working paper presents a Draft of aeronautical data catalogue.	
<b>REFERENCES</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annex 15 – Aeronautical Information Services</li> <li>• Report of PPRC/4 Meeting</li> <li>• Report of SAM/AIM/8 Meeting</li> </ul>	
<b>ICAO strategic objectives:</b>	<i>A - Safety</i> <i>B – Air navigation capacity and efficiency</i> <i>E – Environmental protection</i>

**1. Introduction**

1.1 The SAM/AIM/8 Meeting was informed that, from 22 to 26 June 2015, the MET/ATM/AIM Meeting was held at ICAO Lima Regional Office, to review the **Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan for the South American Region (VACP/SAM)**.

1.2 On 11 and 12 December 2015, the SIGMET exercise on volcanic ash took place, in which AIM units should participate with the preparation of NOTAM messages on volcanic ash (ASHTAM).

1.3 During the SAM/AIM/8 Meeting, recommendations on the implementation of the Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan were given to States, specifically regarding the measures to be taken by AIS/AIM units.

**2. Analysis**

2.1 During the SAM/AIM/8 Meeting, the Secretariat informed that the Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan for the South American Region was prepared to comply with Recommendation 3/9 of IVATF (International Volcanic Ash Task Force), special task force created by ICAO, in 2010, after the events related with volcano Eyjafjallajökull.

2.2 In order to comply with this recommendation, the SAM/AIM/8 was informed that the SAM Regional Office organized the ATM/AIM/MET Meeting, where the Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan for the South American Region was aligned for the South American Region, with the Template recommended by IVATF. The delegates of the States prepared the Regional Volcanic Ash Contingency

Plan, which can be accessed in the Spanish version at ICAO SAM Regional Office website: [http://www.icao.int/SAM/Documents/2015-ATMMETAIMVA/ATMMETAIM\\_VA\\_Cuestion1%20APNaPlan\\_VACP\\_SAM\\_2015.pdf](http://www.icao.int/SAM/Documents/2015-ATMMETAIMVA/ATMMETAIM_VA_Cuestion1%20APNaPlan_VACP_SAM_2015.pdf).

2.3 The Meeting was informed that the Secretariat circulated to States the Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan for their approval and, also, to complete the template with the points of contact of the different areas involved, besides the Volcano Observatories in their States.

2.4 The Meeting shall recall that this document contains measures that should be taken by the different areas involved in air navigation, and recommended that the AIS/AIM units should get involved in all the phases of the plan, and should consider the coordination level that should exist between the ATS/MET/Volcano Centres, since the **NOTAMs** and **ASHTAMs** to be issued depend of the information provided by these areas.

2.5 The SAM/AIM/8 Meeting also recommended that AIS/AIM units should have a volcano catalogues, the corresponding locations and numbers, as well as the ASHTAM Template for its immediate use, when necessary. In the website: <http://www.volcano.si.edu>, all the data related to volcanoes can be obtained, which would be important to present during this Meeting.

2.6 On the other hand, during the SIGMET exercises, carried out on 11 and 12 December, in which active participation from the AIS/AIM units, through the NOF, is necessary for the preparation and circulation of ASHTAM messages, it was observed a very low participation of the AIM units, which results in a low density of ASHTAM messages availability.

2.7 The NOF should carry out coordination meetings with the MET/CNS/ATS units previous to the exercises in order to be able to participate in these exercises.

### 3. **Suggested action**

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) take note of the information provided in this working paper;
- b) present the volcano catalogue of their States, their corresponding locations and numbers, as well as the ASHTAM Template for its immediate use, if necessary; and
- c) take any other action that may deem appropriate.