



**RWANDA**

**CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY**

**ADVISORY CIRCULAR  
RCAA-AC- MET006**

## **GUIDANCE ON THE PREPARATION AND ISSUANCE OF SIGMET MESSAGES**

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### **1.0 PURPOSE**

This Advisory Circular (AC) provides guidance to the MET Service Provider on the technical specifications related to the preparation and issuance of SIGMET information.

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## **2.0 REFERENCES**

2.1 Part 24 of Rwanda Civil Aviation Regulations

2.2 Rwanda Civil Aviation Technical Standards -Aeronautical Meteorological Service (RCATS- MET001)

## **3.0 BACKGROUND**

The SIGMET messages give a concise description in abbreviated plain language concerning the occurrence or expected occurrence of specified en-route weather and other phenomena in the atmosphere that may affect the safety of aircraft operations, and of the development of those phenomena in time and space

The Civil Aviation Regulations-Aeronautical Meteorological Service Regulations (RCARs, Part 24) requires the MET service provider to perform weather watch and continuous monitoring of meteorological conditions affecting flight operations within Rwanda Flight information region

The meteorological Watch Office (MWO) at Kigali International Airport should prepare and issue SIGMET information in accordance with RCATS-MET001, chapter 7 and appendix 6.

## **3.1 SPECIFICATIONS RELATED TO SIGMET INFORMATION**

### **Format of SIGMET message**

The content and order of elements in a SIGMET message should be in accordance with the template shown in in Table A6-1A of RCATS-MET001

Messages containing SIGMET information are identified as "SIGMET". Each SIGMET message should have a sequence number reference corresponding with the number of SIGMET messages issued for the Kigali FIR since 0001 UTC on the day concerned.

Only one of phenomena should be included in a SIGMET message, using the ICAO abbreviations as indicated in the RCATS-MET001, Appendix 6, 1.1.4

SIGMET information should be issue based on special air-reports obtained through ATS unit; satellite data or ground-based observations or Doppler weather radar information.

### **Dissemination of SIGMET messages**

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SIGMET messages should be disseminated to meteorological watch offices, WAFC and to other meteorological offices in accordance with regional air navigation agreement. SIGMET messages for volcanic ash shall also be disseminated to volcanic ash advisory centre.

SIGMET messages should be disseminated to international OPMET databanks and the centres designated by regional air navigation agreement for the operation of aeronautical fixed service Internet-based services, in accordance with regional air navigation agreement.

A rectangular stamp with a blue border containing the text "DIRECTOR", "FLIGHT SAFETY SERVICES", and "RWANDA CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY". A blue ink signature is written over the stamp.

Director Flight Safety Services  
Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority