International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual

International harmonization of aeronautical and maritime SAR organization, procedures, equipment and terminology
IAMSAR Manual:

Volume I Organization and Management
• SAR system managers, policy makers

Volume II Mission Coordination
• Rescue coordination centers

Volume III Mobile Facilities
• SAR units, civil aircraft and vessels
Focus on Volume I Organization and Management:

Legislation (law/decree)

◆ Chapter 1, Section 1.3 and Appendix A Sample legislation [one page, add or delete parts]

• Be careful on too many details which could change

• Avoid words that make a response mandatory (you do not have to fly into a hurricane/typhoon)
Volume I Organization and Management

SAR Agreements (or whatever term is appropriate)

◆ Appendix I Sample agreements

• First page has notes to consider

• “Each section of the sample agreement may be used or adapted as the Parties agree.”

• Letter of Agreement (LoA) versus Agreement in general
National SAR Committee

IAMSAR Manual Volume I
Section 6.4 and

Appendix J “Sample national SAR committee interagency agreement”

IAMSAR Manual Volume I
National SAR Committee

IAMSAR Manual Volume I
Section 6.4 and

Appendix J “Sample national SAR committee interagency agreement”
National SAR Committee
A Strategic Level Whole-of-Government Approach

-Member Agencies could include:
  • Defense,
  • Transportation (Aeronautical, maritime),
  • Interior, Communications, National Police,
  • Health, Emergency Management, etc.

Who chairs the Committee? Your choice (But equal vote.)

-Focused on policy matters, while ongoing operational matters could be handled under a different interagency forum.
Volume I Organization and Management

SAR Exercises

◆ Chapter 3, Section 3.3 and Appendix O Sample template for a joint search and rescue exercise

• It is better to ‘practice’ before the actual accident
• It is better to do a basic exercise rather than no exercise
• Presentation later in this program
Volume I Organization and Management

SAR Resources

◆ Volume I Appendix C Sources for SAR assistance

◆ Volume II Appendix G Selection of SAR facilities

• Make use of all available resources – government and private

• Your RCC coordinates the response, it does not have to provide all the response units
Aircraft accidents happen on land and at sea. The IAMSAR Manual can help you and your neighbors to provide an effective, efficient response.  

Time for questions