



Agenda Item 3:

Air Navigation Matters

3.2 Follow-up on the implementation of the NAM/CAR Regional Performance Based Air Navigation Plan (RPBANIP) in Eastern Caribbean:

- **Progress reports of the AIM, AGA, ATM, CNS, MET and SAR Committees, Ad-hoc Groups and the E/CAR/WG Chairman**

SAR COMMITTEE UPDATE

(Presented by Rapporteur SAR Committee)

SUMMARY

This Discussion Paper presents a Summary of Discussions that emanated from the Ad-hoc Group on matters which fell within the purview of the SAR Committee of the Eastern Caribbean Working Group at the Thirty-Third Eastern Caribbean Working Group Meeting (E/CAR/WG/33), Christ Church, Barbados, 4 to 8 June 2012

References:

- Report of the Thirty-First Eastern Caribbean Working Group Meeting (E/CAR/WG/31/2), St. John's, Antigua, 5 to 8 October 2009;
- Report of the Twenty Third Meeting of Directors of Civil Aviation of the Eastern Caribbean (E/CAR/DCA/23/9), Christ Church, Barbados, 9 to 12 November 2010;
- Report of the Third North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group Meeting (NACC/WG/3), Guatemala City, Guatemala, 9 to 13 May 2011.

Strategic Objectives	<i>This Discussion Paper is related to Strategic Objectives A and C.</i>
-----------------------------	--

1. Introduction

1.2 The Thirty-Third Eastern Caribbean Working Group Meeting formulated an Ad-hoc Group to deal with matters that fell within the purview of the Eastern Caribbean Working Group SAR Committee.

1.3 The Ad-hoc SAR Group constituted participants from the following States:

- Barbados
- ECCAA
- French West Indies and
- Trinidad and Tobago.

1.4 Based on the tasks assigned, the Ad-hoc Group reviewed the relevant material contained in the Working and Information Papers within which were draft recommendations, draft conclusions and other actions to be taken by States, Territories and International Organizations that belong to the Eastern Caribbean Group of the ICAO E/CAR Region.

2. Discussion

2.1 The SAR Ad-hoc group noted the following conclusions from previous meetings for discussion:

2.1.1 E/CAR/WG/31; (Conclusion 31/2 E/CAR High Level SAR Meeting)

That the Directors of Civil Aviation of the Eastern Caribbean convene a high level SAR Meeting in the E/CAR during the first quarter of 2010 with an aim to:

- a) Review and update existing SAR Agreements as well as to seek permission for SAR Units from other States to provide SAR assistance within the jurisdiction of another State;*
- b) Establish proper Coordination between civil and military authorities for efficient use of all available resources;*
- c) Review SAR staffing requirements and response capacity within Piarco Flight Information Region (FIR); and*
- d) Review other related activities to improve SAR service in the E/CAR and the Piarco FIR.*

2.1.2 NACC/WG/3/5

SAR agreements exist between the Civil Aviation Authorities of the ECAR. Some States established a Civil-Military Coordination Committee for the provision of SAR Services. SAR agreements are needed with International agencies to improve response capacity on the high seas.

(E/CAR/WG/33; SAR WP-04 No. 6; Progress Reported at the NACC/WG/3 Meeting Based On The Regional Performance Objectives (RPOS) included in the NAM/CAR RPBANIP (V2.0); RPO 06: E/CAR/WG - To Improve the SAR System)

2.1.3 E/CAR/DCA/23/9 (SAR CAPABILITY AND RESOURCES IN E/CAR STATES)

That E/CAR States/Territories:

- a) in collaboration with the related national agencies, complete the SAR Matrix in Appendix C to this part of the report and submit this to the E/CAR SAR Committee Rapporteur (tdowrich@caa.gov.tt) by 28 February 2011, for analysis and preparation of a regional SAR status report;*
- b) seek to coordinate with national stakeholders and agencies regarding SAR issues to update National SAR Plans when required; and*
- c) provide updates on national SAR developments to the E/CAR SAR Committee Rapporteur.*

2.2 The group noted that complications existed with respect to addressing the conclusions from previous meetings. The complications included the development of States National Plans and the incorporation of Aeronautical Search and Rescue Plans.

2.3 The Ad-hoc Group was nevertheless committed to attempt a suggested methodology to progress the work. The methodology considered is for each State/Territory/ International Organization within the E/CAR to progress the internal relationship between the SAR agencies and be responsible for carrying the work forward through coordination with all members of the SAR Committee. It was the view of the Ad-hoc Group that by this method of operation through the Rapporteur, accomplishments would be made despite the circumstances outlined.

3. **Update on work conducted by the SAR Committee**

3.1 Trinidad and Tobago

3.1.1 The TTCAA is working with its Ministry of Transport and other Ministries of key SAR Agencies in Trinidad and Tobago. In 2007, the TTCAA Rapporteur SAR Committee met with the key representatives assigned by their Permanent Secretaries with the objective of addressing the ICAO Audit deficiency of SAR Legislation. The meeting emphasized the need for the development of a national plan, an operational plan and amendments to Trinidad and Tobago's legislation.

3.1.2 The TTCAA participated in two meetings (the first in 2010 and the second in May 2012) hosted by the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard for the establishment of a regional MRCC and three associated MRSCS in the Trinidad and Tobago Search and Rescue Region. In May 2012, the TTCAA lead by the Rapporteur SAR Committee participated in the 1st meeting of the working group on the implementation of Aeronautical and Maritime SAR and Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) in the Trinidad and Tobago Search and Rescue Region. This meeting considered and finalized the draft multilateral Agreement which is to be signed at a later date by the member countries of the TT SRR for the establishment of a Regional MRCC in Trinidad and Tobago and associated MRSCs in Barbados, Grenada and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

3.2 E/CAR States and Adjacent FIRs.

3.2.1 Trinidad and Tobago has commenced work with ECAR States and adjacent FIRs to produce LOAs for the support of SAR in Piarco's FIR and with the intention for mutual support for each other.

3.2.2 States were encouraged to develop national plans that would be effective in collaborative SAR requirements for the ECAR and the Piarco FIR.

3.2.3 With respect to ICAO's requirement for States to cooperate and pool resources, states were encouraged to complete the SAR Matrix and send to Trinidad and Tobago. This information must be provided to update the E/CAR AIP.

3.2.4 Work has commenced with the Coast Guard in Puerto Rico and the East Coast of the United States of America to assist in SAR for the ECAR and Piarco FIR through Colonel Dave Edwards.

4. **Action Plan.**

4.1 Update Point-of-Contact list.

4.2 Follow-up on States submission of SAR Matrix.

4.3 Continue work to develop/amend LOA's between States.

4.4 Set up meetings with individual States and its respective agencies with the intention of addressing individual challenges/issues that may be affecting the States.

4.5 Harmonize the individual and regional plans to meet the requirements of SAR for the E/CAR and the Piarco FIR.

4.6 Update action plan is shown in **Appendix** to this paper.

5. **Suggested Action**

- a) The Thirty-Third Meeting of the Eastern Caribbean Working Group takes note of the information contained in this Discussion Paper.
- b) Note the contents of the Appendix to E/CAR/33/WP09 that are applicable to SAR for the ECAR.
- c) The Meeting takes whatever actions it considers necessary to assist the SAR Committee in accomplishing its work.

APPENDIX

IMPROVE SAR SYSTEM				
Benefits				
Efficiency	- enhanced traffic surveillance; - enhanced collaboration between stakeholders; - improved operational efficiency; - improved implementation on a cost-effective basis;			
Safety	improved safety management.			
Strategy				
ATM Component	TASK DESCRIPTION	START-END	RESPON-SIBLE	STATUS
SDM	a) Develop regional strategy to improve SAR System	End 2009	ICAO	Completed
	b) Identify parties concerned	End 2009	ICAO	Completed
	c) Conduct comprehensive analysis of SAR requirements based on risk assessment and quality assurance principles	2009 – 2011	States, Territories, Int. Org, ICAO	Valid
	d) Foster the harmonization of policies, regulations, practices and procedures of the aeronautical/maritime SAR services, in accordance with ICAO Standards and Recommended Methods.	2009 – 2013	States, Territories, Int. Org, ICAO	Valid
	e) Develop, update and ratify SAR agreements with RCCs of adjacent States.	2009 – 2013	States, Territories, Int. Org	Valid
	f) Develop, update and ratify SAR agreements with SAR service International agencies.	2009 - 2013	States, Territories, Int. Org	Valid
	g) Foster the establishment of joint aeronautical/maritime SAR Committees, including the integration of voluntary SAR organizations, as well as the development of agreements between all the stakeholders of the national SAR service	2009 – 2013	States, Territories, Int. Org, ICAO	Valid
	h) Develop human resources and training planning strategy in line with ICAO SAR guidelines and the regional agreements reached.	2009 – 2013	States, Territories, Int. Org, ICAO	Valid
	i) Monitor implementation progress	2009 - 2013	ICAO	Valid
GPIs	GPI/6: air traffic flow management; and GPI/9: Situational awareness			

- END -