

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

**CAR/SAM REGIONAL AIR NAVIGATION PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION
GROUP (GREPECAS)**

**FOURTH MEETING OF THE AERONAUTICAL METEOROLOGY SUBGROUP
(AERMETSG/4)**

(Mexico City, Mexico, 22 to 26 May 2000)

Agenda Item 11: Future plan of activities of the AERMET Subgroup

(Presented by the Secretariat)

Summary

This working paper contains some considerations on the Work Programme and future activities of the AERMET Subgroup (AERMET/SG) .

References:

- Report of the AERMETSG/3 Meeting (Lima, Peru, 29 June-3 July 1998)
- Report of the GREPECAS/8 Meeting (Dominican Republic, 9-17 November 1998)

1. Introduction

1.1 Important decisions were taken at the GREPECAS/8 Meeting (November 1998) regarding the Work Programme of the AERMET Subgroup. It would be advisable for this Meeting to make an analysis thereof, so as to: a) review the Work Programme, especially the priorities and target dates; b) assess the work done by the Task Forces and decide on their future status; and c) establish the next AERMET Meeting schedule.

2. **Discussion**

Review of the Work Programme of the AERMETS/SG approved by GREPECAS/8 including priorities and completion dates of the tasks of the Subgroup.

2.1 The Subgroup will recall that on reviewing para. a) of Agenda Item 3: Identification, assessment and reporting of air navigation shortcomings, GREPECAS/7 Meeting agreed that the priorities for the analysis and solution of identified shortcomings could be more effectively achieved by drawing on the expertise from its subgroups. Consequently, that task was assigned to the AIS, ATS, COM and AERMETS subgroups. This new task was included in the AERMETS Subgroup Work Programme approved by GREPECAS/7 with priorities and target dates, as shown in **Appendix A** to this working paper. The Subgroup will also recall that GREPECAS/8 scheduled the fourth meeting of the AERMETS/SG for 1999, nevertheless, in view that ICAO Council accepted the kind offer of the Government of Argentina to host the CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting in Buenos Aires in October 1999 which indeed required that both Lima and Mexico Regional Offices activities concentrated on the preparation of material for the referred Meeting, it was deemed advisable that the AERMETS/SG/4 meeting be postponed for May 2000. It is convenient that the Meeting reviews and update the Work Programme, including priorities and target dates of the tasks assigned to the Subgroup.

2.2 The Subgroup may wish to note the ongoing implementation of the ICAO concept for the communications, navigation, and surveillance/air traffic management (CNS/ATM) systems and its influence on the meteorological service for international air navigation (MET). Information on the MET chapters in both the ICAO Global and Regional air navigation Plan for CNS/ATM systems is shown in WP/08. In this regard, the Subgroup may wish to agree that the engagement of the AERMETS/SG in the CNS/ATM planning and implementation in the CAR/SAM Regions may be important and therefore should be included in the Work Programme of the Subgroup.

2.3 In light of the foregoing, it should be advisable that the Meeting examine the Work Programme of the AERMETS/SG including the priorities and target dates of the tasks of the Subgroup, in order to update them as necessary.

Task forces of the AERMET Subgroup

2.4 Task forces were created in the First Meeting of the AERMET/SG (May, 1996), to carry out specific tasks of the Work Programme of the Subgroup. It is important to emphasize that these Task Forces have been producing valuable material for the Subgroup discussions, and consequently, it would be desirable that the Meeting review the terms of reference and work programmes of the existing Task Forces, in order to determine which of them should continue operating, whether any new ones should be established or whether, on the contrary, having completed the terms of reference of any of them, they should, accordingly, be dissolved. Bearing in mind the changes that have occurred in the membership of the Subgroup, it is necessary to update, as needed, the composition of the Task Forces. **Appendixes B, C and D** present information on the existing Task Forces, its composition and activity.

Composition of the AERMET Subgroup

2.5 The composition of the AERMET Subgroup has changed since its First Meeting (May 1996) and for that reason, an updated list of the current members of the Subgroup is shown in **Appendix E**. It is desirable that each Member confirm the corresponding data.

Problems encountered by the AERMETS/4

2.6 The AERMETS/4 results could be qualified as satisfactory; nevertheless problems have been identified which, if surpassed, may improve the working of the Subgroup. The problems identified may be summarized as follows:

- a) delay in the appointment of new and substitute Members of the AERMETS/4 by States/international organizations;
- b) limited Members involvement in the AERMETS/4 work programme and assigned tasks between meetings;
- c) no documentation produced by States/International organizations or submitted beyond the specified deadline, thus affecting the preparation, translation and distribution of it; and
- d) delay in the distribution of documentation.

Date and place of the Fifth AERMET Subgroup meeting

2.7 The GREPECAS/8 meeting approved a Meeting Programme for 2000, which includes this AERMET/SG meeting. It should be noted that, in accordance with GREPECAS/8 (Decision 8/43 - Restructuring of GREPECAS), a consolidated proposal for the new GREPECAS structure will be presented to the GREPECAS/9 Meeting to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 7-12 August 2000.

2.8 Based on the foregoing, and on the Work Programme of the AERMETSG, a meeting should be convened prior to the GREPECAS/10 meeting. It is also desirable, for planning purposes, that Members consider the possibility of hosting future meetings of the AERMETSG, and that each meeting set an approximate date for the next meeting, as well as for its contributory bodies, as necessary.

3. Suggested action

3.1 The Subgroup is invited to:

- a) consider the information presented in this working paper and recommend the updating of the AERMET Subgroup Work Programme, including priorities and target dates for the completion of tasks;
- b) review the status and composition of the AERMET Subgroup Task Forces and take the concerning actions; and
- c) recommend a meeting schedule for the AERMETSG and its contributory bodies up to the year 2001.

Appendix A
AERONAUTICAL METEOROLOGY SUBGROUP (AERMETSG)

1. **Terms of reference**

- a) examine and identify the limitations and/or specific deficiencies hindering the provision of an adequate and timely aeronautical meteorological service in the CAR/SAM Regions;
- b) based on a) above, develop specific recommendations to expedite the observation system, forecasts and exchange of the operational meteorological (OPMET) and volcanic ash information, and propose the required actions to upgrade the quality of the MET service; and
- c) ensure that the operation and use of WAFS is in consonance with the Annex 3 and ANP CAR/SAM.

2. **Work Programme**

TASK	Priority	Completion
1) Monitor and evaluate the implementation of the WAFS in order to identify difficulties and propose measures to facilitate the optimum utilization of WAFS products	A	2000
2) Monitor and if necessary propose actions to train sufficient personnel in aeronautical meteorology in the operation aspect as well as in the installation, maintenance and repair of modern electronic meteorological equipment	A	2000
3) Assess the exchange of OPMET in order to identify difficulties and propose measures to improve its efficiency	A	2000
4) Monitor the functioning and coordination between the Buenos Aires and Washington Volcanic Ash Advisory Centres (VAACs) in order to identify difficulties and propose measures to expedite its operation.	A	2000
5) Develop a regional Volcanic Ash and Aircraft Operations Handbook for the CAR/SAM Regions based on the ICAO current recommendations	B	2000
6) Review the status of implementation of recommendations of the RAN CAR/SAM/2 meeting related to aeronautical meteorology	A	2000
7) Maintain a current list by State of the specific deficiencies that represent the main obstacles for the provision of an efficient aeronautical meteorological service	B	2000
8) Review the procedures in Part IV - Meteorology - of the CAR/SAM Regional Plan, with a view to standardizing the procedures used in other ICAO Regions	B	2000
9) Develop, in light of the human factors, criteria for selection and training and a professional career project, considering the impact of the applications of the new CNS/ATM on the tasks to be carried out, and submit the results to the Human Resources and Training Task Force of the CNS/ATM/IC/SG	A	2000
10) Based on the standard methodology contained in Appendixes 3A and 3B of GREPECAS/7 Report, to assign priorities to air navigation shortcomings and deficiencies identified in Appendix 3C of the aforementioned report.	A	2000

3. **Priority**

- A** Top priority requirement, to be implemented as soon as possible;
- B** Intermediate priority requirement, to be implemented as soon as possible, but without detriment to priority "A" requirements; and
- C** Lower priority requirement, to be implemented when resources permit it, but without detriment to priorities "A" and "B".

4. **Composition**

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, France, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela, IATA, IFALPA.

Appendix B
TASK FORCE ON THE PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE PROVISION
OF MET SERVICES

1. **Terms of Reference**

- a) _Review the existing area forecast GAMET information in the CAR/SAM Regions and explore possibilities of how this information could be provided to users in a standardized graphical format; and
- b) Identify human factors in the MET area, from the view of the application of the new CNS/ATM systems.

2. **Work Programme**

- a) Prepare a standard format for GAMET area forecasts to be used at national level by the CAR/SAM States to serve low-level flights;
- b) Taking into account the impact of the application of the new CNS/ATM systems, prepare the criteria for the selection and training of personnel;
- c) Present at the next Meeting of the AERMETSG the related to a) and b) above; and
- d) Present an evaluation of the problems affecting the low-level flights in the CAR/SAM Regions and proposals on actions to be taken.

3. **Composition**

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Brazil | - Luis Carlos Zanutto (Rapporteur) |
| Cuba | - Camilo Romero Puig |
| Panama | - Celestino Lamboglia |
| Paraguay | - Agustín Felipe Zárate Espinola |
| Peru | - Julio Pacheco Quezada |

Appendix C
WORLD AREA FORECAST SYSTEM (WAFS) TASK FORCE

1. Terms of Reference

- a) Monitor the transition of responsibilities from the RAFCs Brasilia and Buenos Aires to the Washington WAF; and
- b) Identify the difficulties in the utilization of the VSAT/STAR4 and the utilization of WAFS products in the CAR/SAM Regions.

2. Work Programme

- a) Analyze the evaluation performed by the Brasilia and Buenos Aires RAFCs and other States of the information included in the significant weather charts prepared by the Washington WAF;
- b) Prepare a form for a survey to be carried out in the CAR/SAM Regions on the difficulties in the use of the VSAT/STAR4;
- c) Based on item b) and in coordination with the Secretary of the Subgroup, carry out the corresponding surveys; and
- d) Present at the next AERMETS Meeting the results of the tasks indicated in a) and c) and prepare an Action Plan proposal.

3. Composition

Antigua	- Philbert C. Mason
Argentina	- Jose Manuel Afonso
Brazil	- Tetuo Kitamura
Costa Rica	- Guillermo Vega
Cuba	- Juan Ayon
Dominican Republic	- Andrés Miguel Campusano
France	- Philippe Livenais
Panama	- Celestino Lamboglia
Peru	- Daniel Gómez Pando
United States	- Steven Albersheim (Rapporteur)
IATA	- Peter Cerdá

Appendix D
VOLCANIC ASH TASK FORCE

1. Terms of Reference

- a) Monitor the operation and coordination of the efforts made by the volcanic ash advisory centres for aircrafts in the CAR/SAM;
- b) Develop a Regional Procedural Handbook on Volcanic Ash and Aircraft Operations for the CAR/SAM Regions; and
- a) Identify any operational problem or difficulty.

2. Work Programme

- a) Prepare a survey for the States of the CAR/SAM Regions reflecting the accomplishment of the involved areas with the operational procedures for the distribution of the information on volcanic eruptions and associated ash clouds;
- b) Based on a) above and in coordination with the Secretary of the Subgroup, to carry out the corresponding survey;
- c) Present at the next AERMETSG Meeting, the results of the survey carried out and the proposed actions; and
- d) Prepare and present at the next AERMETSG Meeting a Regional Handbook on Volcanic Ash and Aircraft operations for the CAR/SAM Regions.

3. Composition

Argentina	- Fernando Pequeño (Rapporteur)
Brazil	-
Chile	- Fernando Ramírez Valdés
Colombia	- Edgar Leiva
Cuba	- Juan Ayón
Peru	- Gloria Sánchez Infanta
United States	- Steven Albersheim
IATA	- Peter Cerda
IFALPA	- Ricardo Old

Appendix E
LIST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE AERMETSG OF GREPECAS
LISTA DE LOS MIEMBROS DEL SUBGRUPO MET (AERMETSG) DEL GREPECAS

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