

Seventh meeting of the WMO-IUGG Volcanic Ash Scientific Advisory Group (VASAG/7)

Terms of Reference review



WMO OMM

World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale

*21 to 23 August 2017
USGS, Vancouver, WA, United States*

Greg Brock, Scientific Officer
AEM Division, WMO

Recent history

- 67th Session of WMO Executive Council (2015)
 - Doc. 3(11) on WMO/IUGG VASAG
 - Annex II to Para 2.26 of the [EC-67 General Summary](#)
 - Revised TORs of the WMO/IUGG VASAG
- Uploaded to WMO AEMP website:
 - <https://www.wmo.int/aemp/vasag>
 - Click on ‘Terms of Reference’

Introduction

- The Volcanic Ash Science Advisory Group (VASAG) is established in accordance with the Working Arrangements between the WMO and the IUGG (WMO-No.60, V.1 – V.2), paragraph 4, as a “*joint committee ... to deal with matters of common interest*”.
- The **objective** of the group is to provide scientific advice combining expertise in the field of atmospheric sciences and volcanology, to support informed decisions by ICAO and other aviation stakeholders concerned with the volcanic ash hazard to aviation.



Composition

- The composition of VASAG shall comprise of a core group of approximately ten scientists and technical experts from the relevant geophysical and meteorological disciplines with two co-chairpersons designated through consultation between the WMO and IUGG Secretariats with each Organization nominating one co-chairperson.



Composition (current)

Name (Alphabetical)	Position	Affiliation	Country (RA)	Discipline
1) BARSOTTI, Sara	Member	IMO	Iceland (RA VI)	Geophys.
2) FOLCH, Arnau	Member	BCS-CNS	Spain (RA VI)	Met.
3) GUFFANTI, Marianne	Member	USGS	US (RA IV)	Geophys.
4) LISK, Ian	Member	UKMO/CAeM VP	UK (RA VI)	Met.
5) MASTIN, Larry	Co-Chair	USGS	US (RA IV)	Geophys.
6) NERI, Augusto	Member	INGV	Italy (RA VI)	Geophys.
7) PAVOLONIS, Mike	Member	NOAA/NESDIS	US (RA IV)	Met.
8) SCHLAGER, Hans	Member	DLR	Germany (RA VI)	Met.
9) TUPPER, Andrew	Co-chair	BOM	Australia (RA V)	Met.
10) WITHAM, Claire	Member	UKMO	UK (RA VI)	Met.
IVANOV, Dimitar	Ex-Officio	WMO	---	Met.
ROMERO, Raul	Ex-Officio	ICAO	---	Met.

Terms of Reference

- In the context of international aviation, VASAG shall:
 - 1) Address requests from ICAO and other relevant stakeholders for specific scientific advice or assistance relating to the fields of volcano monitoring, volcanic ash and other volcanic contaminants,
 - 2) Use appropriate networks, contacts, meetings and other opportunities, to gather cross-discipline and cross-industry scientific advice from the international community,
 - 3) Promote research and inform community on recent scientific achievements related to the volcanic ash aviation hazard,
 - 4) Provide support to the organization of the regular WMO International Scientific Workshop on Volcanic Ash.

Working Arrangements

- The VASAG will be supported by the WMO Secretariat including limited funding, within the available WMO budget for the AEM programme, for delivering its priority activities.

Working Arrangements – Meetings

- Should be conducted in consideration with ICAO requirements, associated delivery deadlines, available funding, and opportunities to meet in conjunction with other relevant events to VASAG members.
- Requests by non-core experts to attend VASAG meetings as observers will be decided upon by the co-chairpersons in consultation with the two Secretariats



Working Arrangements – Reporting

- The VASAG shall provide scientific reports to support the work of relevant WMO and ICAO groups concerned with the volcanic ash hazard to aviation.
- Progress reports on activities should be provided to the WMO and IUGG executive bodies.

Working Arrangements – Dissemination

- The VASAG will publicize the outcomes of its work through appropriate channels to ensure outreach to the research and operational communities.
- A VASAG web page on the WMO website will be used as a main reference point.
- Appropriate links to other relevant information sources, including scientific and research institutions of core members will also be provided.



Thank you Merci



WMO OMM

World Meteorological Organization
Organisation météorologique mondiale