



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization
North American, Central American and Caribbean Office

WORKING PAPER

ANI/WG/SAR/TF/1 — WP/07
30/08/19

**First NAM/CAR Air Navigation Implementation Working Group (ANI/WG) Search and Rescue (SAR)
Implementation Task Force Meeting (ANI/WG/SAR/TF/1)
Mexico City, Mexico, 17 – 19 September 2019**

**Agenda Item 2: Terms of Reference of the ANI/WG Search and Rescue (SAR) Implementation
Task Force
2.1 Approval of Terms of Reference**

PROPOSAL OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

(Presented by Secretariat)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
The purpose of this Working Paper is to present a proposal of the SAR Task Force Terms of Reference for approval.	
Action:	The suggested actions are presented in Section 5.
Strategic Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety• Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency
References:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annex 12 – <i>Search and Rescue</i>• Final Report of the Ninth Meeting of the North American, Central American and Caribbean Directors of Civil Aviation (NACC/DCA/09), Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 25 – 27 June 2019• Fifth NAM/CAR Air Navigation Implementation Working Group Meeting (ANI/WG/5) Mexico City, Mexico, 27 – 31 May 2019

1. Introduction

1.1 The adequate provision of Search and Rescue (SAR) services is a fundamental part of sustaining a well-thought air navigation system, which focuses on the protection of passengers' lives. Assistance to aircraft in distress is therefore one of the basic principles of the Chicago Convention.

1.2 Compliance with Annex 12 Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) provide the required framework for the establishment, maintenance and operation of search and rescue services in the territory of Contracting States and over the high seas, and to the coordination of such services between States.

2. Background

2.1 During the Fourth NAM/CAR Air Navigation Implementation Working Group Meeting (ANI/WG/4), held in Miami, United States from 21 to 24 August 2018, the ICAO Secretariat presented the CAR Regional Strategy for SAR Implementation, which proposed establishing an Ad hoc Group to plan SAR implementation for the CAR Region and draft a SAR regional plan.

2.2 In line with the CAR Regional Strategy for SAR Implementation, the Secretariat convened the Search and Rescue Implementation Meeting (SAR) and Civic-Military Coordination NAM/CAR (SAR/CM), held in Mexico City, Mexico, from 5 to 7 November 2018. This meeting was attended by representatives of 12 States and International Organizations of the CAR Region, including members of the Ad hoc Group. The Meeting decided to support the establishment of the SAR Task Force as part of the structure of the ANI/WG, and to remind the States/Territories/International Organizations of the NAM/CAR Regions to comply with Conclusion ANI/WG/04/02 – *GREATER SUPPORT FROM STATES AND AIRPORT OPERATORS TO AGA/AOP, MET AND SAR TASK FORCES*, providing their SAR Point of Contact.

2.3 The progress report of the SAR activities was presented to the Fifth NAM/CAR Air Navigation Implementation Working Group Meeting (ANI/WG/5), held in Mexico City, Mexico, from 27 to 31 May, 2019, along with a formal proposal to establish a SAR Task Force, as part of the ANI/WG structure. With the Conclusion ANI/WG/5/05 the ANI/WG approved the establishment of the ANI/WG SAR Task Force, as part of the ANI/WG structure, in order to support SAR implementation in the NAM/CAR Regions and to lead the activities to support compliance with the NAM/CAR Regional Performance-Based Air Navigation Implementation Plan (RPBANIP) Regional Performance Objectives (RPO). Under the same Conclusion, the ICAO NACC Regional Office was instructed to take the necessary steps to ensure the adequate establishment of the ANI/WG SAR Task Force, and convene its first meeting with the SAR activities proposed by the ICAO NACC Regional Office.

2.4 The aforementioned Conclusion was ratified by the Ninth Meeting of the North American, Central American and Caribbean Directors of Civil Aviation (NACC/DCA/09), held in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, from 25 to 27 June 2019.

3. ANI/WG Search and Rescue (SAR) Implementation Task Force

3.1 The establishment of the ANI/WG SAR Implementation Task Force is primarily aimed at supporting the achievement of the SAR related Regional Performance Objective, included in the RPBANIP.

3.2 Through the ANI/WG SAR Implementation Task Force Work Programme and Activities, the Region will obtain the required guidance and collaboration to support compliance with the Annex 12 SARPs, the Caribbean Regional Search and Rescue (SAR) Plan and a harmonized platform for support and collaboration.

3.3 The **Appendix** to this Working Paper presents a proposal for Terms of Reference, to guide the Task Force activities and work environment.

4. Conclusions

4.1 An adequate SAR service is a priority to guarantee the life of the traveling public, the continuity of air transport and the important contribution of aviation.

4.2 SAR implementation, although evaluated individually, depends significantly on regional collaboration frameworks. The combination of efforts and joint work will result in the improvement of the effective implementation of Annex 12 SARPs and the proper establishment of SAR services in all States of the Region. Therefore, regional actions have a direct relevance to SAR.

5. Suggested Actions

5.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) approve the Terms of Reference of the ANI/WG SAR Implementation Task Force presented in the Appendix;
- b) elect the ANI/WG SAR Implementation Task Force Rapporteur from its Members; and
- c) take any additional action deemed necessary.

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APPENDIX**ANI/WG SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR) IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE
TERMS OF REFERENCE (TORs)****1. Background**

1.1 During the Fifth ANI/WG Meeting, a Search and Rescue Implementation Task Force was formed in order to streamline related Search and Rescue Implementation Activities and enhance regional cooperation to comply with Annex 12 SARPs and regionally agreed targets. This Task Force shall promote SAR implementation in accordance with the NAM/CAR Regional Performance-Based Air Navigation Implementation Plan (RPBANIP), as well as update and report progress to the ANI/WG based on the action plan for these tasks.

2. Responsibilities

2.1 The Task Force is responsible to:

- a) develop and implement a Work Programme to ensure the continuous and coherent provision of SAR services in the NAM/CAR Regions, according with the NAM/CAR Regional Performance-based Air Navigation Implementation Plan (RPBANIP) and agreed targets, in a manner that is harmonized with adjacent Search and Rescue Regions (SRR), consistent with ICAO SARPs and the Global Air Navigation Plan;
- b) appoint the Task Force Rapporteur from its members;
- c) facilitate and support the establishment and operation of the SAR System by States, Territories and ANSPs, according to the different requirements and level of maturity; and
- d) review, identify and address deficiencies that impede the implementation or adequate provision of efficient SAR in the NAM/CAR Regions, propose actions to address them to improve SAR operations.

2.2 Responsibilities of the Members

- a) Attend Task Force Meetings and Teleconferences
- b) Collaborate with the development and implementation of the Task Force Work Programme
- c) Comply with the agreed tasks and activities as assigned

2.3 Responsibilities of the Rapporteur

- a) Lead the development and implementation of the Task Force Work Programme and activities
- b) Follow up on the compliance with the RPOs
- c) Report to the ANI/WG the compliance with the Task Force Work Programme and RPOs related tasks

2.4 Responsibilities of the Secretariat

- a) The ICAO NACC ATM/SAR Regional Officer will serve as the Secretary of the Task Force meetings
- b) He/she is responsible to support the Task Force activities, providing guidance to the connection for the Task Force Work Programme and the RPBANIP
- c) In coordination with the Rapporteur, develop and present to the members the annual programme of activities
- d) In coordination with the Rapporteur, convene the Task Force activities, teleconferences and meetings
- e) Maintain up to date the Task Force documentation, Work Programme and membership in the ANI/WG website information

2.5 Responsibilities of the States

- a) Support the participation of its members, according to the role and responsibilities assigned
- b) Request accountability for the development and implementation of SAR Work Programme in the NAM/CAR Regions

3. Membership

3.1 The SAR Task Force shall be comprised of 10 representatives from States, Territories and International Organizations members of the ANI/WG.

3.1.1 States, Territories, International Organizations and members of the ANI/WG are encouraged to nominate Points of Contact (PoCs) to the SAR Task Force, who will be actively involved with the work of the Task Force.

3.2 States, Territories and International Organizations nominating members to the SAR Task Force shall provide the adequate support and authority in order to make decisions on behalf of the State/ANSP to comply with the requirements of the Task Force.

4. Working Methods

4.1 The Task Force will:

- a) present its Work Programme containing activities in terms of objectives, responsibilities, deliverables and timelines;
- b) the Task Force Rapporteur and the Secretariat will coordinate an annual programme of activities to comply with the requirements of the approved Work Programme;
- c) avoid duplicating work within the ANI/WG and maintain close coordination among the existing entities to optimize use of available resources and experience;

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- d) designate, as necessary, Ad Hoc Groups to work on specific topics and activities, and organize clearly defined tasks and activities;
- e) convene annual face to face meetings and quarterly teleconferences to maximize efficiency and reduce costs; and
- f) report on and coordinate the progress of assigned tasks to the ANI/WG.

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