



International Civil Aviation Organization

**First Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Regional Search and Rescue Working Group
(APSAR/WG/1)**

Bangkok, Thailand, 15 – 19 August 2016

Agenda Item 3: Global update

GLOBAL SAR UPDATE

(Presented by ICAO HQ)

SUMMARY

This paper presents information from ICAO HQ on matters related to the global progress of SAR improvement and SAR standards development.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The paper provides a summary update on SAR related activities that ICAO HQ has been involved in over the last twelve months and an overview of what is planned or affecting the SAR area in the future.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 **Annex 12 Implementation.** Concern over effective implementation of Annex 12 provisions globally continues to be a focus for ICAO. Solutions to assist States is a priority, especially through Regional SAR Task Forces.

2.2 **Regional SAR Task Forces.** ICAO HQ continues to support Regional SAR Task Forces as they seek to develop Regional SAR Plans and look for solutions to implementation of Annex 12 provisions

2.3 **Cospas Sarsat non responsive SPOCS.** The number of non-responsive SPOCs continues to be a concern to ICAO. ICAO, working with Cospas Sarsat have jointly developed a model Agreement between MCCs and SPOCs. All SPOCs are encourage to enter into a written understanding with their MCC.

2.4 **Normal Aircraft Tracking.** With the approval of amendment 39 to Annex 6, dealing with Normal Tracking provisions, ICAO has been heavily involved in the Normal Aircraft Tracking Implementation Initiative group (NATII2) on development of guidance material and consequential provisions to Annex 6.

2.5 **Autonomous Distress Tracking (ADT).** With the approval of amendment 40 to Annex 6, dealing with autonomous distress tracking and recovery of flight data, ICAO has been heavily involved in a GADSS Advisory Group on development of guidance material and consequential provisions to Annex 6. As part of this project ICAO has been involved with Cospas Sarsat, RTCA and EUROCAE as they develop ELT Specifications to satisfy the ADT provisions.

2.6 **GADSS.** An advisory group has been established to review the GADSS CONOP in light of States comments to amendments 39 and 40 to Annex 6. The group is expected to issue a new version of the GADSS CONOP by early 2017.

2.7 **Cospas Sarsat, MEOSAR and Second Generation Beacons (SGB) development.** ICAO has been working with these organization's on the specifications development for second generation beacon and the implementation of MEOSAR. A circular is under development to inform States on these issues and once the specifications have been finalized a consequential amendment to Annex 10 will be drafted.

2.8 **Joint Working Group on SAR.** The ICAO/IMO JWG on SAR will meet in September in Germany and continues to look at updates to guidance material for Annex 12 (IAMSAR). The group will also be looking at drafting the next amendment of Annex 12 for consideration by the ANC to include recommendations from the High Level Safety Conference 2015 and lessons learned from past accidents e.g. AF447 & MH370 amongst others.

2.9 **USOAP CMA Protocol Questions.** ICAO HQ is working on a review of the SAR PQs with the Safety and Air Navigation Oversight Audit Section (OAS) and the Oversight Support Unit (OSU).

2.10 **Civil/Military Cooperation.** ICAO HQ has recently allocated resources to develop this area. A review with, SAR input of Circular 330 is underway and a Technical Officer is scoping a Civil/Military cooperation project.

2.11 **ICAO Assembly.** ICAO HQ staff are very involved in the preparation and conduct of the 39th Triennial Assembly of ICAO in late September. To date there are no working papers directly concerned with SAR. Is the window starting to close on SAR being a hot topic globally?

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

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