

International Civil Aviation Organization

Tenth Meeting of the ICAO Asia/Pacific Search and Rescue Workgroup (APSAR/WG/10)

Siem Reap, Cambodia, 27 – 30 May 2025

Agenda Item 2: Review Outcomes of Related Meetings

RELEVANT MEETINGS OUTCOMES

(Presented by the Secretariat)

SUMMARY

This paper presents a brief overview of the outcomes from relevant high-level meetings and SAR-related workshop conducted since the last APSAR/WG meeting.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Twelfth Meeting of the Air Traffic Management Sub-Group (ATM/SG/12) of the Asia/Pacific Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APANPIRG) was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 23 to 27 September 2024.
- 1.2 The Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Air Navigation Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APANPIRG/35) was held in Bangkok, Thailand, from 25 to 27 November 2024.
- 1.3 The ICAO EUR and APAC Search and Rescue (SAR) Workshop 2024 was held in Baku, Azerbaijan, from 02 to 04 October 2024.

2. DISCUSSION

Asia/Pacific SAR Update - ATM/SG/12 and APANPIRG/35

2.1 The ATM/SG/12 and APANPIRG/35 meetings were informed of the discussion and outcomes of the Ninth Meeting of the Asia/Pacific Regional Search and Rescue Workgroup (APSAR/WG/9, Bangkok, Thailand, 07 to 10 May 2024).

APANPIRG ATM and Airspace Safety Deficiencies in the SAR Field

- 2.2 The ATM/SG/12 and APANPIRG/35 meetings were informed of APANPIRG ANS Deficiency related to the implementation of the SAR Plan. It was noted that regional policy designates Administrations with less than 90% implementation as having an APANPIRG ANS Deficiency for SAR Plan implementation.
- 2.3 The APANPIRG/35 meeting agreed to remove Malaysia and the Philippines from the list of Administrations with an APANPIRG ANS Deficiency for SAR Plan implementation, as both had reported achieving 90% or greater implementation. As a result, there are now 14 Administrations that reported a SAR Plan implementation of 90% or more:

Australia, China, Hong Kong China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Singapore, United States and Viet Nam.

Asia/Pacific SAR Plan

2.4 The ATM/SG/12 agreed to the following Conclusion to facilitate the updating of the *Asia/Pacific SAR Plan* on a flexible and nimble basis:

Conclusion ATM/SG/12-6: Proposal for Annual Submission of Changes to Asia/Pacific Search and Rescue (SAR) Plan

That, States and Administrations are invited, if necessary, to submit proposals to APSAR/WG to incorporate amendments of related documents such as International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual into the Asia/Pacific Search and Rescue (SAR) plan where appropriate instead of waiting for the three years cycle.

Asia/Pacific Regional Readiness for Autonomous Distress Tracking (ADT)

2.5 The ATM/SG/12 and APANPIRG/35 meetings were informed of the findings of a revised survey on Asia/Pacific Regional Readiness for ADT. A total of 17 Administrations participated in the revised survey, revealing that the majority were not prepared for ADT, with an average "Yes" response rate of only 51%. It was observed that most APAC Administrations had not yet established procedures for responding to ADT notifications or Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) alerts. Additionally, training for relevant SAR personnel, Air Traffic Services (ATS) personnel, and flight dispatchers on ADT and ELT alerts had not been conducted, and registration in the ICAO Operations Control (OPS CTRL) Directory remained incomplete.

Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan

2.6 The APANPIRG/35 meeting adopted the following Conclusion:

Conclusion APANPIRG/35-1: Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan

That, given the urgency and priority of Air Navigation Service (ANS) planning and modernization, and the lack of progress in implementing the Aviation System Block Upgrade (ASBU) elements, Version 4.0 of the Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan appended as Appendix A to the Report on Agenda Item 3.0 be adopted; and uploaded to the Asia/Pacific Regional Office eDocument webpage.

- 2.7 The APSAR/WG is invited to note the:
 - a) Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan Version 4.0 has been uploaded to the ICAO Asia/Pacific Regional Office eDocuments webpage (https://www.icao.int/APAC/Pages/eDocs.aspx);
 - b) requirement for Asia/Pacific States/Administrations to submit the *Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan* implementation status, using the Seamless ANS Plan Reporting Tool, by 28 February of each year, effective from year 2025; and
 - c) ongoing work by the ICAO Asia/Pacific Regional Office integrating the *Asia/Pacific Seamless ANS Plan* with other regional plans and guidance material into *Regional Air Navigation Plan (ANP) Volume III*, targeting completion in Q2 of 2025.

ICAO EUR/APAC SAR Workshop 2024

- 2.8 The workshop was graciously hosted by the State Civil Aviation Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan to promote enhanced collaboration between the Asia/Pacific (APAC) and European (EUR) Regions regarding the implementation of SAR plans and initiatives.
- 2.9 The workshop also focused on the preparedness of States for the Global Aeronautical Distress and Safety System (GADSS), particularly concerning the implementation of ADT scheduled for 01 January 2025. Surveys conducted by both ICAO regional offices assessing stakeholders' readiness for ADT implementation indicated that over fifty percent of respondents reported having either "low" or "no" knowledge regarding GADSS or ADT notifications. This workshop aimed to enhance participants' understanding of the GADSS framework and the management of ADT notifications prior to its implementation.
- 2.10 All presentations related to the ICAO EUR/APAC SAR Workshop 2024 were made available on the ICAO EUR/NAT Office webpage (<u>link</u>).

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

- 3.1 The meeting is invited to:
 - a) note the information contained in this paper; and
 - b) discuss any relevant matters as appropriate.

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