



Agenda Item 2: Review of Project H2 - Implementation of the *International Airways Volcano Watch (IAVW)*

Coordination procedure between adjacent meteorological watch offices (MWOs)

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY	
This working paper presents the follow-up to the recommendations for the establishment of coordination procedures between meteorological watch offices of adjacent FIRs.	
References:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annex 3 – <i>Meteorological service for international air navigation</i>• COM/MET/2019 Meeting report	
ICAO strategic objectives:	<i>A - Safety</i> <i>B - Air navigation capacity and efficiency</i> <i>E - Environmental protection</i>

1. Introduction

1.1 Amendment 79 to ICAO Annex 3 introduced recommendations related to coordination between MWOs of adjacent FIRs in case of phenomena concurrently affecting more than one FIR.

1.2 The COM/MET/2019 meeting discussed coordination procedures for monitoring severe events concurrently affecting more than one FIR.

2. Discussion

2.1 Amendment 79 to ICAO Annex 3 introduced Recommendation 3.4.4, which reads as follows:

“Recommendation.— An MWO should coordinate SIGMET with neighbouring MWOs, especially when en-route weather phenomenon extends or is expected to extend beyond the MWO’s specified area of responsibility, in order to ensure harmonized SIGMET provision»

2.2 The COM/MET/2019 meeting had discussed this issue before this recommendation was issued.

2.3 The COM/MET/2019 meeting recognised the difficulty of coordination between States, but considered it necessary to establish coordination procedures using available technology (chat, teleconferencing, etc.), so that the meteorological watch offices involved may issue consistent reports that

accurately reflect the occurrence of the phenomena, issuing homogeneous reports and allowing continuity in the description of the phenomena.

2.4 The COM/MET/2019 meeting understood that the occurrence of phenomena should be examined, characterised and sub-regional groups defined according to the climatology of the events. From this it follows that, initially, communication exercises should be worked on among the following FIRs:

Ezeiza, Montevideo and Curitiba
Resistencia, Asunción, La Paz, Curitiba and Brasilia
Mendoza and Córdoba
Lima and Guayaquil
Lima, Amazonía and Brasilia
El Dorado and Lima
Lima and La Paz
El Dorado, Maiquetía and Panama
Maiquetía, Georgetown and Paramaribo
Puerto Montt and Comodoro Rivadavia

2.5 States could report to the Secretariat on action taken by the MWOs to establish coordination procedures for monitoring severe events concurrently affecting two or more FIRs.

3. **Suggested action**

3.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) take note of the information provided in this working paper;
- b) provide information on operational coordination agreements between MWOs of adjacent FIRs; and
- c) take any other actions it may deem appropriate.
