



International Civil Aviation Organization

Fifth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Regional Search and Rescue Working Group (APSARWG/5)

Video Teleconference, 09 – 11 June 2020

Agenda Item 4: Asia/Pacific and inter-regional SAR planning, coordination and cooperation

(Presented by Lao PDR)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the result of the signing ceremony of the Aviation Search and Rescue Agreement between the government of Lao PDR and the Kingdom of Thailand and an update to the Lao PDR's SAR LOAs Matrix.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Lao PDR is a land-locked country, with one FIR namely Vientiane FIR. It is surrounded by Bangkok, Yangon, Kunming, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh and Phnom Penh FIRs.

1.2 The established Search and Rescue Region (SRR) is coordinated along the national boundary and stands upward to the airspace equal to Vientiane FIR.

1.3 Before 2019, the government of Lao PDR have the SAR LOAs signed only with Vietnam and Myanmar. Technically required by Annex 12, the SAR LOAs shall be signed and periodically reviewed with all neighboring states.

1.4 On 13rd of July 2019, Lao PDR and the Kingdom of Thailand signed the agreement on the provision of assistance in Aviation Search and Rescue (SAR LOA). In seeing the SAR operations and mission relevant to several different governments for instance: Military, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Health and so on, therefore such agreement was agreed to be signed at the Ministerial level.



Figure 1: Agreement Signing Ceremony

1.5 Next course of actions, the government of Lao PDR is planning to have the SAR LOAs signed with Cambodia and China respectively by utilizing the SAR LOA signed with Thailand as the example template/model. The progress of such issue would be further reported to ICAO RO's SAR Sub-working or ATM Sub-working group whichever comes first.

2. ACTION BY THE MEETING

2.1.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information contained in this paper; and
- b) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate

