

**WMO OMM**

World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale
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Всемирная метеорологическая организация
المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
世界气象组织

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3 October 2022

Annex: 1

Subject: First meeting of the Advisory Group on Volcanic Science for Applications (AG-VSA-1) of the Standing Committee on Services for Aviation, 7 to 9 February 2023, Rotorua, New Zealand

Action required: WMO Secretariat to be notified by **7 November 2022** whether your expert will attend the in-person meeting

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am pleased to inform you that the first meeting of the Advisory Group on Volcanic Science for Applications (AG-VSA-1) of the Services Commission (SERCOM) Standing Committee on Services for Aviation (SC-AVI) will be held as an in-person only meeting in Rotorua, New Zealand, from 7 to 9 February 2023 (venue to be announced).

The meeting is being convened, in part, conjointly with a working group of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Meteorology Panel (METP) addressing the operation and development of the international airways volcano watch (WG-MOG IAVW). In addition, the meeting immediately follows the convening in Rotorua of an International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior (IAVCEI) Scientific Assembly 2023 and a WMO Eighth International Workshop on Volcanic Ash (IWVA-8), as announced through letter 21143/2022/S/AVI/IWVA-8.

The main objectives of the meeting are: to review the outcomes of the IAVCEI Scientific Assembly and IWVA-8 that will result in an update to the AG-VSA Operating Plan (2022–2023); to initiate the development of an AG-VSA Operating Plan for the next financial period (2024–2027); and to conduct joint sessions with the referred ICAO working group on topics such as the quantitative volcanic ash information service, a sulfur dioxide information service, the use of infrasound in support of the IAVW, an eruption source parameter database and aircraft volcanic ash encounters database, modelling tables used by Volcanic Ash Advisory Centres (VAAC), forecast verification techniques, and VAAC forecaster and State volcano observatory personnel competencies.

The membership of AG-VSA (see [annex](#)) includes an expert from your country, who has been nominated with your approval to serve on the advisory group. I should, therefore, be grateful if you would kindly examine the possibility of his/her attendance.

In accordance with WMO [General Regulation 31](#) (*Basic documents No. 1* (WMO-No. 15)), the "expenses of attendance of members of subsidiary bodies of constituent and additional bodies at sessions of these bodies shall normally be borne by the Members or the international organization to which those members belong". It is, therefore, hoped that these expenses will be borne by your Government, should your expert attend in person.

If it is not possible for your Government to meet the expenses for the in-person attendance of your expert, WMO is prepared to consider providing financial support for this

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO (limited distribution)

cc: Members of SC-AVI AG-VSA

purpose. However, in view of the limited funds available to support sessions of subsidiary bodies of constituent bodies, I should be grateful if you could consider the possibility of meeting at least part of the costs involved.

For administrative purposes, I should be grateful if you could kindly notify the WMO Secretariat, not later than **7 November 2022**, whether your expert will be able to attend the above meeting and whether any financial assistance will be required. If so, the details of the assistance required, i.e. travel costs or per diem, or both, should be indicated. If WMO meets the travel costs, the travel arrangements will be made by the Secretariat and details will be sent directly to your expert in due course.

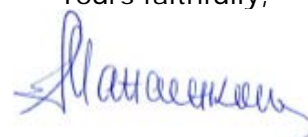
Regarding insurance coverage for non-staff members, may I draw your attention to the following:

Non-staff members of WMO who are authorized to travel at the Organization's expense and/or who are receiving a DSA from WMO must ensure they are fully responsible for expenses incurred in the event of death, illness or injury during official travel and attendance at meetings on behalf of the Organization. They are, therefore, fully responsible for arranging life, health, accident, as well as any other forms of insurance with an adequate level of coverage for the duration of such meetings and events.

WMO liability is limited to the performance of services or attendance at a meeting on behalf of the Organization, is covered by an injury and illness benefit insurance which provides a limited coverage for medical, emergency, and supplementary official travel expenses.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support to WMO activities.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Elena Manaenkova
for the Secretary-General

**MEMBERSHIP OF THE ADVISORY GROUP ON
VOLCANIC SCIENCE FOR APPLICATIONS (AG-VSA)**

(Certified correct as of 19 September 2022)

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* Mr Lisk is Chair of the Standing Committee on Services for Aviation (SC-AVI).
At the [SC-AVI-2 meeting in March/April 2022](#), through Decision 4 (SC-AVI-2), the Standing Committee tasked Mr Lisk to serve, additionally, as Chair of AG-VSA on an ad interim basis (until SERCOM-3 in early 2024).