

7. Competencies and Qualifications

7.1 Competency Standards for Aeronautical Meteorological Personnel

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(EC-CDP-12)

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- **Background information**
- **Development process and consultation**
- **Current status and request to the Panel (if applicable)**

Background

- **Title: Competency framework for Volcanic Ash forecasters**
- Reason for development:
 - Follow-up to an Amendment to the [*Technical Regulations \(WMO-No.49\), Vol. I Part V*](#) and an update to the [*Compendium of WMO Competency Frameworks \(WMO-No. 1209\)*](#), adopted through [*Resolution 11 \(Cg-19\)*](#) in May/June 2023 and ***applicable on 1 January 2026***
 - Allows to accommodate *supplementary* aeronautical meteorological personnel (AMP) competency frameworks i.e. supplementary to the specific, extant competency frameworks for AMF and AMO
 - *ICAO Annex 3 §2.1.6 The meteorological authority shall ensure that the designated meteorological service provider complies with the requirements of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in respect of qualifications, competencies, education and training of meteorological personnel providing service for international air navigation.).*

Important: These new competency standards are mostly intended to apply to forecasters at volcanic ash advisory centres (VAACs).

Development process and consultation

- Development conducted by the SERCOM **Standing Committee on Services for Aviation (SC-AVI) Expert Team on Education, Training and Competency (ET-ETC) and Advisory Group on Volcanic Science for Aviation Applications (AG-VSA)** – Progress made at AG-VSA-2 (Feb 2025) and ET-ETC-3 (Mar 2025)
- **Socialization** of the proposed VA forecaster competency framework **with WMO’s Education and Training (ETR) Office and Executive Council Capacity Development Panel (EC-CDP)** (May-Aug 2025).
Feedback from ETR and CDP resulted in improvements to the proposal.
- Submission to and **approval by SC-AVI-4** (Nov 2025); now submitted for EC-CDP’s recommendation.

Important: the introduction of the VA forecaster competency framework does not result in a consequential amendment to the Technical Regulations (WMO-No. 49), Vol. I because volcanic ash is addressed in the context of “other relevant environmental” situations, parameters, phenomena etc. in the technical regulations that became applicable on 1 January 2026.

Current status and request to the Panel (if applicable)

- Current stage: Final draft prepared and provided to EC-CDP-12 for review
- Request to the Panel:

Recommendation Requested: The Panel is invited to recommend the new framework continues the process for technical approval.

- Upon recommendation by EC-CDP, the new framework will be submitted to SERCOM-4 (Oct 2026) for approval.
- Upon adoption by WMO, to be incorporated into the latest edition of WMO-No. 1209 under §2.2, **“Competency Standards for Aeronautical Meteorological Personnel”**

Thank you