

Pacific MET Activities

Paula Acethorp – Vice-Chair Pacific Island Aviation Weather Services (PIAWS) Panel

Nicole Ranger – VAAC Wellington/MetService Aviation Team Coordinator

Pacific Meteorological Council

5th Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council

7-9 August 2019, Apia Samoa

Outcomes included:

- ➔ Endorsed the establishment of a PIAWS Panel Task Team (Members: Fiji, New Zealand, and Tonga) on ICAO compliance:
 - (a) to develop a work plan for **addressing deficiencies** in consultation with the concerned ICAO Member States; and
 - (b) to understand current capabilities with regards to the **IWXXM implementation** and dissemination and to develop a work plan to assist each ICAO Member State in the Pacific region to meet the IWXXM requirements.

The Task Team is encouraged to complete this work by June 2020 to enable reporting on progress to the ICAO APANPIRG Met SG meeting in July 2020;

Pacific Meteorological Council

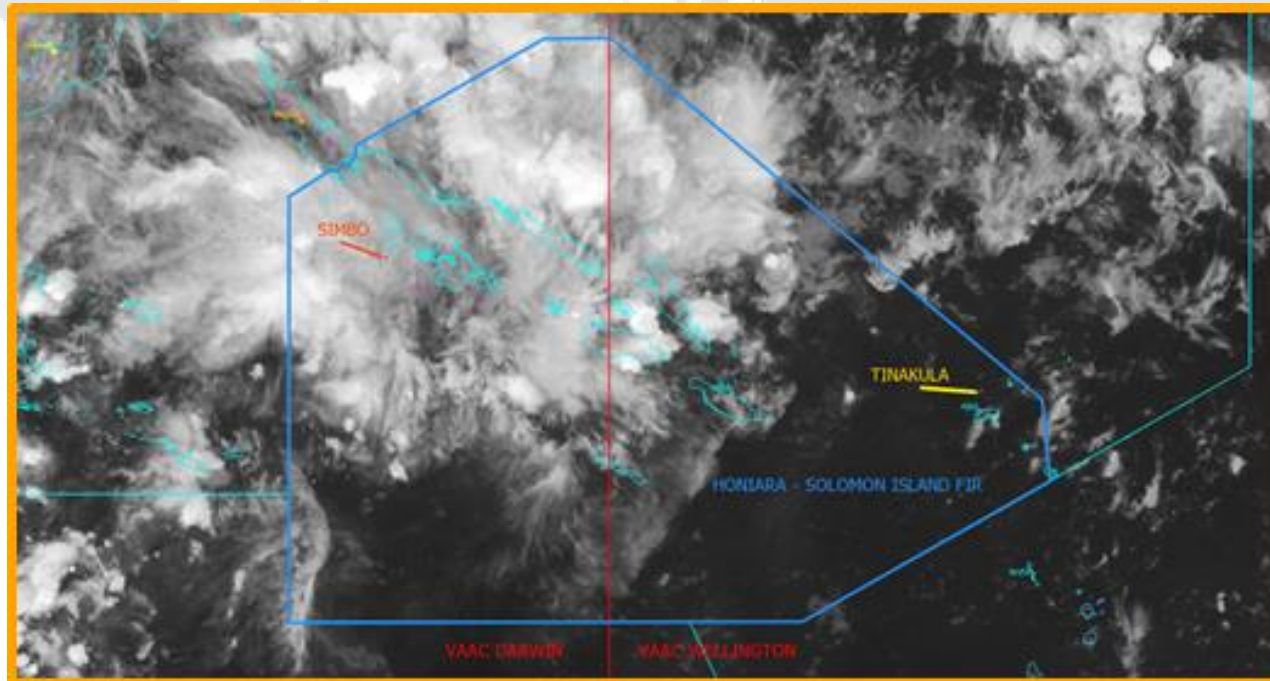
PIAWS Task Team progress update:

- ➔ MetService, as the Wellington Regional OPMET Centre, is looking at the possibility of providing IWXXM translation services on behalf of the Nadi Regional OPMET Centre
- ➔ Of the current 12 deficiencies in place for south Pacific States, seven work plans have been developed, plus assistance provided towards resolution of two more deficiencies

Deficiency Resolution Activities

Solomon Islands SIGMET deficiency:

VAACs Wellington and Darwin worked with the Solomon Islands Meteorological Services on two volcanic ash SIGMET exercises



Deficiency Resolution Activities

Tonga volcanic information deficiency:

VAAC Wellington worked with the Tonga Meteorological Services on a series of volcanic eruption scenarios to demonstrate VONA issuance

Item No	Element	Content
1	Message title	VOLCANO OBSERVATORY NOTICE FOR AVIATION-VONA
2	Issued:	20200608/2300Z
3	Volcano:	<u>Hunga Tonga – Hunga Ha'apai/243040</u>
4	Current Aviation Color Code:	YELLOW
5	Previous Aviation Color Code:	green
6	Source:	Local Fishing boat (<u>Sitamipa Paea</u>)
7	Notice Number:	1
8	Volcano Location:	20.536S, 175.382W
9	Area:	Ha'apai, Tonga
10	Summit Elevation:	375ft (114m)
11	Volcanic Activity Summary:	<u>Sitamipa Paea</u> from <u>Nomuka</u> reports at 12:01pm local time (082301Z), was fishing between <u>Tofua</u> and <u>Hunga Tonga – Hunga Ha'apai</u> . West of <u>Nomuka</u> at approximately (8:09am local time) 081909Z. The height of the eruption is showing to be above the lowest cloud base during the time of observation. Colour detected from the eruption is white.
12	Volcanic Cloud Height:	UNKNOWN (Ground observer - as mentioned above is detected to be above lowest cloud base in the area)
13	Other Volcanic Cloud information:	The colour detected from the eruption is white plumes clouds. The eruption is hardly detected from the island of <u>Nomuka</u> due to low clouds.
14	Remarks:	VA EXERCISE VAAC WELLINGTON – TONGA METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE
15	Contacts:	Tonga MET Services (+67635123) E-mail: metstaff@met.gov.to
16	Next Notice:	A new VONA will be issued if any information receive from other boat vessels proceed near the area of eruption.

Deficiency Resolution Activities

Tonga volcanic information deficiency:

VOLCEX 20/02 simulated the eruption of Tofua – collaborative effort between New Zealand, Australia, Fiji, Tonga and the United States, with participant organisations from regulatory agencies, meteorological, volcanological, air navigation and aeronautical information service providers, along with airlines from around the globe

