

GEN 3.5 METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES**1 RESPONSIBLE SERVICE**

1.1 The meteorological services for civil aviation are provided by the Meteorological Department of the Civil Aviation authority of the State of Qatar.

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1.2 The service is provided in accordance with the provisions contained in the following ICAO documents:

- *Annex 3 — Meteorological Service for International Air Navigation*
- *Doc 7030 — Regional Supplementary Procedures*
- Doc 8896 — Manual of Aeronautical Meteorological Practice
- Doc 9328 — Manual of Runway Visual Range Observing and Reporting Practices
- Doc 9377 — Manual on Coordination between Air Traffic Services, Aeronautical Information Services and Aeronautical Meteorological Services

Differences to these provisions are detailed in subsection GEN 1.7.

2 AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY

2.1 Meteorological service is provided within the entire territory of State of Qatar, including its territorial waters as well as the airspace over the high seas within Doha FIR.

3 METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AND REPORTS

Table GEN 3.5.3 Meteorological observations and reports

Name of station/Location indicator	Type & frequency of observation/ automatic observing equipment	Types of MET reports & Supplementary Information included	Observation System & Site(s)	Hours of operation	Climatological information
1	2	3	4	5	6
DOHA/DOHAINTL OTBD	Manual, half hourly routine plus special observations / MIDAS 600, @AOBS	METAR, SPECI, Selected SPECIAL, SYNOP	Wind Sensors at MET station located approximately 280 m West of RCL abeam TWY E1 and TWY D1 intersection (wind report in METAR and SPECI taken from this measurement). Anemometers and wind vanes each located approximately at 117 m West of RCL abeam start of RWY 15 and 268 m East of RCL abeam turning pad in the middle of the RWY. Windsocks at both RWY ends. RVR transmissometers at both ends and in the middle of the RWY.	H24	Climatological tables AVBL

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DOHA/HAMAD INTL OTHH	Manual, half hourly routine plus special observations / MIDAS 600, @AOBS	METAR, SPECI, Selected SPECIAL, SYNOP	– WMO Class A manned observatory on 24 hours watch – Observe and transmit surface and upper air parameters – Issue and transmit METAR/SPECI MET Automatic Station (located approximately 300 m West of centre line West Runway, 1 200 m from threshold 16R): – Wind sensor – Pressure – Air Temperature/Humidity – Solar radiation – Present weather – Soil Temperature – Wind shear sensor (wind profiler) Runways: Thresholds 16L, 34L: – Air Temperature/Humidity – Pressure Thresholds 16L, 34L, 16R, 34R: – Wind sensors – Cloud base (ceilometers) – RVR (transmissometers) Median East and West runways: – 2 x RVR along each RWY MET conventional station: – Wind sensors (10 m) – Air Temperature/humidity – Rain gauge – Evaporation tank – Wind sensor (1 m) – Solar duration – Soil temperature – Pressure	H24	Climatological tables AVBL

4 TYPES OF SERVICES

4.1 The Meteorological Watch Office is located in Hamad International Airport (telephone numbers: +974 4010 2239; +974 4010 2238) and provides the following services H24:

- Personal briefing and consultation to flight crew members, upon request;
- Full meteorological documentation for current operational planning for all flights departing Doha and Hamad International Airports;
- Supply of meteorological information to aircraft in flight through DOHA INTL radio channels;
- Meteorological information for ATS; and
- Information for Search and Rescue Service Units.

4.2 Details of documentation supplied for each flight are determined by arrangement between the operator and the Meteorological Watch Office. Flight documentation is normally provided for domestic flights. For international flights, the flight documentation comprises a significant weather chart, an upper wind and upper air temperature chart and the latest available aerodrome forecast for the destination and its alternate aerodromes.

4.3 Routine aerodrome forecasts received from other Meteorological Offices are normally included in meteorological documentation without modification. When a required aerodrome forecast is not received, a provisional forecast may be issued by the Meteorological Watch Office providing the documentation.

4.4 After documentation has been issued and until take-off, the Meteorological Watch Office makes available amendments to the documentation. It is the responsibility of the operator's local representative to provide pre-departure amendment(s) from the Meteorological Watch Office to the pilot-in-command.

4.5 Climatological summaries for DOHA INTL / HAMAD INTL are available from the Meteorological Watch Office.

5 NOTIFICATION REQUIRED FROM OPERATORS

5.1 Operators requiring meteorological service or changes in existing meteorological services shall notify, sufficiently in advance, to the Department of Meteorology of the Qatar Civil Aviation Authority in accordance with ICAO Annex 3, paragraph 2.3.

5.2 Operators or their flight crew members shall notify the Aerodrome Meteorological Office at DOHA INTL / HAMAD INTL, as soon as the following information becomes available:

- a) of flight schedules;
- b) when non-scheduled flights are to be operated; and
- c) when flights are delayed, advanced or cancelled.

6 AIRCRAFT REPORTS

6.1 In Doha FIR, pilots are requested to pass special aircraft observations as soon as possible to the appropriate ATS unit by voice communications whenever any of the following conditions are encountered or observed:

- a) moderate or severe turbulence;
- b) moderate or severe icing;
- c) severe mountain wave;
- d) thunderstorms, without hail, that are obscured, embedded, widespread or in squall lines;
- e) thunderstorms, with hail, that are obscured, embedded, widespread or in squall lines;
- f) heavy dust storm or heavy sandstorm;
- g) volcanic ash cloud

6.2 When other meteorological conditions not listed above are encountered and which, in the opinion of the pilot-in-command, may affect the safety or markedly affect the efficiency of other operations, the pilot-in-command shall advise ATC as soon as practicable.

6.3 Aircraft observations shall be reported as air-reports following the instructions in ICAO PANS-ATM(Doc 4444) - Appendix 1.

7 VOLMET SERVICE

NIL

8 SIGMET AND AIRMET SERVICE

Name of MWO Location Indicator	Hours	FIR Served	Type of SIGMET / Validity	Specific Procedures	ATS Unit served	Additional Information
Doha OTDF	H24	DOHA FIR	SIGMET/ 4 HR	NIL	DOHA ACC	NIL

8.1 SIGMET and AIRMET for Qatar airspace is issued by the competent Meteorological Watch Office which is responsible for the preparation and dissemination of SIGMETs to appropriate ACC within its own FIR.

8.2 Aircraft in flight should be warned by the ACC of the occurrence or expected occurrence of one or more of the following SIGMET phenomena:

- a) thunderstorm, with or without hail (see Note 1);
- b) tropical cyclone;
- c) freezing rain;
- d) severe turbulence;
- e) severe icing;
- f) severe mountain waves;
- g) heavy sand/dust storm;

h) volcanic ash cloud.

Note 1: This refers only to thunderstorms (including, if necessary, cumulonimbus cloud which is not accompanied by a thunderstorm) widespread within an area with little or no separation (FRQ), along a line with little or no separation (SQL), embedded in cloud layers (EMBD), or concealed in cloud layers or concealed by haze (OBSC).

8.3 Usually, SIGMET messages are identified by the letters WS and are valid for 4 hours, but those referring to tropical cyclones and volcanic ash will be identified by WC and WV respectively (for these two a further outlook for up to 6 hours may be included and are re-issued if they are to remain valid after the original period expires). They can be cancelled or amended within the period of validity. SIGMETs are numbered sequentially from 0001 UTC each day.

8.4 SIGMET information is disseminated by the Area Control Centre Qatar for the Doha FIR and by ATS units for their own area of responsibility.

9 OTHER AUTOMATED METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES

NIL