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Belgrade, 20 April 2010 at 08.00

As national meteorological and hydrological service, Republic Hydrometeorological Service of Serbia (RHMSS) is continually monitoring information related to the movement of ash cloud of volcanic origin that has caused serious disturbance of air traffic over major part of Europe.

Besides usual forecasting charts and satellite images, we also have available forecasting products of British Meteorological Service that is one of authorized and internationally responsible advisory institutions for air traffic safety for the area of eastern Atlantic and Europe ([www.metoffice.gov.uk/aviation/vaac/](http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/aviation/vaac/)).

Volcanic ash cloud (not visible without instruments) in the lower parts of the atmosphere (up to 6 km) as well as on the altitudes of civil air traffic (6-11 km) during the night, with its peripheral part covered Slovenia, northwestern part of Hungary and western Croatia. In the morning it will come down to the northwestern borders of our country, but until the end of the day it will not move significantly towards the south, that is, along the depth of our territory. Increased concentration of volcanic ash particles will mostly remain over the British Islands, western and central Europe as well as the Baltic region.

RHMSS has introduced **experimentally** in operative work the numerical model DREAM for the forecasting of the transport, transformation and deposition of volcanic ash. We emphasize that we shall continue to issue official forecasting of the movement on the basis of forecasting material from British Met Office, internationally authorized and responsible advisory institution.

Samples of rain that was falling during the night and in the morning over most parts of Serbia have been analyzed in chemical laboratory of RHMSS and its pH value is in the range from 5.50 to 6.41. These values are considered slightly acid, that is, alkaline and they do not differ from the usual values, which coincides with the fact that they originate from the cloud system formed southwest of our country.

The approach of a new cloud system, this time from the northwest is expected by the middle of the week (Wednesday evening, Thursday morning) over northern parts and RHMSS will continue to take samples of the precipitation and to make physical-chemical analyses and to make reports on obtained results.

Current measurements of the state of air pollution on the territory of the Republic of Serbia indicate that the concentration value of particle matter is in the usual range