



Agenda Item 5: NOTAM Contingency Plans, AIS Contingency Plan for Volcanic Ash, and ICARD System

VOLCANIC ASH EXERCISE (VOLCEX)

(Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY	
This study note presents the follow-up to the implementation of the Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan for the AIS service provider.	
References	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report of SAM/AIM/16• Report of the virtual meeting for the planning of the VOLCEX Workshop.	
Strategic objectives from ICAO:	<i>A – Operational Safety</i> <i>B – Capacity and efficiency</i>

1. **Introduction**

1.1 The ICAO SAM Region is affected by potentially active volcanoes.

1.2 The Secretariat is constantly promoting the preparation of a Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan for AIS service providers.

1.3 The Secretariat promotes the implementation of exercises for volcanic ash (VOLCEX) in which ATM service providers (ATS, AIS, MET) and industry should be involved for this year.

1.4 The Secretariat has planned to hold a Workshop on Volcano Monitoring on International Airways and Preparation for VOLCEX in June of this year.

1.5 The SAM/AIM Meetings follow up on the implementation of the Contingency Plans for Volcanic Ash in AIS service providers.

2. **Discussion**

2.1 During SAM/AIM/16, the implementation of the Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan was monitored. In this regard, it was recalled that the NOF should have procedures for the issuance of ASHTAMs in cases of volcanic eruption and the presence of volcanic ash clouds in their FIRs.

2.2 The Meeting mentioned that the Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan for the SAM Region (VACP/SAM) includes specific tasks for NOF Offices such as the issuance of ASHTAM and coordination with ATS services to check airways affected by volcanic ash clouds, as well as the declaration of hazardous or restricted areas.

2.3 Also, during SAM/AIM/16, it was recalled that the ATS/AIS/MET Meeting recommended the holding of a VOLCEX exercise for 2024, which would involve the ATS/AIS/MET services, the VAAC, the national volcanological observatories and industry, an exercise that would require fine coordination between all those involved.

2.4 In relation to VOLCEX, the virtual meeting for the planning of the face-to-face Meeting, held on September 15, 2023, through the zoom platform, established that a previous face-to-face meeting will be held, for the planning of the volcanic ash exercise (VOLCEX), in the first half of 2024.

2.5 The Secretariat considered it important to organize a Workshop on Volcano Monitoring on International Airways, prior to the VOLCEX planning meeting, which would include the dissemination of the procedures of the Volcanic Ash Advisory Centres (VAAC), the State Volcanological Observatories and the Meteorological Watch Offices (MWO) relating to the monitoring of volcanoes. Volcanic activity reports for aviation and volcanic ash cloud tracking.

2.6 The Secretariat convened both Workshops, through the reference letter Ref.: LN3/24.1 – , distributed to the States on March 12, 2024, and will take place between June 17 and 20 of this year. More information about the Workshop can be obtained at the following link: icao.int/SAM/Pages/MeetingsDocumentation.aspx?m=2024-RLA06901-VOLCEX&t=1

2.7 The Secretariat will circulate the protocol for the exercise by the end of May so that the States can prepare the actions they will carry out during the exercise. It is recommended that national workshops be held among all the parties involved prior to VOLCEX to coordinate the activity.

2.8 States reported on their Volcanic Ash Contingency Plans, details of which can be found in **Appendix A** to this NE.

3. **Action Required**

3.1. The Meeting is invited to:

- a) take note of the information presented in the WP;
- b) provide information to update the table in Appendix A;
- c) consider the development of national workshops, prior to VOLCEX, as indicated in 2.6; and
- d) consider other actions.

APÉNDICE A / APPENDIX A

Plan de Contingencias AIS/AIM por Cenizas Volcánicas / Contingency Plan for Volcanic Ash

Número / Number	Estado / State	¿Cuenta su Estado con un Plan de Contingencia? / Does your State have a Contingency Plan?	Servicios y organizaciones involucrados en su Plan de Contingencia / Services and organizations involved in the Contingency Plan
1	Argentina	Está prevista en su Regulación y el ANSP lo incluirá en su MADE del NOF en desarrollo (sujeto al acuerdo que está en revisión). También esta en revisión los acuerdos con el SEGEMAR Para el AGA, Apéndice 2 de la RAAC 153. Establece procedimientos y responsabilidades para cada área y la activación del COE / It is foreseen in their regulation and the ANSP will include it in its NOF MADE being developed (subject to the agreement that is under review). Agreements with SEGEMAR are also under review. For AGA, Appendix 2 to RAAC 153 establishes procedures and responsibilities for each area and the activation of the Emergency Management Committee.	ANAC, EANA, SMN, SEGMEAR, AGA
2	Brazil	Tiene un Plan CIRCEA 63-2 / A plan CIRCEA 63-2 is in place.	
3	Bolivia	Están en transición de los documentos y lo prepararan para la gestión del 2023.	

		<p>Bolivia cuenta con la Regulación en relación al tema. / They are in the process of drafting the documents to have them ready for 2023.</p> <p>Bolivia has regulations on the subject.</p>	
4	Chile	<p>Cuenta con una Carta con SERNAGEOMIN.</p> <p>Están trabajando en un Procedimiento de Contingencia con ATS/MET/AIS. / Currently, they have a letter signed with SERNAGEOMIN.</p> <p>They are working on a contingency procedure with ATS/MET/AIS.</p>	
5	Colombia	<p>Están organizando unas mesas de trabajo para firmar cartas de acuerdos ATS/AIS/MET (Aerocivil e IDEAM) e Ingeominas para revisar, actualizar y mejorar este Plan. Para el primer semestre del 2023.</p> <p>El Plan de Contingencia está ingresado en el Sistema de Gestión de Calidad. /</p> <p>They are organising working groups to sign letters of agreement with ATS/AIS/MET (Aerocivil and IDEAM) and Ingeominas to review, update and improve this plan. For the first half of 2023.</p> <p>The contingency plan is included in the Quality Management System.</p>	ATS, AIS, MET, Meteorological centre
6	Guyana		
7	Ecuador		
8	French Guiana		

9	Panama	Cuenta con su Plan de Contingencia Nacional pero están en proceso de armonizarlo al Plan Regional. No hay fecha porque lo está trabajando el servicio MET. / They have a national contingency plan, which is being harmonised with the Regional Plan. There is no date defined because the MET service is working on it.	
10	Paraguay	No tienen un Plan de Contingencia por VA. Esperan desarrollarlo para el primer semestre del 2023. / They do not have a VA contingency plan. They expect to have it by the first half of 2023.	
11	Peru	No publican ASHTAM. Verificar publicación de diferencias. / They do not publish ASHTAMs. Check publication of differences.	
12	Suriname		
13	Uruguay	Cuentan con un Plan de Contingencia por Cénizas Volcánicas para el AIS. / Volcanic ash contingency plan for AIS in place.	
14	Venezuela	Estan en proceso de revision del Plan de Contingencia con SERMETAVIA para implementar en el 2023. / They are in the process of reviewing the contingency plan with SERMETAVIA for implementation in 2023.	