

**INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION
SOUTH AMERICAN REGIONAL OFFICE**

**INFORMAL MEETING ON SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES FOR THE SAM REGION
(SAM 90/03 SAR)**

(Lima, Peru, 8 to 12 September 2003)

Agenda Item 4: SAR Training in the SAM Region

b) SAR exercises

(Presented by Argentina)

Summary

This working paper proposes to establish to carry out SAR exercises in the Region, with the aim of acquiring appropriate levels of aptitude and experience for an efficient development of the regional SAR system.

1. Background

1.1. By this working paper, Argentinean delegation presents to the Meeting the SAR Regional Plan.

1.2. This Regional Plan had the objective of joining efforts and including the Caribbean and South American countries, with the aim of easing a reciprocal exchange on SAR matters.

2. Analysis

2.1. Search and Rescue exercises are to test the SAR services, in order to improve the Plan of Operations, acquire experience and increase the capacity of link and coordination, and also permit evaluating the training, efficiency and competence of SAR services during operations. .

2.2. There are various drill levels:

2.2.1. The simplest one is related with communications, since it requires no planning to carry it out.

2.2.2. Another type, is to simulate a response upon a crisis, on the basis of different cases, they are called of verification. Planning is made, without getting to use the means available.

2.2.3. Last of all, the most complete exercise, carried out on the ground, its only difference with the previous one is getting to use the means available.

2.3. ICAO Annex 12, Chapter 3, establishes that contracting States carry out joint training exercises. This, among other recommendations in the document, seeks: regional integration.

3. **Action suggested**

3.1 With the purpose of achieving an integration as regards SAR exercises in the medium term, it is recommended to:

3.1.1 Determine regional centres to train SAR specialists, to obtain standardization in operational procedures.

3.1.2 Carry out drills, without intervention of the means available, but making emphasis on the planning and verification stages.

3.1.3 Plan a SAR exercise to take place during the course of 2005, with the use of means provided by the States of the Region. A working group should be established to this end, to carry out the tasks assigned and make pertinent coordinations, with the aid of the South American Regional Office.