

**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
SOUTH AMERICAN OFFICE**

**SECOND MEETING OF THE INFORMAL COORDINATION GROUP OF THE EAST
CARIBBEAN AND NORTH EASTERN SOUTH AMERICAN
(E-CAR/SAM-NE ICG/2)**

(Caracas, Venezuela, 1 to 5 December 2003)

Agenda Item 1: Review of ATM matters

e) Review of SAR agreements

(Presented by the Secretariat)

Summary

The need to establish search and rescue agreements among SAM States is presented in this working paper, and the guidance material available for the elaboration of their respective international agreements, is presented to the meeting

References

- CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting
- Basic CAR/SAM Regional Air Navigation – Volume I
- International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual. (IAMSAR – Doc. 9731)
- Annex 12 – Search and Rescue
- Report of the SAR 90/03 SAM Informal Meeting.

1. Background

1.1 In search and rescue services, it is necessary to highlight the importance – not to be delegated by the civil aviation authority - to exercise planning of the required services in each State by the national and international civil aviation, as well as means and necessary human resources for its provision.

1.2 Due to this reason, the preparation and approval of the National SAR Plan, based on the CAR/SAM ANP requirements, plus those of the domestic aviation, with all the details of implementation, is a permanent enquiry and valuable tool, fundamental for planning, budgetary prevision and operation by CAR/SAM States.

1.3 As it occurs with other areas related with air navigation, within the search and rescue area, the States are responsible for the establishment of a SAR National Plan, which contemplates full compliance of requirements related with regulations, organization, supervision, development of procedures, personnel training, quality assessment, and preparation of manuals and publications.

1.4 This National Plan should be compatible and be framed within SAR requirements that have been incorporated into the CAR/SAM Air Navigation Plan (ANP) through regional agreement, with assignment of officers responsible for the service, with sufficient authority to act as counterparts, through the active participation in regional SAR events, training programmes, etc.

1.5 In order to make it more feasible, every State should authorize its RCCs to request other RCCs for the necessary assistance, including aircraft, vessels, personnel or equipment. Simultaneously, these RCCs should be authorized to provide every necessary authorization for the entrance of such aircraft, ships, personnel or equipment in its territory, and also to agree on the necessary measures with the respective customs office, immigration or other type of authorities, in order to facilitate such entrance.

1.6 Likewise, every State should authorize their RCCs to provide assistance when so requested, to other RCCS, including assistance such as aircraft, ships, personnel or equipment.

2. **Analysis**

a) **National Search and Rescue Plan**

2.1 During the CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting, this matter was reviewed by the participating CAR/SAM States/Territories and other International Organizations, and based on the discussions, and in order to provide a group of basic regulations for the SAR services of the Caribbean and South American Regions, the meeting agreed on Recommendation 6/12 - Basic provisions for search and rescue services, literal c), in which CAR/SAM States are requested to adopt the necessary and possible measures to establish domestic and international SAR agreements which permit the improvement of SAR services, and coordinate the efforts among entities that provide or support SAR services.

2.2 Also, the Basic Operational Requirements and Planning Criteria (BORPC) contained in the Basic CAR/SAM ANP, Volume I, indicate that, when long-range aircraft (LRG) and upper range categories to provide area coverage of large search and rescue oceanic regions; however, but the State responsible for SAR services does not count with such aircraft, concrete cooperation regulations should be adopted, to provide them from other locations, to try to satisfy the requirements of a sufficient coverage area of the appropriate regions.

2.3 In addition to the foregoing, the Basic CAR/SAM ANP, Vol. I, Part VII – Search and rescue services, is a guideline text considered as a minimum requirement for the accurate planning of SAR facilities and services in the CAR and SAM Regions. The guideline elements mentioned in such text refer to the corresponding recommendations of the CAR/SAM RAN meetings.

2.4 For these purposes, the IAMSAR Manual, Volume I, Appendix I (Doc 9731) as well as the Guidance Material for the Preparation of a National Search and Rescue Plan approved by GREPECAS, in Chapter 7, Appendices C, D and E, as required, propose a series of texts to serve as guidance to the States interested in the establishment these types of agreements.

2.5 Likewise, the SAR 90/03 Informal Meeting (Lima, September 2003), when reviewing the CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting SAR recommendations, with regard to SAR services, considered pertinent to encourage States of the SAM Region to adopt them in the least deadline possible, formulating Conclusion 5/1 – Search and Rescue Requirements.

b) Coordination among States with the Aeronautical SAR

2.6 Annex 12, Chapter 3 – Cooperation, establishes that the Contracting States shall coordinate with their search and rescue organizations with those of the neighbor States, subject to conditions prescribed by their own authorities.

2.7 In this way, it is intended to permit the immediate entrance of other States' rescue brigades in its territory for the search of a place where an aviation accident has been produced and for the rescue of the survivors of such accident.

2.8 To this end, the States should reach agreements with neighbor States to establish the conditions of entrance of the SAR brigades of a State in the territory of the rest. These agreements should also foresee that the entrance of such brigades will be facilitated with the minimum of formalities.

3. Suggested action

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information presented in this working paper, fill the form attached as **Appendix A** to this working paper, and, if deemed pertinent, approve the following draft conclusion:

Draft Conclusion X/X Search and Rescue National Plan

That those States of the E CAR/SAM NE sub-region, that have not yet done so:

- a) Prepare ad national search and rescue plan compatible with the CAR/SAM ANP,
- b) Take as basis for the development of such document, the Guidance Material for the Preparation of a Search and Rescue National Plan;

- c) Those who have a SAR National Plan, consider the review or updating of its own plan, harmonized with the guidance material indicated in b) above; and
- d) Keep informed the corresponding Regional Office on the progress achieved on this respect.

Draft Conclusion X/X Aeronautical SAR Coordination among States

That those States of the E CAR/SAM NE sub-region, that have not yet done so:

- a) Adopt, as far as possible CAR/SAM/3 RAN Recommendation 6/12, literal c) to establish SAR international agreements with other States; and
- b) Keep the South American Regional Office informed on the progress achieved on this respect.