



INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
A United Nations Specialized Agency



ICAO EUR SAR TASK FORCE - UPDATE -

ICAO EUR SAR TF/16

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ICAO EUR SAR TASK FORCE - HISTORY

The 1st ICAO EUR SEARCH AND RESCUE TASK FORCE was established 2014 by EANPG;

The outcome of the work of 1st EUR SAR TF:

- a) several meetings (telecons and in-person) in 2015, 2016, and 2017;
- b) Publishing of EUR SAR Plan (Doc. 039) in October 2017 (1st edition);
- c) Current situation in EUR region, Performance improvement plan, SAR Capability Matrix table, SAREX Work plan, SAR agreements, etc.
- d) **1st EUR SAR TF completed their work in 2017.**



ICAO EUR SAR TASK FORCE - TODAY

The 2nd ICAO EUR SEARCH AND RESCUE TASK FORCE was established in 2019 by the EASPG/01

(EASPG Decision 1/4) with adopted Terms of Reference (TOR);

The EURSAR/TF was expected to deliver within two years:

- a) a Standardized Training Program (STP) for the Search and Rescue (SAR) Inspectorate Staff;
- b) a Specific Chapter for Inspector's Handbook to cover Standardized Inspection Procedures for SAR Inspectorate Staff; and
- c) a Guidance Material (GM) for the implementation and monitoring of PSCS and promote the enhancement and improvement of Regional SAR capability of establishment for enhancement of SAR capability within the EUR Region.

The EUR SAR TF report to the EASPG PCG and EASPG.



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The membership of the EURSAR/TF is open to the EUR States and administrations that have the responsibility for the provision of SAR services and facilities within the EUR Region, SAR-related international organizations, IMO, and ICAO;

- To meet its objectives, TF had several tasks:
 - Standardized Training Program (STP)
 - Specific Chapter for Inspector's Handbook
 - Guidance Material (GM) for the implementation and monitoring of PSCS
- TF started with its meetings in April 2020 by Telecons;
- It was established two Workstreams/subgroups:
 - Workstream/subgroup A deals with the SAR Inspector's tasks STP and Handbook (Georgia, Mr. Davit Lomadze), and
 - Workstream/subgroup B deals with GM for the implementation and monitoring of PSCS, (Italy, Col. Claudio Castellano)



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In period April 2020 – November 2021:

- 10 plenary meetings were organized in 2020 & 2021 (all telecons) plus meetings of subgroups A and B – a total of 20+;
- Participating States in the work of EUR SAR/TF: around 30 states from the EUR Region of the 56 States including NAT;
- Participating International Organizations and groups in the work of EUR SAR/TF:
 - ICAO;
 - IMO;
 - Cospas-Sarsat;
 - IFALDA;
 - IFALPA;
 - EUROCONTROL;
 - and
 - EC.

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All three tasks of ToR were completed, as EUR SAR TF provided drafts to the EASPG for endorsement:

1. STP for SAR Inspectorate Staff,
2. SAR Inspectors Handbook, and
3. GM for EUR SAR Plan;
4. Amendments to the EUR SAR Plan (Doc. 039)

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In period April 2020 – November 2021, during 10 sessions of the EUR SAR TF:
Additional necessary SAR information disseminated to the members of EURSAR/TF:

- SAR Webinars (ICAO, ECTL, EC),
- MCCs by FMCC,
- SAR training and SAR Plan by SAR International,
- SAR in Covid-19 with equipment by JRCC LCA,
- SAR Activities in other ICAO Regions (MID, WACAF, SAM, NACC, APAC),
- ICAO GADSS,
- ICAO/IMO JWG on SAR,
- SAR Funding,
- SAR Galileo,
- Regional SAR Initiatives (RASARAC),
- SAREXs and SAR Training by JRCC Larnaca, Poland..., and
- Procedures for Amending SAR Docs, etc.

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- According to the WP and the Report provided by ICAO EUR SAR/TF, in December 2021, EASPG/03 made several decisions:
 - a) D.3/7 Proposal for Amendment (PFA) to ICAO EUR Doc 039 – EUR Search and Rescue (SAR) Plan;
 - b) D.3/8 EUR Training Program for Search and Rescue Inspectorate Staff that EUR/NAT publish as EUR Doc 043;
 - c) D.3/9 EUR SAR Inspector’s Handbook t that EUR/NAT publish as EUR Doc 044;
 - d) D.3/10 Guidance Material for the Implementation and Monitoring of Preferred SAR Capability Specifications (PSCS) that EUR/NAT publish as EUR Doc 045;

As a result of this work, all the tasks included in the Terms of Reference for the second meeting of the ICAO EUR SAR TF **were successfully completed.**

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- According to the WP and the Report provided by ICAO EUR SAR/TF, and the need to promote the enhancement of SAR facilities and services within the EUR Region and adjacent regions, in December 2021, EASPG/03 made also the decision on:
 - a) D.3/11 Update of the EUR Search and Rescue Task Force (SAR TF) Terms of Reference (ToR);

The EASPG/03 agreed that, while the current tasks of the EUR SAR TF were successfully completed, the SAR TF should continue its work to focus on the following:

- a) Support the implementation of EUR SAR Documents, in accordance with the Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP), Global Aviation Safety Plan (GASP), EUR Regional Aviation Safety Plan (RASP), and the EUR Air Navigation Plan (EUR eANP) (Doc 7754);
- b) Share global SAR information among EUR States and other stakeholders;
- c) Promote the strengthening of SAR safety oversight capabilities;
- d) Propose amendments to EUR SAR documents;
- e) Promote SAR training activities and exercises.



ICAO EUR SEARCH AND RESCUE TASK FORCE

- The 11. two-day meeting of the 2nd ICAO EUR SAR TF was held in person in the ICAO European and North Atlantic Office (ICAO EUR/NAT) in Paris, France on the 15th and 16th of September 2022
- 36 participants from 18 States and 4 international organizations, including EUROCONTROL, the European Commission, and the International Cospas-Sarsat Programme attended the meeting.
- The discussion was according to the updated TOR on:
 - EUR SAR oversight capabilities and implementation of EUR SAR documents;
 - Review of replies for ICAO SL 2022/24;
 - Updates on the SAR capability matrix table and 41 SAR Performance Indicators from ICAO SL 19-0546; and
 - Sharing important SAR information on ICAO's current status, Cospas-Sarsat status and current projects (ELT(DT), MEOSAR), EC/Galileo SAR (RLS), EUROCONTROL LADR development status, GADSS ADT, SAR training, SAR exercises, Regional SAR Initiatives, SAR projects, etc.



ICAO EUR SEARCH AND RESCUE TASK FORCE



- According to the WP and the Report provided by ICAO EUR SAR/TF, in December 2023, EASPG/04 made several decisions and conclusions regarding SAR in the EUR region:
 - a) D.4/5 Proposal for Amendment (PfA) to ICAO EUR Doc 039 – EUR Search and Rescue (SAR) Plan – 4ed EUR SAR Plan – EUR Doc 039 published;
 - b) D.4/6 Update of the SAR Performance Indicators of EUR States;
 - c) C.4/8 Survey on the Readiness of EUR States for Autonomous Distress Tracking
 - d) C.4/9 EUR SAR Workshop and Exercises

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- 12th meeting of the 2nd ICAO EUR SAR TF was held in person in the JRCC Larnaca, Cyprus, on the 4th of October 2023;
- More than 50 participants from 30+ states from EUR region.
- EUR SAR TF/12 agenda included:
 - a) ICAO updates about SAR activities in the EUR region (since the last TF meeting),
 - b) AIRP Guidance as an outcome of the work of WG1 of the AIRP for States, Operators, and Maintenance,
 - c) Analysis of the Survey results of the EASPG Conclusion 4/8 - Survey on the Readiness of EUR States for Autonomous Distress Tracking,
 - d) EUR SAR Docs:
 - EUR SAR Plan amendments
 - Discussion on the Implementation of published EUR SAR Documents 039, 043, 044, 045

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- 12th meeting of the ICAO EUR SAR TF
Agenda (cont.)
 - Outcomes of the IAA SAR Workshop on SAR Oversight held in Dublin in 2022, and Update on Irish Aviation Authority Oversight of SAR activities;
 - Future Perspectives on Civil-Military Cooperation, outcome of the ICAO/EUROCONTROL civil-military summit;
 - Status of the Cospas-Sarsat Programme;
 - GADSS, the ELT(DT), and A Model/Template Letter for communication with SAR Authorities;
 - Work of the APAC SAR WG (Challenges);
 - ICAO/IMO JWG on SAR: Report from the 29th ICAO/IMO JWG on SAR;
 - SAR training update on the ICAO course development with JAA TO;
 - Regional SAR Initiatives (RASARAC updates);
 - Further analysis of the SAR system in EUR; and
 - AOB (SAREX's, National SAR systems, Safety SAR information).



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ICAO EUR SAR Workshop 2023 with SAREX;

- 5 and 6 October 2023;
- Jointly organized by the ICAO EUR/NAT Office and JRCC Larnaca in Cyprus;
- In the premises of the JRCC Larnaca;
- ICAO EUR SAR Workshop was attended by 95 participants from 35 states and 5 international organizations;
- ICAO EUR SAR TF activities were presented at the Workshop;



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- According to the WP and the Report provided by ICAO EUR SAR/TF, in December 2023, the EASPG/5 made several decisions and conclusions regarding SAR in the EUR region:
 - a) C.5/5 Readiness for Autonomous Distress Tracking (ATD) Implementation
 - b) D.5/11 Proposal for Amendment (PfA) to ICAO EUR Doc 039 – EUR Search and Rescue (SAR) Plan – 5th ed EUR SAR Plan – EUR Doc 039 published;
 - c) D.5/12 Update the EUR SAR TF Terms of Reference (ToR);
 - d) C.5/6 Measures to Enhance Coordination between SAR SPOCs and COSPAS-SARSAT MCCs
 - e) D.5/13 Analyse the SAR System and SAR System Oversight in the EUR/NAT Regions



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- 13th meeting of the 2nd ICAO EUR SAR TF was held (EUR SAR TF/13) was held as a Teleconference, on 11 March 2024
- More than 35 participants from 18 states from EUR region and 3 international organizations (including C/S and EUROCONTROL).
- Agenda included:
 - ICAO updates about SAR activities in the EUR region;
 - ICAO SL 24-0092. TEC, sent on 4th of March – Follow-up on EASPG Decision 5/13 - Analyse the SAR System and SAR System Oversight in the EUR/NAT Regions,
 - Establishing of Workstream C of EUR SAR TF - The Workstream C Rapporteur was Mr. Rowan Greenwood, Search and Rescue International Ltd;
 - AOB

ICAO EUR SEARCH AND RESCUE TASK FORCE



The 14th meeting of the ICAO EUR SAR TF was held as part of the first joint ICAO EUR SAR TF and APAC SAR WG meeting;

SAR TF meeting was part of the ICAO EUR/APAC SAR Event, organized one day before the Workshop 2024.

Event was jointly organized by ICAO EUR/NAT and APAC regional offices, and the State Civil Aviation Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan was held, in Baku, Azerbaijan, 2 - 4 October 2024;

- More than 100 participants from 37 states from EUR and APAC region.;
- The primary objectives of is workshop are to enhance collaboration between the European and Asia/Pacific Regions on SAR implementation matters and to address States' preparedness in the implementation of the GADSS/ADT, with a planned table-top exercise on ADT and LADR;
- Recordings from the Joint EUR/APAC SAR meeting and workshop 2024, including the GADSS exercise simulations, held in Azerbaijan in 2024, are now available on the ICAO.TV

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According to the WP and the Report provided by ICAO EUR SAR/TF, in December 2024, the EASPG/6 made decision and two conclusions regarding SAR in the EUR region:

- a) D.6/5 – Publication of SAR Operations Guidance Material as new EUR Doc. 049;
- b) C.6/7 - Readiness for ADT Implementation; and
- c) C.6/8 - SAR Capabilities using the Matrix in EUR Doc 039 (EUR SAR Plan) and to the EUR SAR Performance Indicators – annually update by EUR states.



ICAO EUR SEARCH AND RESCUE TASK FORCE



The 15th meeting of the 2nd ICAO EUR SAR TF was held (EUR SAR TF/15) was held as a Teleconference, on 09 April 2025 ;

More than 43 participants from 26 states from EUR region and 5 international organizations;

Agenda included:

- ICAO Updates on SAR activities;
- EUR SAR/TF Workshop 2025;
- EUR RANP: Update on FIRs and SRRs;
- ICAO/IMO JWG on SAR/2024;
- ICAO Doc 10165 - Manual on GADSS
- ICAO/EASA/EUROCONTROL – Workshop on Electronic conspicuity
- European SAR Web Portal – Switzerland initiative
- Electric aircraft in SAR – Norway example;
- Update of EUR SAR doc;



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



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