



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization

Eighth Meeting of the ICAO Asia/Pacific Search and Rescue Working Group (AP SAR/WG/8)

Bangkok, Thailand, 22 – 25 May 2023

Agenda Item 7: AP SAR/WG Task List

AP SAR/WG TERMS OF REFERENCE AND TASK LIST

(Presented by Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents the AP SAR/WG Task List and Terms of Reference for review.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The AP SAR/WG is required to periodically review the tasks assigned to it or developed within the AP SAR/WG itself, as well as the relevancy of tasks within the context of its Terms of Reference (TOR).

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The AP SAR/WG TOR is appended as **Attachment A** to this paper.

2.2 The AP SAR/WG Task List as last updated by AP SAR/WG/7 is appended as **Attachment B** to this paper.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to review the:

- a) Terms of Reference at **Attachment A**; and
- b) Task List at **Attachment B**.

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Terms of Reference

Asia/Pacific Search and Rescue Workgroup (APSAR/WG)

Objective

1 In collaboration with affected stakeholders and in close cooperation with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the objective of the Asia/Pacific Search and Rescue Workgroup is to promote the enhancement and improvement of SAR facilities and services within the Asia/Pacific Region and adjacent regions, in accordance with:

- a) Annex 12 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation; and
- b) the International Aeronautical and Maritime SAR Manual (IAMSAR).

2 The APSAR/WG will be expected to enhance SAR capability within the Asia/Pacific Region by:

- a) making recommendations for improvement to the Asia/Pacific SAR Plan; and
- b) providing advice and information, including recommendations for effective implementation of SAR improvements.

Tasks

3 To meet its objectives, the APSAR/WG shall:

- a) review the current status of SAR preparedness of Asia and Pacific Region States;
- b) review State SAR Arrangements for commonality with those of neighbouring States to facilitate SAR coordination and cooperation across regional boundaries;
- c) monitor outcomes from APANPIRG, ATM/SG, other ICAO Region SAR groups, ICAO/IMO Joint Working Group (JWG) and related forums for issues that may affect the APAC Region;
- d) monitor sub-regional and/or regional SAREX as appropriate;
- e) analyse procedures in use in other ICAO Regions, and cooperate with other groups which are involved with similar work in adjacent airspaces, in order to achieve harmonized inter-regional solutions;
- f) identify areas where SAR planning and preparedness requires improvement in terms of compliance with Annex 12, the IAMSAR Manual and accepted best practice; and
- g) make recommendations for improvement and implementation of SAR systems.

Reporting

4 The APSAR/WG reports to the ATM Sub-group of APANPIRG. A line of communication will be provided to the IMO on APSAR/WG outcomes where necessary.

Membership

5 The membership of the APSAR/WG is open to States and administrations that have the responsibility for the provision of SAR services and facilities within the Asia/Pacific, related international organizations, IMO and ICAO. The membership is also open to participants from outside the Asia/Pacific or organisations that can contribute to APSAR/WG by invitation from APSAR/WG (such as Cospas-Sarsat and military organizations that can facilitate SAR operations).

APSAR/WG - TASK LIST

(Last amended APSAR/WG/7, 27 May 2022)

ID	Task Description	Start Date	Expected Finish Date	Resource Names/Remarks
4/2	ICAO requested that States monitor and report the effectiveness of their false alert education programmes.	May 2019	On-going	All APAC States Updated to 'ongoing' at APSAR/WG/6
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	Closed	China and Nepal APSAR/WG/6 – update: there was insufficient data so far available to progress this task. Future update to be provided.
5/1	Cospas-Sarsat requested States to provide feedback on notifications about system developments; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) provide feedback on the Cospas-Sarsat Video Library; b) participate in the development of modifications to distress alert message format; and c) provide details of any existing MCC-SPOC agreements/arrangements, and proposals for improving MCC-SPOC communications during tests and real alerts. d) provide feedback to Cospas-Sarsat on the status of the registration systems that were maintained by individual States (prev task 4/1) 	APSAR/WG/5	Ongoing	APSAR/WG/4 Task 4/1 APSAR/WG/5/WP03 – APAC States APSAR/WG/6 WP/05 – APAC States APSAR/WG/7 WP/04 – APAC States Cospas-Sarsat has copies of only three agreements between relevant MCCs and APAC RCCs (Tahiti, Cambodia, Lao PDR)
5/2	States to use APSAR/WG/6 WP/04 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	Closed	APSAR/WG/6/WP04 – APAC States

APSAR/WG/8 – WP/16
Attachment B

ID	Task Description	Start Date	Expected Finish Date	Resource Names/Remarks
6/1	Adapt ADT Implementation Guidance from APSAR/WG/6 WP/04 Attachment A for inclusion in updated Regional SAR Plan	APSAR/WG/6	Completed	APSAR/WG/6 WP/04 – USA APSAR/WG/7: incorporated in Revised SAR Plan at Appendix E to the Report Also to be considered for inclusion in checklist of items for consideration under Action Item 7/5
6/2	Develop a generic version of the MOU between the SAR Service and the Accident Investigation Authority for inclusion in updated Regional SAR Plan	APSAR/WG/6	Completed	APSAR/WG/6 WP/09 – Australia, Singapore, USA (includes WP to ICAO/IMO JWG September 2021 to seek input). APSAR/WG/7: incorporated in Revised SAR Plan at Appendix E to the Report
6/3	2022 Update of Regional SAR Plan	APSAR/WG/6	Completed	APSAR/WG/6 WP/10 – Australia, Singapore, USA, coordinated by ICAO Regional Office, including coordination with other ICAO Regions for updated SAR plans. APSAR/WG/7: Completed apart from residual action item 7/6
7/1	Provide feedback to Cospas-Sarsat by not later than 03 June 2022 on the draft model/template for use by MCCs to inform State SAR SPOCs on GADSS, ELT(DT)s and alerts originating from aircraft in a distress condition	APSAR/WG/7	03 June 2022	APSAR/WG/7: Direct feedback to Cospas-Sarsat to avoid double handling due to the short timeframe.
7/2	Establish what global activities such as workshops, training or guidance for ADT, including ELT(DT), and within the scope of ICAO, may be planned	APSAR/WG/7	03 June 2022 Completed	APSAR/WG/7: ICAO APAC to follow up with HQ. Feedback to be taken into account in consideration/planning in response to action item 7/3
7/3	Examine whether a further workshop or seminar on GADSS may be programmed for APAC Region before the end of 2022	APSAR/WG/7	31 August 2022 Closed	APSAR/WG/7: ICAO to see if/where a further workshop may be added to the work programme. Subject also to feedback from HQ to action item 7/2 and responses to survey under action item 7/6
7/4	Develop brief guidance in the form of a checklist of considerations for actions by Regulators, Airlines, SAR Services and ANSPs when an ADT is activated	APSAR/WG/7	03 June 2022 Completed	APSAR/WG/7: To be completed for inclusion as Appendix D to the Report. ICAO, Chair, Australia, USA, IATA, Cospas-Sarsat. Include Regulatory input

ID	Task Description	Start Date	Expected Finish Date	Resource Names/Remarks
7/5	Update SAR Plan paragraphs: a) 5.14 to 5.20 to include ELT(DT) information b) 6.1 to 6.6 to include latest USOAP and Regional SAR status	APSAR/WG/7	03 June 2022 Completed	APSAR/WG/7: a) Cospas-Sarsat in coordination with ICAO; b) ICAO
7/6	ICAO APAC State Letter; a) Remind states of applicability date; b) Remind them of the OPS CTRL and LADR registration process and encourage them to register; c) Include survey of APAC States on readiness for applicability of ADT 01 January 2023	APSAR/WG/7	31 August 2022 Completed	APSAR/WG/7: ICAO Subject to completion of guidance in action item 7/5, to be used as the basis of the survey.