



World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

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Weather • Climate • Water
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Our ref.: 8221-16/WDS/AN/VAAC-BP-2016

GENEVA, 2 February 2016

Annexes: 2 (available in English only)

Subject: WMO Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre (VAAC) “Best Practice” Workshop 2016

Action required: WMO Secretariat to be notified by **29 February 2016** whether your expert will attend the meeting

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have pleasure in informing you that Argentina will organize a WMO Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre (VAAC) “Best Practice” Workshop 2016, which will be held at the National Meteorological Service (SMN) in Buenos Aires, from Monday 25 to Wednesday 27 (a.m.) April 2016. The Permanent Representative of Argentina with WMO has kindly invited WMO to co-sponsor this important event and to issue, on his behalf, an invitation to Members hosting a Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre.

The aim of the workshop is to exchange information between the nine VAACs on the current operational practices in monitoring and forecasting volcanic ash, recent technological advancement, and related quality assurance procedures, in order to identify collaboration opportunities that would lead to a more harmonized model of quality service delivery to aviation stakeholders.

A provisional programme and an Information Note for Participants are included as Annexes I and II respectively.

WMO therefore encourages the managers of all VAACs to attend this important workshop. It should be noted, however, that no funds are available to provide any financial assistance to participants.

To: Permanent Representatives of Argentina, Australia, Canada, France, Japan and New Zealand, hosting a Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre
Permanent Representatives of the UK and the USA with WMO, hosting a Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre and a World Area Forecast Centre

cc: Managers of Volcanic Ash Advisory Centres (for information, by e-mail)

It would be appreciated if notification of attendance could be sent to the Local Organizers at andrioli@smn.gov.ar, with a copy to [susyb@smn.gov.ar](mailto:susy@smn.gov.ar) and to the WMO Secretariat by **29 February 2016** (bvuitteney-gelman@wmo.int).

A copy of this letter is sent to the managers of all VAACs for information.

Yours faithfully,



(J. Lengoasa)
for the Secretary-General

WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANIZATION

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8221-16/WDS/AN/VAAC-BP-2016, ANNEX I

WMO VOLCANIC ASH ADVISORY CENTRE (VAAC) “BEST PRACTICE” WORKSHOP 2016

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

25-27 April 2016

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Topics to be discussed will include (relevant VAAC “Best Practice” Workshop 2015 Outcomes (VWO) indicated):

- T+24 VAA and VAG trial update, including user feedback (VWO03)
- VAG confidence levels update (VWO10)
- Consistent VAG presentation best practice (VWO03)
- ‘Discernible ash’ agreed techniques guidance material (VWO01, VWO03 and VASAG 6/8)
- Common VAAC website and information sharing (VWO04)
- Situation awareness and supplementary charts to inform regulatory and airline Safety Risk Assessment requirements (IAVW 7/13 and VWO11)
- Re-suspended ash update (VWO08)
- VAAC back-up test arrangements (VWO05)
- Volcanic ash impacts on aircraft components update (VWO12)
- Agreement of VAAC inputs to following ICAO METP MOG and MISD meetings

There will be ample opportunities for participants to take part in practical sessions, and to share knowledge and experience.

WMO VOLCANIC ASH ADVISORY CENTRE (VAAC) “BEST PRACTICE” WORKSHOP 2016

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

25-27 April 2016

INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. VENUE OF THE MEETING

The WMO Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre (VAAC) “Best Practice” Workshop 2016 will be held at the premises of the Servicio Meteorológico Nacional (SMN), Buenos Aires, Argentina. It will start at 09:00 on Monday 25 and will close at 12:30 on Wednesday 27 April 2016. The address of the venue is:

Servicio Meteorológico Nacional
 Av. Dorrego 4019
 Palermo
 Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires
 ARGENTINA

2. REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

Registration is by contacting Ms Miriam Andrioli (e-mail: andrioli@smn.gov.ar) with copy to Ms Stella Bigagli (e-mail: susyb@smn.gov.ar)

3. WORKING LANGUAGE

The working language will be **English only**.

4. HOTEL INFORMATION

Please make your booking directly with the hotel of your choice. Important: Please send the name of the hotel you have booked to the Local Organizers contacts.

Hotel Name	Room Type	Rate
Cristóforo Colombo Hotel Address: Fray Justo Santa María de Oro 2747, Palermo, Buenos Aires (couple of miles from venue area) Phone: (+ 54.11) 4778.4945 E-mail: reservas@hotelcc.com.ar Website: http://www.hotelcc.com.ar/	Single Standard	from US\$ 93.- + Tax Corporate rate (may vary by April)

<p>Concorde Hotel Address: 25 de Mayo 630, downtown Buenos Aires Phone: (+ 54.11) 4313.2018 E-mail: reservas@concordehotel.com.ar and conserjeria@concordehotel.com.ar</p> <p>Websites: http://www.concordehotel.com.ar/disponibilidad.html http://www.concordehotel.com.ar/</p>	Single (B&B)	<p>from US\$ 70.-</p> <p>Corporate rate (may vary by April)</p>
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There is a great variety of Hotels in Palermo (couple of miles from venue area), please check <https://www.google.com.ar/#q=hoteles+boutique+en+palermo> for more information.

5. LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

From “Ministro Pistarini” International Airport (Ezeiza) to downtown Buenos Aires: Taxis, rented cars with driver and the bus service “Manuel Tienda León” www.tiendaleon.com.ar are available.

From “Jorge Newbery” Domestic and Regional Airport to downtown Buenos Aires: Same transportation as listed above plus the ArBus public transport service <https://www.facebook.com/ArBusTransporte>

6. ENTRY VISA REQUIREMENTS

Some participants may require an entry visa. Please confirm with the nearest Embassy of Argentina. It is strongly recommended that visa applications are organized well in advance as the process can sometimes take a long time. Information is available at: www.cancilleria.gov.ar

7. CURRENCY EXCHANGE

The official currency in Argentina is the Argentine Peso. Currencies can be exchanged at banks and in foreign exchange offices.

1 US\$ = 14.00 Pesos (on 08.01.2016)

Exchange rate varies daily; please consult the Banco de la Nación Argentina website for the latest exchange rates at: <http://www.bna.com.ar/>

No foreign currency is used / accepted in Argentina.

Multiple ATMs are available at the airport. Other ATMs are commonly available (in banks, towns, cities etc.). Getting cash with an international VISA card at an ATM machine is often the most convenient option.

8. LOCAL CLIMATE IN APRIL

The mean weather conditions in Buenos Aires in April are as follows:

Mean daily maximum	:	22.8°C
Mean daily minimum	:	13.3°C
Mean number of days with rainfall > 1 mm	:	12 days

9. USEFUL INFORMATION

Local time in Argentina in April is 3 hours behind Co-ordinated Universal Time (UTC-3).

Electricity:

We use 220V/50HZ in Argentina.



Food/Beverages:

A light lunch and refreshments will be provided during the workshop. Dinner needs to be organized by the participants.

10. LOCAL ORGANIZER

Ms Claudia Campetella is the Chair of the Local Organizing Committee.

However, the Local Organizer contacts are Ms Miriam Andrioli and Ms Stella Bigagli; their contact details are as follows:

Ms Miriam Andrioli

Phone: (+ 54.11) 5167.6767, ext. 18316

E-mail: andrioli@smn.gov.ar

Ms Stella Bigagli

Phone: (+ 54.11) 5167.6711, ext. 18218

E-mail: susyb@smn.gov.ar
