



HM Coastguard

To Search
To Rescue
To Save

HM Coastguard

EU SAR TF 16 – SAR

Agreements – Manche Plan

Aviation Procedures Lead – Mark
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Maritime &
Coastguard
Agency

The ManchePlan Introduction and purpose



Purpose & Scope

Joint Maritime Cooperation

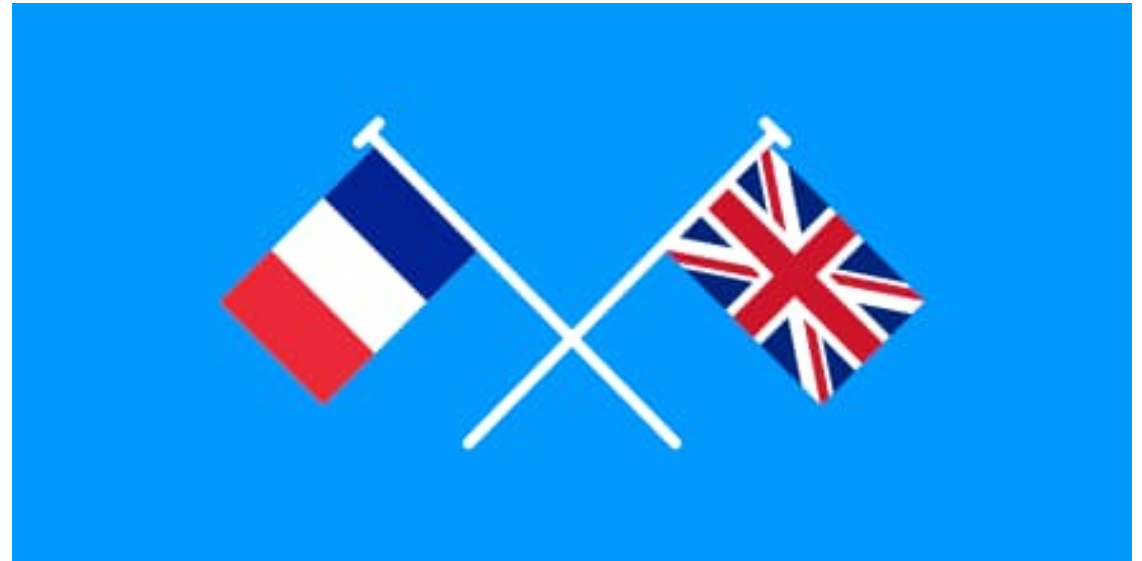
The Mancheplan fosters cooperation between France and the UK for coordinated maritime/aviation incident response.

Comprehensive Incident Response

It covers Search and Rescue, vessel assistance, pollution control, and traffic management within key sea areas.

Permanent Framework

The plan provides continuous readiness without requiring activation, ensuring ongoing maritime safety and efficiency.



Applicability



Applicability



Plan is always active

The Mancheplan remains active at all times, requiring no special activation during emergencies.

Constant Readiness

Maritime authorities maintain a state of readiness for immediate response to incidents without delay.

Seamless Coordination

Shared awareness and procedures between nations enable rapid deployment and effective incident management.

Proactive Preparedness

This approach highlights proactive measures essential for safeguarding lives and marine environments.

Co-operative Structures and Mechanisms



Joint Structures and Meetings



AFATG Collaboration Forum

The AFATG acts as a vital biannual forum promoting cooperation between Anglo-French maritime authorities.

Regional Inclusivity

Observers from Belgium, Ireland, and the Channel Islands participate, enhancing regional cooperation and inclusivity.

Strategic Discussions & Reviews

Meetings focus on strategic discussions, operational reviews, and strengthening maritime authority relationships.

Alignment on Policies and Technology

AFATG ensures alignment on policy updates, technological advancements, and lessons from exercises and incidents.



Cooperation



Cooperation

Level	UK	France
Government / State	Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA)	Maritime Prefect (Préfecture Maritime)
Operational Centres	UKJRCC	CROSS Jobourg, CROSS Gris-Nez, CROSS Corsen
Regional Commands	MRCC Dover MRCC Falmouth	COM Cherbourg (Centre des Opérations Maritimes)
SAR Units	RNLI Lifeboats, MCA contracted assets	SNSM Lifeboats, French Navy, Civil Protection
Air Assets	UK SAR Helicopters / Fixed Wing and Drones	French SAR Helicopters / Fixed Wing and Drones
Specialised Resources	Pollution response teams, salvage units	POLMAR teams, naval emergency resources



**PRÉFET
MARITIME
DE LA MANCHE
ET DE LA MER DU NORD**



Operational Coordination and Exercises



Coordination



State Coordination Role

The coordinating state defines strategy, mobilizes assets, and issues operational directives under Mancheplan.

Asset Sharing Framework

Assets from the supporting state remain under national command but operate within a joint coordination framework.

Flexibility and Sovereignty

Coordination responsibility can be transferred by agreement, ensuring flexibility while respecting sovereignty.

Specialized Resource Provision

The plan includes specialized teams like pollution response and salvage units.



Special Provisions



Special Provisions



Instant SRR Access

Mancheplan enables instant Search and Rescue region access without needing diplomatic clearance, speeding emergency response.

Article 38 Provisions

Article 38 authorizes SAR units to enter territorial waters and use ports or aerodromes without special requests, facilitating operations.

Operational Flexibility

These arrangements empower SAR units with flexibility to coordinate and conduct rapid, seamless cross-border rescue missions.

Conclusion



Conclusion

In order to revise the MANCHEPLAN regarding the growth of maritime gigantism and the increasing terrorist threat and in accordance with the report of 81th AFTAG, dated 29th of November 2017, CROSS Jobourg and MRCC Jersey and Guernsey, the head of the delegation of France to the « Anglo French Accident Technical Group » and the head of the delegation of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to this same group have agreed this day to modify MANCHEPLAN as follows:

- Coordination of Search and rescue (SAR) assets as part of a terrorist attack onboard a vessel;
- Precisions regarding the Aircraft Co-Ordinator's (ACO) role in accordance with IAMSAR manual.

This constitutes change 2 of the above mentioned document.

It supersedes the existing versions and enters into force on the 31st May 2018.

In Castle Cornet, Guernsey, the 30 May 2018

Head of the French delegation to AFTAG



L'Administrateur général de 2^{ème} classe des affaires maritimes Jean-Michel Chevalier

In Castle Cornet, Guernsey, the 30 May 2018

Director, Maritime Operations and Her Majesty's Coastguard
United Kingdom Maritime and Coastguard Agency



Richard Parkes

Robust Maritime Framework

Mancheplan provides a strong framework for Anglo-French maritime cooperation ensuring effective joint responses in the English Channel.

Flexible and Reliable System

Permanent applicability, instant SRR access, structured communication, and financial arrangements create a flexible and reliable system.

Enhanced Safety and Efficiency

Collaboration through joint exercises and shared resources enhances maritime safety, environmental protection, and operational efficiency.

Stakeholder Engagement

Active participation in exercises and adherence to protocols ensure continued readiness and resilience among stakeholders.



Summary Table

Element	Description
Joint Planning	Permanent framework for incident management
Shared Responsibility	Defined roles for UK & France
Information Exchange	Annual & permanent, all levels
Joint Exercises	Annual SAR exercise
Asset Sharing	Mutual provision of assets
Instant SRR Access	No diplomatic clearance for SAR operations
Communication	Joint strategy, continuous updates
Channel Islands	Special sub-region, flexible coordination
Financial Settlement	Reimbursement & claims coordination
Traffic Management	Joint action for safety & flow



