



Agenda Item 2: Review of Project H2 - Implementation of the international airways volcano watch (IAVW)

Updating of Annex 3 to report two or more ash clouds in SIGMET messages

(Presented by Ecuador)

SUMMARY	
<p>This paper sets forth the need to amend Annex 3 with regard to the condition for coding two or more volcanic ash clouds in the WV SIGMET and thus extend the code limit for reporting ash clouds and improve the consistency, continuity and quality of SIGMET contents.</p>	
<p>References:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annex 3 - Meteorological service for international air navigation	
<p>ICAO strategic objectives:</p>	<p><i>A – Safety</i> <i>B - Air navigation capacity and efficiency</i> <i>C – Environmental protection and sustainable development of air transport</i></p>

1 Introduction

1.1 In ICAO Annex 3, Appendix 6, Table A6-1A, Template for SIGMET AND AIRMET messages, Note No. 28 states "To be used for two volcanic ash clouds or two centres of tropical cyclones simultaneously affecting the FIR concerned", with respect to the connector "AND" indicated in the template concerning the repetition of elements.

2 Discussion

2.1 The Guayaquil meteorological watch office (MWO) has on some occasions observed more than 2 simultaneous ash clouds in the same explosion.

2.2 The examples cited are:

Washington VAAC advisory # 247/2021 for SANGAY volcano – 6 March 2021

OBS VA CLD: SFC/FL200 S0141 W07737 - S0204 W07734 - S0217 W07736 -
S0207 W07820 - S0156 W07819 - S0141 W07737 MOV E 10KT
SFC/FL240 S0155 W07820 - S0204 W07819 - S0218 W07840 - S0207 W07849 -
S0155 W07820 MOV SW 10KT
SFC/FL350 S0123 W07902 - S0156 W07833 - S0217 W07829 - S0247 W07923 -
S0225 W07941 - S0138 W07942 - S0123 W07902 MOV W 10KT

3 **Conclusion**

Draft Conclusion SAM/RCM/XX		UPDATE OF ANNEX 3 TO REPORT 2 OR MORE VOLCANIC ASH CLOUDS IN SIGMET MESSAGES	
That: In order to align the text of ICAO Annex 3 with the reality of having more than two ash clouds, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The ICAO-Lima Secretariat arrange with GREPECAS to update Annex 3 Appendix 6, Table A6-1A, Template for SIGMET AND AIRMET messages, at the bottom (NOTES), No. 28 to read as follows: <i>"To be used for two or more volcanic ash clouds or two centres of tropical cyclones simultaneously affecting the FIR concerned"</i>. 		Expected impact: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Political / Global <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inter-regional <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technical/Operational 	
Why: There have been cases of 3 ash clouds occurring in the same event. The current text of note # 28 in table A6-1A, Annex 3 explicitly states that the term (connector) AND is to be used when (only) two ash clouds are present.			
When: In Amendment 80 to Annex 3.		Status: Currently Annex 3 only mentions the use of AND for the issuance of SIGMETs when two ash clouds are present.	
Who: <input type="checkbox"/> States <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICAO <input type="checkbox"/> Other:			

4 **Suggested action**

3.1 | The Meeting is invited to:

- a) take note of the information provided in this working paper;
- b) take any actions it may deem appropriate, especially regarding item 2.3.
