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UNITING AVIATION

eANP in the MET area: Conduct of Volcanic Ash Exercises in the AFI Region (WP05)

Third Meeting of the APIRG IIM/SG, 12-14 October 2020

Agenda Item 5.1- Air Navigation Planning: eANP in the AIM, CNS and MET Areas

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INTRODUCTION

- The electronic ANP (eANP) Part V Volume I of the ICAO Africa-Indian Ocean (AFI) Region:
 - contains aeronautical meteorology (MET) provisions
 - required for the effective planning and implementation of MET facilities and services in the AFI Region.
- The MET facilities and services include, inter-alia,
 - elements pertaining to the World Area Forecast System (WAFS), Meteorological Offices, the AFI Volcanic Ash Advisory Centres (VAACs) and the Tropical Cyclone Advisory Centre (TCAC)
 - recall that the AFI VAAC and TCAC are hosted by France and La Reunion respectively.
 - Furthermore, the State volcano observatories are published in Table MET I-1 of the AFI eANP Volume I.



DISCUSSION

- **APIRG/21 shared the outcomes of the Regional Awareness Seminar on the AFI Air Traffic Management (ATM) Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan (VACP):**
 - held from 4 to 7 September 2017.
 - seminar's objective was to provide assistance in relation to volcanic ash pursuant to **APIRG Conclusion 18/53**.
 - The meeting agreed that it was important to conduct regular volcanic ash exercises in the **AFI Region** in order to:
 - practice and develop inter-agency response to volcanic activity; and
 - to maintain safety, regularity and efficiency of aviation in the event of a volcanic eruption.
 - In addition, **APIRG Conclusion 21/35**
 - urged States to develop and conduct **Volcanic Ash exercises**
 - using the guidance contained in Appendix F of ICAO Doc 9766 (Handbook on the International Airways Volcano Watch (IAVW)).



DISCUSSION

- **AFI States with potentially active or active volcanoes**
 - **Table MET I-1 of the AFI eANP Vol I and their primary role:**
 - to monitor the active or potentially active volcanoes;
 - send volcanic ash related information to their associated Flight Information Centre (FIC), MWOs and VAAC in accordance with the AFI Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan
 - *(Appendix H of the AFI Regional ATM Contingency Plan).*
- **Plan sets out standardised guidelines and procedures:**
 - for the provision of information to airlines and en-route aircraft before and during a volcanic eruption.
- **Mitigating the hazards posed by volcanic ash in the atmosphere and/or at the aerodrome**
 - resolved through collaborative decision-making (CDM) involving all stakeholders concerned.
- **It is important that the contact details of the selected States designated for notification of significant pre-eruption volcanic activity as indicated in Table MET I-1**
 - be kept up to date.



ACTION BY THE MEETING

- The meeting is invited to:
 - a) Take note of the information provided in WP05;
 - b) note the importance of having updated contact details for the State Volcano Observatories in Table MET I-1; and
 - c) note the importance of practicing and developing response plans to volcanic activity.



DRAFT CONCLUSION

Draft Conclusion/Decision 3/xx: Conduct of volcanic ash exercises in the AFI Region

That;

- a) In view of the need for the provision of information to airlines and en-route aircraft before and during a volcanic eruption, the State Volcano Observatories in Table MET I-1 provide their updated contact details to the Secretariat for sharing with the States; and
- b) States are urged to develop volcanic ash contingency plans and conduct Volcanic Ash exercises using the guidance in the AFI Volcanic Ash Contingency Plan as contained in Appendix H of the AFI Regional ATM Contingency Plan.



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(APAC) Office
Bangkok



THANK YOU