



International Civil Aviation Organization

North American, Central American and Caribbean Office

Second Meeting of North American, Central American and Caribbean Directors of Civil Aviation (NACC/DCA/2)

Tegucigalpa, Honduras, 11 – 14 October 2005

NACC/DCA/2-WP/41

30/09/05

Agenda Item 3: Air Navigation Services

3.1 CNS/ATM

REVISION, DOCUMENTS UPDATING AND AGREEMENTS FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE SAR FOR THE CENTRAL AMERICA SRR AND ADJACENT SRR

(Presented by COCESNA)

SUMMARY

The aim of this note is ask to Aviation Civil Directors their support in order to revise and/or update the documents and agreements related to the Search and Rescue activity on Central America SRR.

1. Introduction

1.1 The Search and Rescue Service (SAR) provided by the Central American States through Rescue Sub Centers (RSC) and COCESNA through Rescue Coordination Center (RCC) in Central American SRR, is ruled to the established on the regional agreements subscribed by the Central America States and COCESNA, as well as the letters of agreements with the adjacent SRR, related with a SAR Plan, according with the related SARPS.

2. Central American SAR Organization

2.1 The organizational structure of Search and Rescue service is as follows:

- a) A SRR, which lateral limits are coincident with Central America FIR.
- b) A Central America Rescue Coordination Center (RCC), under COCESNA responsibility.
- c) Rescue Sub Centers (RSC) under the responsibility of each country of the Central America SRR.

3. Central American SAR Plan

- 3.1 The Central America SAR Plan was signed in Tegucigalpa City on November 30th, 1992, by Central America Civil Aviation Directors and COCESNA.
- 3.2 To provide the Search and Rescue Service in Central America SRR, considering the agreements about the subject and regarding with ICAO audits, is convenient that the Central American Search and Rescue Committee (COBUSA) make a revision and update the Central American SAR Plan to be approved by the Central America Civil Aviation Directors.

4. Central American Search and Rescue Committee Regulation (COBUSA)

- 4.1 The Central American SAR Plan contents the general regulations for the functioning of Central American Search and Rescue Committee (COBUSA) which purpose is to count with a forum where the specialists could discuss inherent topics to Central America SAR.
- 4.2 This committee is composed by the SAR Coordinators of the States and Central America RCC, although the above mentioned Committee has not approved yet its Internal Regulation, for this reason is convenient that Civil Aviation Directors agree that the COBUSA update this Regulation, which will be submitted to its approval.

5. SAR Operational Letters of Agreements Signature.

- 5.1 With the purpose to establish a document that regulate the operational procedures that must be observed by the signatories parts to the written and oral coordination of the information related with SAR, COCESNA as responsible of Central American RCC SAR service, has sent Letters of Agreements drafts to the Central American States and adjacent SRR to be signed by States Authorities, as well, SAR operational agreement must be signed between the Central American RSCs.
- 5.2 Related with the above mentioned, is important to mention that the SAR operational Letter of Agreement between the Panama RCC and Central American has been signed.

6. Memorandums Of Understanding (MOU)

- 6.1 With the purpose to propose cooperation mechanisms and air, ground and maritime support, to the Search and Rescue Service in Central American Region, it is necessary to subscribe Memorandums Of Understanding as agreement between those entities that could provide assistance and/or cooperation as Merchant Marine, Naval Forces, Air Force and other entities related with SAR.

7. Suggested Action

- 7.1 The Meeting is invited to approve the following draft conclusion:

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CONCLUSION 2/XX REVISION AND SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENTS ABOUT
SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR) FOR THE CENTRAL AMERICAN SRR.

Considering the need for updating the documents that regulate the Central American agreements in matter of Search and Rescue, and the convenience of establishing other agreements with related entities that could provide support and assistance to the Central American Service SAR, it is requested that Central American Aeronautical Authorities and COCESNA:

- a) Instruct their SAR Coordinators with the purpose that in Fifth Meeting of the Central American Search and Rescue Committee (COBUSA/5), to celebrate in Tegucigalpa on October 17th to 20th, proceed to:
 - i) Revise and update the present SAR Plan to Central American, signed on November 30th 1992;
 - ii) Update the Internal Regulation of Central American Search and Rescue Committee COBUSA);
 - iii) Revise/elaborate the SAR letters of agreements that be necessary.
- b) Approve and endorse with their signatures the described documents in above item a);
- c) To Exhort those entities of Central American States that could provide aid in matter of Search and Rescue to subscribe agreements with the aeronautical authorities by mean of Memorandums Of Understanding.
- d) It is requires that agreements be established between COCESNA RCC and adjacent RCCs.

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