



International Civil Aviation Organization
Western and Central African Office

**First Meeting of the AFI SAR Services Integration Task Force
(ASSI TF/1) (Dakar, Senegal, 19-20 September 2011)**

Agenda Item 2: Review and follow up on Recommendations, Conclusions and Decisions applicable to the Task Force

FOLLOW-UP ON SP AFI/08 RAN RECOMMENDATIONS, APIRG CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the Recommendations of the Special AFI/08 RAN Meeting, and Conclusions and Decisions formulated within the frameworks of APIRG, for review, follow up action, and update as necessary.

Action by the meeting is at **paragraph 3**.

REFERENCES

- SP AFI/08 RAN Report
- APIRG 17 Report

This Working Paper is related to Strategic Objectives: **A**

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Special AFI RAN Meeting, Durban, South Africa 24-29 November 2008, formulated Recommendation 6/22 that is applicable to the SAR field.

1.2 The APIRG/17 meeting, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso 2-6 August 2010 adopted Conclusion 17/68 and one Decision 17/67 which are directly applicable to the work of the ASSI Task Force.

1.3 The meeting is to take measures to foster implementation thereof and ICAO SAR provisions in general.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The meeting may recall that the AFI 7 meeting adopted a comprehensive (eight) set of Recommendations, aimed at fostering implementation of current and future imperatives in the field of SAR:

- Recommendation 6/1 – Carriage of 406 MHZ ELTs
- Recommendation 6/2 – Satellite-aided search and rescue
- Recommendation 6/3 – Cooperation between States
- Recommendation 6/4 – Coordination with maritime SAR authorities
- Recommendation 6/5 – Training of SAR personnel
- Recommendation 6/6 – Search and rescue seminars
- Recommendation 6/7 – Search and rescue exercises
- Recommendation 6/8 – Search and rescue facilities

2.2 Thereafter successive APIRG meetings expressed their concern on the fact that most of the ICAO provisions relating to Search and Rescue (SAR) Services have continued to remain un-implemented for decades.

2.3 In discussing the SAR issues, the SP AFI/08 RAN Meeting noted that the historical approach to SAR system development had rested on the establishment of independent national SAR services. The meeting was made aware that both ICAO and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) now recommend the regionalized provision of SAR services as the means of most expeditiously achieving an effective global SAR system. Regional SAR service provision also offered the opportunity of aeronautical and maritime agencies to cooperate to provide SAR services over a geographic area determined in consideration of need and risk rather than within State borders that, from an operational perspective, were entirely arbitrary.

2.4 Based on the above, the SP AFI/08 RAN Meeting adopted Recommendation 6/22 the text of which is reflected hereunder:

Recommendation 6/22 — Establishment of subregional search and rescue (SAR) arrangements

That APIRG:

a) adopt the SAR Performance Objective: Establishment of subregional SAR arrangements as contained in the performance framework form in Appendix H to the Report on Agenda Item 6;

b) adopt as policy the general concept of subregional SAR provision from joint aviation/maritime rescue coordination centres (RCCs) as a key strategy in the improvement of the Africa-wide SAR system;

c) support the establishment of a task force to progress the initiative taken at the Port Elizabeth Consultative Conference of October 2007 on the integration of SAR services in the southern African Region; and

d) cooperate with ICAO and IMO in their continuing collaboration with African States to implement sub-regional, joint RCCs at strategic locations on the African continent.

2.5 In view of the above, the APIRG 17 meeting acknowledged that implementation of SAR was not receiving the attention it deserves and that more effort was necessary to give effect to the APIRG Conclusions and AFI RAN meetings Recommendations.

2.6 To this effect and in accordance with the SP AF/08RAN Recommendation 6/22, APIRG 17 adopted Conclusion 17/68 and one Decision17/67 which are reflected in **Appendix A** to this working paper.

2.7 The meeting may wish to review these conclusion and decision and decide on any follow-up action deemed appropriate.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Review the Conclusion and Decision at **Appendixes A** to this working paper;
- b) Agree on any update and follow-up action deemed necessary to foster the implementation of SAR provisions contained therein.

APPENDIX A

APIRG17 CONCLUSION & DECISION RELATED TO SAR

Cons/Decs No. Strategic Objectives*	Title of Cons/Decs	Text of Cons/Decs	Follow-up Action	To be initiated by	Deliverable/ Intended Outcome	Target Dates	Status of Implementation
DECISION 17/67 A	AFI SAR SERVICES INTEGRATION TASK FORCE (ASSI TF)	That, in order to progress the initiatives taken at the Port Elizabeth Consultative Conference of October 2007 on integration of SAR services and similar other initiatives in the AFI Region, and to support the implementation of SAR provisions, the AFI SAR Services Integration Task Force (ASSI TF) is established with the terms of reference at Appendix 3.4L to the report on agenda item 3.4.	Coordinate establishment of ASSI TF	ESAF & WACAF Offices	ASSI TF meetings report	March 2011	ASS TF/1 meeting 19-20 September 2011
CONCLUSION 17/68 A	SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES	That, with the objective to foster the implementation of SAR services and improvement of SAR systems in the Region, AFI states are: (a) Urged to establish joint aviation/maritime rescue coordination centres (RCCs) in order to optimize usage of resources and coordination; (b) Encouraged to establish sub-regional task forces to progress the development SAR cooperative arrangements and integration of SAR services;	Issue State Letter Initiate coordination protocols between RCCs	ESAF & WACAF Offices States	State Letter More efficient and effective SAR services	2010-2011	Completed Follow up at APIRG 17

-5-

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		<p>(c) Urged to consider entering into agreements with States that have adequate facilities (within or outside the sub-region) to assist in SAR operations; and</p> <p>(d) Encouraged to include officials from other State organs who are part of the States SAR organization, in their delegations to relevant ICAO meetings and workshops.</p>					

*Note: ICAO has established the following Strategic objectives for the period 2011-2013

A: Safety: Enhance global civil aviation safety:

B: Security: Enhance Global civil aviation security;

C: Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of Air Transport: Foster harmonised and economically viable development of international civil aviation that does not unduly harm the environment.