



International Civil Aviation Organization  
Western and Central African Office

## **AFI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION REGIONAL GROUP (APIRG)**

**Fourteenth Meeting of the Air Traffic Management/Aeronautical Information  
Management/Search and Rescue Sub-Group (ATM/AIM/SAR SG/14)**  
*(Dakar, Senegal, 11 to 14 May 2015)*

**Agenda Item 3: Status of implementation of the Sub-Group work programme and  
related Task Forces/Working Groups as assigned by APIRG**

### **3.2 Search and Recue**

#### **STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUB-GROUP WORK PROGRAMME AND RELATED TASK FORCES/WORKING GROUPS AS ASSIGNED BY APIRG RELATED TO SAR**

*(Presented by the Secretariat)*

<b>SUMMARY</b>
This working paper presents the work done by the ATM/AIM/SAR Sub-Group and related Task Forces and Working Groups established by APIRG, in the area of search and rescue (SAR) and calls for an update of information on the status of progress of AFI States, as provided for in the list of Appendices to this paper.
Action by the meeting is at <b>paragraph 3.</b>
<b>REFERENCES</b>
APIRG/19 Report ASSI TF/3 Report
This working paper is related to Strategic Objectives: <b>A</b>

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The meeting will recall that the work programme of the ATM/AIM/SAR Sub-Group was endorsed by the APIRG/19 meeting which was held in Dakar, Senegal from 28 to 31 October 2013. Based on the work programme of the Sub-Group since the APIRG/19 meeting, this paper presents the status of implementation of the AFI Search and Rescue Services Integration Task Force (ASSI TF) for review and update by the meeting.

## **2. DISCUSSION**

*Outcome of the ASSI Task Force Meeting*

2.1 The Third Meeting of the AFI Search and Rescue Task Force (ASSI TF/3)

(Yaoundé, Cameroun, from 30 to 31 July 2013) was held back to back with a Workshop on Search and Rescue Services (29 July 2013), which was supported by both WACAF and ESAF Regional Offices. The Task Force reiterated the need for States to cooperate with stakeholders in the SAR field for the provision and the improvement of SAR services through bilateral and/or sub-regional search and rescue arrangements with the neighbouring States.

2.2 Cognizant of the importance of SAR legislation/regulation and SAR agreements in the process of establishing an effective SAR organization, AFI States were urged to take necessary steps to comply with ICAO provisions related to SAR legislation/regulation and agreements at national and international level. In addition, the meeting emphasised the need for States to have effective training programmes and plans for SAR personnel and regular paper and communications exercises, including frequent SAR exercises conducted under realistic conditions involving all stakeholders.

2.3 The Fourth meeting of the ASSI Task Force, planned for the third quarter of 2014 had to be postponed due to the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) which had affected some western African States, resulting in strict travel conditions being imposed by many African States, to try and minimize the spread of the virus. A follow-up meeting of the Task Force is planned for November 2015 and will be hosted by the ESAF Regional Office. The meeting will oversee and coordinate the implementation of projects related to SAR requirements in accordance with the provisions of Annex 12 to the Chicago Convention and APIRG.

### **3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information provided in this working paper; and
- b) review and update the information in Appendices 6A-1 to 6A-10 to this working paper.

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