



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

Secrétariat

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Our ref.: WDS/AN/CAeM-15

GENEVA, 19 June 2014

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to refer to my letters SG/CER/CAeM-15 dated respectively 16 January and 25 February 2014 on the subject of the convening of the Conjoint ICAO/WMO Meteorology Divisional Meeting, together with the WMO Technical Conference “Aviation Meteorology – Building Blocks for the Future”, and the fifteenth session of the Commission of Aeronautical Meteorology (CAeM-15), all the three events to be hosted by ICAO at their headquarters in Montréal, Canada from 7 to 18 July 2014.

I wish to draw your kind attention to the fact that the conjoint MET Divisional Meeting and the accompanying WMO events are of paramount importance for the future development of the aeronautical meteorology both as science and operational practice. These meetings are another excellent demonstration of the long tradition of close collaboration between ICAO and WMO in developing and implementing standards and methods for a high quality meteorological service to international civil aviation contributing to the safe, efficient and economic operations of the global air transport. The timing of the conjoint meeting coincides very well with the launching of a mid-to long-term vision for the future air navigation system intended to meet the needs of the ever growing air transport which raises new challenges to our Member States and their National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS). The ICAO Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP) together with the Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP) and the Aviation System Block Upgrade (ASBU) methodology are the enablers of a staged enhancement of the global air transport system with a horizon 2028 and beyond. It is well understood that the implementation of this vision will require institutional and technological changes aimed at enhanced interoperability and effective use of air space to overcome current capacity limits and enable the use of the modern technology. The business model for service provision, including for meteorological services, is envisaged to engage more regional and global cooperation.

I would like to emphasize that the role of aeronautical meteorology in this changing environment should not be underestimated. The natural media of air transport is the atmosphere, the aviation routes and trajectories go through the ever changing atmospheric conditions, often exposing safety risks to air operations. With the expected further growth and increased complexity of air transport, the meteorological information would become even more important in the future collaborative decision-making process in all phases of flight. Therefore, we would like to make sure that the role of the meteorological service providers would be properly recognized by all stakeholders who will demand provision of more detailed, more accurate and quality assured information, to ensure the efficiency and weather resilience of the future system. The role of meteorological services becomes even more challenging due to the changing climate and extreme weather regimes that may have significant impact on aviation.


To: Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Members States of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO-1402)

In view of these crucial changes, the conjoint MET Divisional Meeting will provide the forum for discussions and proposals for decisions that will direct the aeronautical meteorology in the next two decades. Our Members and their NMHSs, who play a major role in the provision of service to international air navigation, should be fully aware of these developments and see the accompanying challenges and opportunities. Building national, sub-regional and regional plans to meet the challenges will be of crucial importance in the post-divisional meeting period.

In view of the foregoing, and knowing that some NMHSs may experience financial difficulties in participating in these forthcoming events in Montréal, I would kindly request and encourage you to give special attention and consider provision of assistance to your NMHS experts who need to participate in the above meetings. It will allow your national planning to be properly aligned and to mitigate eventual negative implications that might come from exclusion from the future service provision.

A copy of this letter is being sent to the Permanent Representative of your country with WMO.

Accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.



(M. Jarraud)
Secretary-General