



International Civil Aviation Organization

ICAO

Ninth Meeting of the ICAO Asia/Pacific Search and Rescue Working Group (APSAR/WG/9)

Bangkok, Thailand, 07 – 10 May 2024

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

CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF NEPAL (CAAN) SAR SERVICES PROVISION

(Presented by Nepal)

SUMMARY

Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal (CAAN) is responsible for establishment and provision of SAR Services within Nepalese territory in coordination with other agencies such as Nepal army, Nepal police, to ensure that assistance is rendered to persons in distress shall be provided on a 24-hour basis.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation – CAAN (Operations of all international and domestic airports of Nepal).

Main function of CAAN

1.2 Issuance of Operating Certificate to airlines and other aviation business, Issuance of license and certificates to aviation personnel, Aviation safety and security oversight, Regulation of air transport, Providing Air Navigation Services, Construction, management and operations of aerodromes, Implementation of ICAO SARPs, PANS and other Guidance Materials

1.3 Nepal have Fifty (50) Domestic airport and Three (3) International airport, Tribhuvan (Kathmandu) international airport is the Major Hub airport and main international airport of Nepal.

1.4 There are 10 fixed wing Nepalese company (Nepal Airlines Corporation, Himalaya Airlines, Sita Air., Tara Air, Summit Air, Yeti Airlines Buddha Air, Shree Airlines, Saurya Airlines, Guna Airlines.); Similarly, 12 rotor wing (Helicopter) company are registered in Nepal and providing charter services including rescue and medical services.

1.5 CAAN is providing its Regulatory and Service Providers' functions through different directorate offices, so as all the Regulatory functions are performed by the Civil Aviation Safety and Security Regulations Directorate office, And the management of Air Navigation Services are under ANS Directorate.

1.6 CAAN Separation between Service Provider and Regulator as a different entity; the Air Service Authority of Nepal (ASAN) act draft bill and new Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal (CAAN) draft bill has been prepared and submitted to parliament for approval.

1.7 RCC is established at Tribhuvan intl. Airport, Kathmandu and providing 24hours service under the supervision of ATS/SAR Division and equipped with necessary monitoring and communication facilities.

1.8 CAAN has the following documents for the smooth operation of SAR services;

- a) Civil Aviation Requirements for SAR, CAR-12 CAAN
- b) National SAR Regulation 2074 BS
- c) SAR manual 2018 CAAN
- d) SAR Plan for Rescue Coordination Centre TIA Kathmandu
- e) SOP for RCC TIA Kathmandu
- f) National SAR Plan 2080 BS

2. DISCUSSION

SAR services performance status in Nepal:

2.1 SAR services performance status in Nepal:

As per last 10 years' data; CFIT accident is the main risk category in Nepal

- a) CFIT has accounted 93% of total fatality and en-route has been the most dangerous phase of flight since 93% of total fatality has occurred in this phase of flight.
- b) Aircraft operating in STOL sector have suffered more accident.
- c) Enroute accident and search and rescue operation on high terrain and mountain area is a difficult and challenging task.
- d) search and rescue operation in Nepal largely depends upon its geography and meteorological conditions, especially due to the high terrain with rug mountains the search and rescue operation in different region of Nepal pose different level of complexity,
- e) as per the accident data of last 10 years there were 14 fatal accidents occurred including helicopter and foreign operator airlines into Nepalese FIR; and
- f) CAAN is Providing SAR services safely and expeditiously in all circumstances in coordination with all agencies those involve in SAR operation.

2.2 Regarding the update and implementation of SARPs as per ICAO USOAP audit April 2022, Nepal's state safety oversight capability overall EI percentage is 70.10%.

2.3 CAAN SAR Services management has updated with Asia Pacific SAR Plan.

2.4 SAR Division including RCC officials are updated with ICAO developed activities a concept of operation for Global Aeronautical Distress and Safety System (GADSS) including 406 MHz ELT system and COSPAS- SARSAT system.

2.5 CAAN SAR Services units including RCC officials are updated about the implementation of ADT device and ADT Location of an Aircraft in Distress Repository (LADR) as a data base for storing the ADT information.

2.6 In 2022 November, SAR Division organized seminar meeting with Nepalese Airlines operator and discussed and shared the views about the GADSS, ELT -ADT and LDAR system implementation on due time and acknowledged the State Readiness Survey Form provided by APAC office.

2.7 CAAN SAR Services units needs continue update and assistance to implement those systems.

For the effective implementation of Annex 12-SARPs including USOAP SAR PQs

2.8 A final draft of SAR LOA with neighboring countries India has been prepared and waiting for the response, and CAAN expect that it may be held in coming days;

2.9 We have communicated and proposed for SAR LOA with Tibet Autonomous Region of CAAC China, in coming days we may do work on this.

2.10 Regularly every year CAAN SAR Division is organizing SAR awareness program, SAREX Table Top Exercise in different airport and full scale SAREX in every 2 years with the participation of all stakeholder including military and police.

3. EXPECTATION FROM ICAO APAC OFFICE

3.1 CAAN SAR division needs continue support and assistance from APAC office to upgrade our overall SAR service performance and information sharing. We assure our continue participation in the APAC meetings in the coming days.

4. ACTION BY THE MEETING

4.1 The meeting is invited to:

a) note the information provided.

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