



Agenda Item 5: Air Navigation Matters
5.5 Other Air Navigation Matters

SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR) ACTIVITIES

(Presented by Trinidad and Tobago Chairman of the SAR Committee ECAR)

SUMMARY The following Working Paper (WP) reports on Search and Rescue (SAR) within the Eastern Caribbean (ECAR) and suggests action to collect outstanding SAR information and set up a SAR Committee Meeting to review and advance outstanding work.	
References: • SAR Meeting for the North American, Caribbean and South American Regions SAR NAM/CAR/SAM • Twenty First (21st) Meeting of Directors of Civil Aviation of the Eastern Caribbean. E/CAR DCA 21. • E/CAR /WG/31	
Strategic Objectives	<i>This working paper is related to Strategic Objectives *.</i>

1. Background

1.1 Working Paper 31 of the E/CAR 31 Working Group Meeting presented by Trinidad and Tobago sought to apprise that meeting of the fact that there has been no formal sub-regional meeting on Search and Rescue (SAR) in the E/CAR since 2001.

1.2 As such, there was need, in preparation for a SAR meeting during 2010, for States and Territories to identify a Point of Contact so that information regarding the status of SAR issues and activities envisaged by the conclusions and recommendations of the CAR/SAM RAN/3 and GREPECAS/11 Meetings could be confirmed in the Sub-Region.

2. Discussion

2.1 The 31st E/CAR meeting in their discussion of the matter acknowledged that high level institutional agreements need to be established. Additionally States are required to gather information from collaborating Agencies and Organizations in jurisdictional airspace and over seas within the Piarco FIR.

2.2 A SAR Matrix was presented to the States in that Meeting intending that it would be used as a check list to assess their SAR capabilities and provide details on the resources available in each State in order to advance the work of implementation of SAR action and updating of SAR Agreements as necessary. This information was required to be submitted to the SAR coordinator or the Piarco AIS by the 15th November, 2009.

2.3 Responses were received from one State and as such the matter is being raised again at the level of the DCAs for their direct intervention.

2.4 The SAR Matrix which was appended to WP/31 of the E/CAR 31 Meeting is also appended to this Working Paper and DGCAs are urged to have the information analysed by their States or in the case of the OECS those States and Territories which fall under its responsibility. The results should be forwarded to the (Coordinator/TTCAA) of the SAR Committee at email address tdowrich@caa.gov.tt or to the Piarco AIS.

3. Conclusion

3.1 As it may be surmised from the foregoing, in order for a meaningful meeting to take place, States must determine their level of compliance with the Annex 12 requirements and ensure that there are processes for internal coordination through national plans with SAR Agencies and Organizations. This information can form part of the sub-regional SAR Plans and Agreements.

4. Suggested Action

4.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) note the information in this Working Paper;
- b) urge States that have not already done so, to provide a Point of Contact for follow up of the status of the CAR/SAM/RAN 2/3 recommendations and GREPECAS 11 conclusions in each State;
- c) provide feedback on the Analysis of SAR capability in each State and details on resources available; and
- d) submit the requested information to the (Coordinator/TTCAA) of the SAR Committee at email address tdowrich@caa.gov.tt or to the Piarco AIS no later than February 28, 2010.