



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization
North American, Central American and Caribbean Office

Final Report - Fifth North American, Central
American and Caribbean Working Group (NACC/
WG) Search and Rescue (SAR) Implementation
Task Force Meeting

(NACC/WG/SAR/TF/5)

Mexico City, Mexico, 23 to 27 September 2024

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HISTORICAL

ii.1 Place and Date of the Meeting

The Fifth North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group (NACC/WG) Search and Rescue (SAR) Implementation Task Force Meeting (NACC/WG/SAR/TF/5) was held at the ICAO NACC Regional Office, Mexico City, Mexico and on-line from 23 to 27 September 2024, which included a two-day Workshop on the Rescue Coordination Centres (RCCs) and Rescue Subcentres (RSCs) requirements, held from 23 to 24 September 2024.

ii.2 Opening Ceremony

Mr. Christopher Barks, Regional Director of the North American, Central American and Caribbean (NACC) Office of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) provided opening remarks, welcomed the participants and officially opened the meeting.

ii.3 Officers of the Meeting

The NACC/WG/SAR/TF/5 Meeting was held with the participation of the NACC/WG/SAR/TF Rapporteur, Mr. Calvin Zuniga (COCESNA), who chaired the meeting. Mr. Eddian Méndez, Regional Officer, Air Traffic Management and Search and Rescue served as Secretary of the Meeting, supported by Mr. José Alfredo Jiménez, Accident and Incident Investigation Implementation Supporting Officer, both from the ICAO NACC Regional Office.

ii.4 Working Languages

The working languages of the events were English and Spanish. The working papers, information papers and report of the meeting were available to participants in both languages.

ii.5 Schedule and Working Arrangements

It was agreed that the working hours for the sessions of the meeting would be from 09:00 to 14:00 hours daily with adequate breaks. Ad hoc Groups were created during the Meeting to do further work on specific items of the Agenda.

ii.6 Agenda

Agenda Item 1: Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Schedule

Agenda Item 2: Search and Rescue (SAR) Global and Regional Affairs

- 2.1 Follow up on valid SAR Conclusions/Decisions and Deficiencies
- 2.2 Follow-up to GREPECAS Project to support SAR implementation in the CAR/SAM Regions

Agenda Item 3: SAR Coordination Affairs

- 3.1 Follow up to the SAR Agreements of the CAR Region
- 3.2 SAR Exercises in the CAR Region
- 3.3 Maritime and Aeronautical SAR coordination

Agenda Item 4: Work Programme and Activities of the NACC/WG Search and Rescue (SAR) Implementation Task Force

- 4.1 Follow up and update
- 4.2 Approval

Agenda Item 5: Other Business

Workshop: Workshop on Rescue Coordinator Centres (RCCs) and Rescue Subcentres (RSCs) Requirements

- a) **Basic functions of the RCCs and RSCs**
- b) **Objectives and requirements of the RCC and RSC**
- c) **Division of responsibilities and scope**
- d) **Personnel and training requirements**
- e) **Operations plans, means and equipment**
- f) **Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC)**

ii.7 Attendance

The Meeting was attended by 21 States/Territories from the NAM/CAR Regions, one International Organization and one participant from the industry, totalling 48 delegates as indicated in the list of participants.

ii.8 Draft Conclusions and Decisions

The Meeting recorded its activities as Draft Conclusions and Decisions as follows:

DRAFT

CONCLUSIONS: Activities requiring endorsement by the NACC/WG.

DECISIONS: Internal activities of the NACC/WG/SAR/TF.

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C/1	<i>SUPPORT FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISES (SAREX) WITH AUTONOMOUS DISTRESS TRACKING (ADT) SCENARIOS</i>	3-1
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ii.9 List of Working and Information Papers and Presentations

WORKING PAPERS

Number	Agenda Item	Title	Date	Prepared and Presented by
WP/01	1	Provisional Agenda and Schedule	23/08/24	Secretariat
WP/02	2	Review of SAR Conclusions, Decisions and Deficiencies	07/09/24	Secretariat
WP/03	2	Status of the Search and Rescue Services in the NAM/CAR Regions: Analysis of the USOAP Results	07/09/24	Secretariat
WP/04	3	SAREX 2025	04/09/24	France
WP/05Rev	3.1	SAR Technical Arrangement	04/09/24	France
WP/06	2	Adoption of Amendment 19 to Annex 12	12/09/24	United States

INFORMATION PAPERS

Number	Agenda Item	Title	Date	Prepared and Presented by
IP/01	--	Provisional Agenda and Schedule	05/09/24	Secretariat

INFORMATION PAPERS				
Number	Agenda Item	Title	Date	Prepared and Presented by
IP/02	3.3	Joint Rescue Coordination Centre (JRCC) Antilles Guyane Project	04/09/24	France
NI/03	3	Creación del Cuerpo Especializado de Mitigación a Emergencias y Desastres (CEMED) <i>(available in spanish only)</i>	07/08/24	Dominican Republic
NI/04	3	Firma Memorándum De Entendimiento (Mou) sobre Cooperación en Materia de Búsqueda y Salvamento (SAR) Aeronáutico y Marítimo entre el Ministerio de Defensa (MIDE) de República Dominicana y la Fuerza de Defensa de Jamaica <i>(available in spanish only)</i>	07/08/24	Dominican Republic

PRESENTATIONS			
Number	Agenda Item	Title	Presented by
P/01	2	Autonomous Distress Tracking (ADT) Update	United States

WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS			
Number	Agenda Item	Title	Presented by
P/01	--	Air France Flight 447: Lessons from a Search and Rescue Operation	United States
P/02	--	Case Study: Malaysia Airlines Flight 370	United States
P/03	--	Coordination and Cooperation Among RCCs/RSCs and other SAR Units	United States
P/04	--	Impact of Non-Compliance with International SAR Standards	United States
P/05	--	Operational Requirements for RCCs/RSCs	United States

ii.10 Summary of Discussions - Workshop on Rescue Coordinator Centres (RCCs) and Rescue Subcentres (RSCs) Requirements

Date 23 to 24 September 2024

Location ICAO NACC Regional Office, Mexico City, Mexico

1. References

- 1.1 Doc 7300 – *Convention on International Civil Aviation*.
- 1.2 Annex 11 – *Air Traffic Services*.
- 1.3 Annex 12 – *Search and Rescue*.
- 1.4 Doc 4444 - *Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Air Traffic Management (PANS ATM)*.
- 1.5 International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual, Volume III Mobile Facilities
- 1.6 Cospas-Sarsat RCC Handbook.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 Review the requirements of Rescue Coordination Centres (RCCs) and Rescue Subcentres.
- 2.2 Review the functions and responsibilities for SAR coordination units.
- 2.3 Review operational procedures of RCCs and RSCs.
- 2.4 Analyse real-case scenarios to identify consequences of non-compliance with SAR Standards and Recommended Practices.

3. Introduction

3.1 According to the results of the ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP), 53% of CAR Region States have not established a Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC) or, as applicable, a Rescue Subcentre (RSC) in each search and rescue region (SRR) where they have responsibility.

3.2 Based on the identified regional challenges for compliance with Annex 12 – Search and Rescue standards and related guidance material for the establishment of RCCs, this workshop was coordinated with the United States Coast Guard to provide guidance on the operational requirements and functions of SAR coordination units.

4. Workshop Schedule and Activities

4.1 The workshop webpage is located at:

<https://www.icao.int/NACC/Pages/meetings-2024-sartf5.aspx>

5. Outcomes/Recommendations

- 5.1 Raise awareness to top-level SAR Managers (national or State level) regarding the requirements for establishing, staffing, equipping, and managing RCCs and RSCs.
- 5.2 Ensure contracting States delineate the SAR regions within which they will provide services.
- 5.3 Ensure RCCs fulfil their responsibilities for the organization and coordination of SAR activities in the Search and Rescue Regions for which they are responsible according to the CAR/SAM Regional Air Navigation Plan (RANP).
- 5.4 Raise awareness on the importance of SAR agreements.

6. Accomplishments

- 6.1 The procedures for the SAR coordination were tested.
- 6.2 The procedures for SAR response were tested, as well as the coordination of the search mission.
- 6.3 Guidance was provided on automated procedures for the retransmission of alert messages.
- 6.4 Operation and coordination procedures between RCCs and RSCs were reviewed.
- 6.5 Three SAR response scenarios were tested involving various SRR.

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Agenda Item 1 Adoption of the Provisional Agenda and Schedule

1.1 Under this Agenda Item the Secretariat presented WP/01 and invited the Meeting to approve the Provisional Agenda and Schedule. The Meeting approved the Agenda and Schedule as presented.

Agenda Item 2: Search and Rescue (SAR) Global and Regional Affairs

Follow up on valid SAR Conclusions/Decisions and Deficiencies

2.1 Under this Agenda Item the Secretariat presented WP/02 with the updated list of Conclusions and Decisions of the SAR/TF, and the SAR deficiencies of the GREPECAS Air Navigation Deficiencies Database (GANDD) considered pending. The valid Conclusions and Decisions were updated, designating them as valid, completed, or superseded, resulting as follows:

- a) Conclusion NACC/WG/SAR /TF/03/1 *SUPPORT THE UPDATE OF THE CAR/SAM ANP TO INCLUDE THE DEFINITION OF THE LIMITS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SEARCH AND RESCUE REGIONS OF THE CAR REGION* remains valid, no progress in the definition of the limits and responsibilities for Search and Rescue Regions (SRRs) was noted. The Secretariat will present an action plan to address this Conclusion before the NACC/WG/SAR/TF/6 meeting.
- b) Conclusion NACC/WG/SAR /TF/4/1 *ACTION PLAN TO ADDRESS SAR DEFICIENCIES* remains valid, Mexico and Trinidad and Tobago have not submitted an action plan to address their pending SAR deficiencies. The Secretariat will submit a letter to Mexico and Trinidad and Tobago requesting information on their action plan to address GANDD SAR deficiencies.
- c) Conclusion NACC/WG/SAR /TF/4/2 *UPDATE OF SAR INFORMATION IN THE CAR/SAM ANP VOL. I AND ENHANCE SAR COORDINATION* was considered completed. Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago provided their SAR) Points of Contact (PoCs) and communication with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Regional Office in the CAR Region was established.
- d) Decision NACC/WG/SAR /TF/4/3 *EVALUATION OF THE SAR BBBs* remains valid. Consensus in the SAR/TF is to look for external support to perform this evaluation. The Secretariat will develop a special implementation project to get support to address this Decision.
- e) Conclusion NACC/WG/SAR /TF/4/4 *SUPPORT TO INTERREGIONAL SAR EXERCISE (SAREX) IN THE CAR REGION* was completed. France organized an interregional SAREX and received support from the Secretariat and participation of relevant regional stakeholders.
- f) Conclusion NACC/WG/SAR/TF/4/5 *UPDATE OF THE CAR REGION SEARCH AND RESCUE PLAN* remains valid, pending the update of the Space System for Search of Vessels in Distress/Search and rescue satellite-aided tracking (Cospas-Sarsat) procedures in the CAR Region.

2.2 In this regard from the listed 6 valid conclusions/decisions of previous NACC/WG/SAR/TF meeting, conclusions NACC/WG/SAR/TF/4/2 and NACC/WG/SAR/TF/4/4 were completed and NACC/WG/SAR/TF/3/1, NACC/WG/SAR /TF/4/1, NACC/WG/SAR /TF/4/3 and NACC/WG/SAR /TF/4/5 remain valid.

2.3 Regarding the valid GANDD deficiencies for the SAR field (Mexico and Trinidad and Tobago), the Meeting noted no progress.

2.4 The Secretariat presented WP/03 with information regarding the status of the SAR services in the NAM/CAR Regions, using as a reference the results of the ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP), pointing out the most critical aspects of SAR services provision, and requesting support to enhance the evaluation of these services.

2.5 The last States audited in the NAM/CAR Regions were Canada (June 2023, SAR Effective Implementation (EI) 81.25%), Belize (December 2023, SAR EI 6.25%), Mexico (February 2024, SAR EI 18.75%), ECCAA States (comprised by Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) (December 2023, SAR EI 37.25%), and United States (July 2024, SAR EI 81.25%).

2.6 As for the assessment of the SAR service provision in the CAR Region, USOAP shows the following results:

- 53% of CAR Region States have not arranged for the establishment and provision of SAR services within its territory and the areas where the State has accepted responsibility.
- 53% of CAR Region States have not established a Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC) or, as applicable, a Rescue Subcentre RSC in each search and rescue region (SRR) where they have responsibility.
- 68% of CAR Region States have not completed the SAR coordination agreements with neighbouring States.

2.7 United States presented WP/06 to provide information regarding the adoption of amendment 19 to Annex 12 – *Search and Rescue* and raise awareness for required updates to current SAR operations and procedures.

2.8 United States presented P/01 with an update for Autonomous Distress Tracking (ADT).

2.9 Regarding the follow-up to the GREPECAS Project to support SAR implementation in the CAR/SAM Regions, the Task Force continues focused on the update of the SAR operations plans and agreements for the Eastern Caribbean States. The Meeting discussed several activities and actions required to support the project and to update it according to the latest GREPECAS Decisions/Conclusions. The Secretariat will prepare a revised version of the Task Force programme accordingly.

Agenda Item 3: SAR Coordination Affairs

SAR Exercises (SAREX) in the CAR Region

3.1 Under this Agenda Item France presented WP/04 to provide information regarding a Search and Rescue Exercise (SAREX) organized for 2025 to rehearse Autonomous Distress Tracking (ADT) alerts scenarios and verify the Location of an Aircraft in Distress Repository (LADR) information for the Caribbean (CAR) Region. The LADR is a critical part of the Global Aeronautical Distress and Safety System (GADSS), providing the means to store and make available all information related to the position of an aircraft in distress, as described in Annex 6 — *Operation of Aircraft, Part I* — International Commercial Air Transport — Aeroplanes, para. 6.18.

3.2 In the CAR Region, characterized by a very high level of intricacies among the various stakeholders, special attention should be placed to deploying the new functionalities enabled by the LADR and other location determination technologies. A set of exercises is therefore proposed to trial the new functionalities in varying circumstances.

3.3 The Meeting supported the proposal made by France and agreed the following Draft Conclusion:

DRAFT CONCLUSION	
NACC/WG/SAR/TF/5/01	SUPPORT FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISES (SAREX) WITH AUTONOMOUS DISTRESS TRACKING (ADT) SCENARIOS
<p>What:</p> <p>That, to assess the Global Aeronautical Distress and Safety System (GADSS) capabilities and verify the Location of an Aircraft in Distress Repository (LADR) information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) NAM/CAR Region States schedule Search and Rescue Exercises (SAREX) to assess their coordination and response capabilities, including autonomous distress tracking scenarios immediately; b) Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC) Points of Contact (PoCs) to register in the LADR immediately; and c) ICAO ensure adequate dissemination of information and coordination with relevant RCC and Rescue Subcentres (RSC) for active participation in organized SAREX and report it to the NACC/WG/SAR/TF/6. 	<p>Expected impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Political / Global <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inter-regional <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operational/Technical
<p>Why:</p> <p>To rehearse SAR operational procedures</p>	
<p>When:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) immediately b) immediately c) Report to the NACC/WG/SAR/TF/6 	<p>Status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Valid / <input type="checkbox"/> Superseded / <input type="checkbox"/> Completed</p>

Who: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> States <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICAO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:	RCC PoCs
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Follow up to the SAR Agreements of the CAR Region

3.4 France presented WP/05 to propose a SAR technical arrangement to formalise the delegation of SAR responsibilities between Aeronautical RCC Piarco and Aeronautical RSC Martinique and Guadeloupe. Currently, no SAR agreements exist to formalise SAR responsibilities within the Piarco Search and Rescue Region (SRR). France suggests using a template that has already been validated and signed in the Africa Region to formalise the SAR services delegation, describe the perimeter of the SAR areas of responsibilities delegated and provide the points of contact and means of communication.

3.5 The Meeting supported the proposal presented by France and formulated the following Draft Conclusion

DRAFT CONCLUSION	
NACC/WG/SAR/TF/5/02	FORMALIZATION OF SAR AGREEMENTS UNDER PIARCO SEARCH AND RESCUE REGION
<p>What:</p> <p>That, to comply with the requirements of SAR operational agreements in the Piarco Search and Rescue Region (SRR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the SAR authorities of Trinidad and Tobago formalize SAR agreements with States and Territories under Piarco SRR, according to the responsibilities established in the CAR/SAM Regional Air Navigation Plan (RANP); b) the RCC and RSCs in the Piarco SRR use the template presented in the Appendix A to this Report; and c) ICAO ensure adequate dissemination of the SAR operational agreement template and promote the signing of SAR operational agreements in the Piarco SRR and report it to the NACC/WG/SAR/TF/6. 	<p>Expected impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Political / Global <input type="checkbox"/> Inter-regional <input type="checkbox"/> Economic <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operational/Technical
<p>Why:</p> <p>To enhance SAR operational procedures in the CAR Region.</p>	
<p>When: Report to the NACC/WG/SAR/TF/6</p>	<p>Status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Valid / <input type="checkbox"/> Superseded / <input type="checkbox"/> Completed</p>
<p>Who: <input type="checkbox"/> States <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICAO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:</p>	<p>Trinidad and Tobago and RCC and RSC in the Piarco SRR</p>

3.7 France presented IP/02 to provide information on a project to be deployed in 2025 aiming at implementing new integrated communications and IT systems between the French ARCC/ARSCs and the MRCC in the French West Indies/Guiana area (SRRs), together with shared situational awareness, a strong culture of collaboration and information exchange, and a regime of joint exercises and shared learning.

3.8 In the future, this experimentation could pave the way to the concept of a joint rescue coordination centre (JRCC) (as defined in the IAMSAR Vol 1 manual) in “virtual” form. This set of new tools will be used by ARSC Martinique and MRCC Fort de France during the next regional SAREX (May 26/27).

3.9 Dominican Republic presented NI/03 to inform about the approval of the Law for the creation of their national specialized force for the mitigation of emergencies and disasters.

3.10 With NI/04, Dominican Republic informed the signing of a SAR aeronautical and maritime Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Jamaica.

Maritime and Aeronautical SAR coordination

3.11 Regarding *Maritime and Aeronautical SAR coordination*, the Meeting accounted for a significant participation of SAR maritime representatives, and several Agenda Items and activities were addressed from both SAR aeronautical and maritime perspectives.

Agenda Item 4: Work Programme and Activities of the NACC/WG Search and Rescue (SAR) Implementation Task Force

4.1 The Meeting discussed the current SAR/TF Work Programme, to review the progress in related activities, assess challenges and analyse possible opportunities (**Appendix B**) as per the following paragraphs,

4.2 Regarding the evaluation of the Basic Building Blocks (BBBs), the Task Force (TF) discussed the challenges to complete this assignment objectively. The TF considered requesting external support to complete this task. The Secretariat will request external support to address this task.

4.3 Regarding the update and strengthening SAR operation plans, the Meeting discussed the priority for the Piarco SRR. The CAR/SAM Air Navigation Plan assigns the responsibility for the establishment of RCCs in the CAR Region to Central American States through COCESNA, Cuba, Curacao, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, United States, and Trinidad and Tobago. According to the USOAP Haiti, Mexico and Trinidad and Tobago, do not comply with the requirements for the establishment of the RCC. The Secretariat will gather the required information regarding the status of the SAR Plans.

4.4 The CAR Region SAR Plan is pending to be updated with operational procedures for Cospas-Sarsat, taking into consideration new ADT messages. The implementation of the GADSS capabilities requires additional support and awareness to ensure proper subscription to the LADR of RCC. The update will be presented to the NACC/WG/SAR/TF/6 meeting.

4.5 The Meeting discussed the task assigned by GREPECAS to support the implementation of SAR in the CAR/SAM Regions. To integrate the activities assigned by GREPECAS into the Task Force work programme, the Meeting agreed the following decision:

DECISION	
NACC/WG/SAR/TF/5/03	UPDATE THE NACC/WG/SAR/TF WORK PROGRAMME WITH THE GREPECAS
<p>What:</p> <p>That, to address the tasks related to the SAR Implementation assigned by the GREPECAS</p> <p>a) the TF update the NACC/WG/SAR Task Force Work Programme including the task assigned by GREPECAS; and</p> <p>b) the Rapporteur present an annual progress report to the 2025 NACC/WG.</p>	<p>Expected impact:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Political / Global</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inter-regional</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Economic</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Environmental</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operational/Technical</p>
<p>Why:</p> <p>To support harmonized SAR implementation in the CAR Region</p>	
<p>When: 2025 NACC/WG Meeting</p>	<p>Status: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Valid / <input type="checkbox"/> Superseded / <input type="checkbox"/> Completed</p>

SAR/TF/4
Report on Agenda Item 4

4-2

Who: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> States <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICAO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:	NACC/WG/SAR/TF
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Agenda Item 5 **Other Business**

5.1 No issues were discussed under this Agenda Item.

APPENDIX

TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE MINISTER OF ECOLOGICAL TRANSITION AND TERRITORIAL COHESION OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO REGARDING THE DELEGATION OF AERONAUTICAL SAR MISSION BY ARCC PIARCO TO THE FRENCH ANTILLES ARSC GUADELOUPE AND MARTINIQUE

The Minister of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion of the French Republic, represented by its Director-General of Civil Aviation and

The Civil Aviation Authority of Trinidad and Tobago, represented by its Director General of Civil Aviation,
Hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”,

Considering the Chicago Convention on International Civil Aviation (ICAO) signed on 7 December 1944;

Considering Annex 12 to the Convention and particularly its recommendation 2.3.2.

Considering Doc 9731-AN/958 *International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual*, referenced under, hereinafter referred to as “IAMSAR Manual”;

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. DEFINITIONS

Technical Arrangement or Arrangement: It refers to the present arrangement including the two annexes associated.

Aircraft in distress: an aircraft is in distress when this aircraft and its occupants are threatened by serious and/or imminent danger and require immediate assistance.

Rescue coordination centre (RCC): A unit responsible for promoting efficient organization of search and rescue services and for co-ordinating the conduct of search and rescue operations within a search and rescue region.

Rescue subcentre (RSC): A unit subordinate to a rescue co-ordination centre established to complement the latter according to particular provisions of the responsible authorities.

Terminal Control Area (TMA): A control area normally established at the confluence of ATS routes in the vicinity of one or more major aerodromes.

Search and rescue region (SRR) An area of defined dimensions, associated with a rescue co-ordination centre, within which search and rescue services are provided.

Search and rescue sub-region (SRS): A specified area within a search and rescue region associated with a rescue sub-centre.

Aeronautical SAR mission: The mission consists in finding people in distress, assist them, and deliver them to a place of safety with the upmost of efficiency.

Search and rescue (SAR) service: The performance of distress monitoring, communication, co-ordination and search and rescue functions, including provision of medical advice, initial medical assistance, or medical evacuation, through the use of public and private resources, including co-operating aircraft, vessels and other craft and installations.

SAR mission co-ordinator (SMC): The official temporarily assigned to co-ordinate response to an actual or apparent distress situation."
In French Antilles, the SMC is the Duty Officer.

Article 2. SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT

Aeronautical RCC (ARCC) PIARCO, which the Civil Aviation Authority of Trinidad and Tobago is responsible for, provides the SAR service in accordance with the ICAO air navigation plan for Caribbean region.

The purpose of the present Arrangement is the delegation of the aeronautical SAR mission by ARCC PIARCO to Aeronautical RSC (ARSC) GUADELOUPE and ARSC MARTINIQUE.

The delegation of the aeronautical SAR mission is applicable in the areas corresponding to the lateral limits of the TMA POINTE A PITRE and the TMA FORT DE FRANCE located in the SRR of PIARCO such as defined in AIP-CAR/SAM/NAM, part GEN3-6 and as recalled in **annex 1**.

Article 3. DURATION

The present Arrangement is signed for an unlimited period. It may be terminated at any time by mutual agreement.

Article 4. AMENDMENTS

The present Arrangement may be amended at any time, by mutual agreement.

Article 5. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Any dispute arising between the Parties concerning the application of the present Arrangement shall be settled through direct negotiations between the Parties.

Article 6. ENTRY INTO FORCE

The present Arrangement shall enter into force on the date when the last of the two Parties signs it.

Done in ..., , on the..... , in two copies, original, in French and English languages, both texts being equally authentic.

SIGNATURES

For the Civil Aviation Authority of Trinidad and Tobago For the Minister of Ecological Transition and Territorial Cohesion of the French Republic

Mr Cary PRICE

Mr Damien CAZE

Director General

Director General

ANNEX 1

SCOPE

ARSC GUADELOUPE Geographic coordinates ¹:

1. 17°25'00''N, 060°46'00''W
2. 16°48'10''N, 060°32'10''W
3. 16°10'00''N, 060°18'00''W
4. 14°54'00''N, 061°57'00''W
5. 15°45'00''N, 063°00'00''W
6. 16°46'00''N, 063°00'00''W
7. 16°30'00''N, 062°23'30''W
8. 16°50'00''N, 061°15'00''W
9. 17°25'00''N, 060°46'00''W

ARSC MARTINIQUE Geographic coordinates ²:

1. 16°10'00"N, 060°18'00"W
2. 14°52'30"N, 059°48'00"W
3. 13°53'57"N, 060°35'02"W
4. 25 Nm radius time arc centred on 13°44'00"N, 060°58'37"W (VOR-DME BNE)
5. 13°18'55"N, 060°59'41"W
6. 13°34'00"N, 061°30'00"W
7. 14°02'05"N, 061°40'05"W
8. 14°54'00"N, 061°57'00"W
9. 16°10'00"N, 060°18'00"W

¹ Corresponding to the lateral limits of the TMA POINTE A PITRE.

² Corresponding to the lateral limits of the TMA MARTINIQUE

ANNEX 2
SAR Points of contact details

<i>The Chief of the Air Navigation Services of ANTILLES-GUYANE</i>	<i>Mr Francis PREUX</i>	<i>+596696705147</i>	<i>francis.preux@aviation-civile.gouv.fr</i>
<i>The chief of the ARSC GUADELOUPE</i>	<i>Mrs Julie IBALOT</i>	<i>+590690692104</i>	<i>Julie.ibalot@aviation-civile.gouv.fr</i>
<i>The chief of the ARSC MARTINIQUE</i>	<i>Mr Frederic DANLOUX</i>	<i>+596696961107</i>	<i>Frederic.danloux@aviation-civile.gouv.fr</i>
<i>ARSC GUADELOUPE</i>	<i>Duty Officer (SMC)</i> <i>Aeronautical Regional Information office</i>	<i>+590690844690</i> <i>+590590482143</i>	<i>sna-ag-pointe-a-pitre_iao-ld.sna-ag.ld@aviation-civile.gouv.fr</i> <i>sna-ag-bria-antilles-guyane-bf@aviation-civile.gouv.fr</i>
<i>ARSC MARTINIQUE</i>	<i>Duty Officer (SMC)</i> <i>Aeronautical Regional Information office</i>	<i>+596696936075</i> <i>+596596422614</i>	<i>sna-ag-martinique_iao-ld.sna-ag.ld@aviation-civile.gouv.f</i> <i>sna-ag-bria-antilles-guyane-bf@aviation-civile.gouv.fr</i>

APPENDIX B

NACC/WG SAR IMPLEMENTATION TASK FORCE WORK PROGRAMME 2023-2025

Updated NACC/WG/SAR/TF/5 Meeting September 2024

Task Name	Start	Finish	Deliverables	Follow-up	Responsible	Remarks
Action plan to strengthen the H24 operation of SAR services as well as other matters considered as Basic Building Blocks (BBB).	September 2023	September 2025	1. Action Plan for SAR Operation in the CAR Region 2. Evaluation of the SAR BBBs	Report to the NACC/WG	Secretariat	Task force requested external support to complete this task. Possible assistance from United Kingdom HM Coast Guard and/or the United States Coast Guard.
Activities to update and strengthen SAR Operation Plans of States	September 2023	September 2025	Review of SAR Operation Plan for NAM/CAR States	Report to the NACC/WG	Secretariat	Priority for CAR Region Rescue Coordination Centres
Activities to update and/or sign operational coordination agreements/procedures between adjacent SAR organizations.	September 2023	September 2025	SAR Agreements Signed/Updated	Report to the NACC/WG	Secretariat	Priority for Piarco Search and Rescue Region. Dissemination of template.
Update the CAR Region Search and Rescue Plan with guidance for Cospas-Sarsat Procedures	September 2023	September 2024	Guidance Material /CAR SAR Plan Updated	Report to the NACC/WG	United States	To be incorporated as an Appendix to the CAR Region SAR Plan
Support for Search and Rescue Exercises	September 2024	September 2025	Promotion, coordination and support.	Report to the NACC/WG	Secretariat France Trinidad and Tobago	Support SAREX organized by France for 2025

- END -