

APSAR/WG/5  
Appendix F to the Report

**APSAR/TF - TASK LIST**

*(Last amended APSAR/WG/5, ~~May 2019~~ June 2020)*

ID	Task Description	Start Date	Expected Finish Date	Resource Names/Remarks
3/1	The meeting discussed MEOSAR's Return Link Service. APSAR/WG/3 recommended that more guidance be provided to States within the Asia/Pacific SAR Plan, to ensure MCCs were equipped to take advantage of this new capability.	APSAR/ WG/3	<del>01 July 2019</del> CLOSED	Asia/Pacific SAR Plan Review SWG Work progressed to the update of the Asia/Pacific SAR Plan V3.0, 5.16.
3/2	Regarding a simpler template for SAR agreements/arrangements, Malaysia, Singapore and the USA agreed to work with the ICAO APAC Regional Office to provide more guidance related to SAR Agreements for the Asia/Pacific SAR Plan.	APSAR/ WG/3	<del>01 July 2019</del> CLOSED	Asia/Pacific SAR Plan Review SWG Separate from the APSAR WG, US accepted a task on this matter under the ICAO/IMO Joint Working Group on SAR (JWG). Many potential solutions were considered but all had weaknesses. US has submitted a working paper to the October 2020 JWG meeting recommending that the task be closed, action suspended pending receipt of additional information. APSAR/WG noted that a simpler template could not be developed.
3/6	ICAO noted that, given the unique systems used by SAR, it was optimal for SAR personnel to be specialised. However, it was also noted that it was advantageous for at least some RCC staff to have had ATC experience. ICAO recalled the resource constraints and difficulties in managing the unfamiliar task of interacting with the public and media that Malaysian personnel experienced during the MH370 tragedy. Therefore, using current air traffic controllers for SAR responses was appropriate where there were resource constraints, but it was more optimal to have specialised SAR officers.	APSAR/ WG/3	<del>01 July 2019</del> APSAR/WG/6	Asia/Pacific SAR Plan Review <del>2022</del> SWG
3/7	Updates on Palau, Micronesia and the Marshall Islands SAR capability	APSAR/ WG/3	<del>01 July 2020</del> CLOSED	USA Updates on Palau, Micronesia and the Marshall Islands were provided by the USA.
4/1	States should provide feedback to Cospas-Sarsat on the status of the registration systems that were maintained by individual States.	May 2019	APSAR/WG/5 On-going	All APAC States

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4/2	ICAO requested that States monitor and report the effectiveness of their false alert education programmes.	May 2019	APSAR/WG/5 On-going	All APAC States
4/3	States should contribute their experience and interpretations in order to develop comprehensive guidance for the performance element reporting.	May 2019	APSAR/WG/5 CLOSED	All APAC States APSAR/WG/4/WP12 from Australia and APSAR/WG/5/IP03 from NZ
4/4	China was requested to submit information on the BDS capability to the ICAO-IMO Joint Working Group on SAR and the Cospas-Sarsat JC.	May 2019	September 2019 31 December 2020	China
4/5	The USA offered to provide information on the national SAR service policies on mountain flying.	May 2019	APSAR/WG/5 CLOSED	USA National SAR services policies on mountain policies. The USA has some general guidance on aeronautical searches in mountains but there is not a specific compilation of procedures, tactics or best practices. There is some guidance provided in the International Aeronautical and Maritime SAR (IAMSAR) Manual.
4/6	China and Nepal were requested to provide more detailed analysis of the investigations into ELT non-activation problems in mountainous and high terrain areas.	May 2019	APSAR/WG/5 APSAR/WG/6	China and Nepal
4/7	States with representatives at ICAO HQ were urged to support the development of the electronic reporting portal.	May 2019	July 2019 CLOSED	Australia, China, India, Japan, Singapore, USA ICAO HQ development of the electronic reporting portal – this has been elevated by formal APANPIRG Conclusion and direct messages from the Regional Office to ICAO HQ.

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5/1	Cospas-Sarsat requested States to provide: (a) feedback for possible improvements after receipt of a distress alert from Global Maritime Distress Safety System (GMDSS) mobile satellite service providers, including Cospas-Sarsat; and (b) details of any existing MCC-SPOC agreements/arrangements, and proposals for improving MCC-SPOC communications during tests and real alerts.	APSAR/WG/5	APSAR/WG/6	APSAR/WG/5/WP03 – APAC States
5/2	States to use APSAR/WG/5/WP06/Attachment A (the International Maritime Organisation’s IMO Interim Guidance for SAR Services Regarding Implementation of Autonomous Distress Tracking of Aircraft in Flight) as a means to have their aeronautical and maritime SAR services coordinate to develop national and regional response procedures for ADT	APSAR/WG/5	APSAR/WG/6	APSAR/WG/5/WP06 – APAC States