

**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

- a) Candidates requirements affecting SAR service and preparation and utilization of SAR didactic material for training purposes**
- b) SAR exercises**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

Summary

This working presents some considerations related to the importance of training for SAR service personnel, the responsibility of civil aviation administrations on this respect and the search for formal capacitating, with the aim to reach and keep an appropriate level of competence through the realization of SAR exercises.

References

- Convention on International Civil Aviation
- Basic CAR/SAM Regional Navigation Plan
- Report of the CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting
- International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual. (IAMSAR – Doc.9731)

1. Background

1.1 The main purpose of a SAR service is to assist that ICAO Contracting States comply with the objectives of Article 25 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation, as well as to comply with the regulations of Annex 12 to such Convention, which comprise standards and international methods for the establishment and provision of the search and rescue service in the regions created to that end.

1.2 In order to reach these objectives, the Contracting States understand the importance of the provision of an adequate training to SAR service personnel in all aspects covering the search and rescue

activities, taking into consideration that an operational error in the organized activities chain, may compromise the success of an operation and consequently cause the loss of some lives.

1.3 Even when the civil aviation authority delegates some or all the elements of the execution of functions or services, it should also be in capacity to exercise responsibility of planning, establish necessary standards and regulations for the normal operation of the same. Also, to ensure that the guidelines, ICAO standards and recommended practices by the organizations in charge of the SAR service at domestic level.

1.4 The organization in charge of the SAR Service Management is responsible to ensure that all personnel reaches and maintains the necessary competence degree through any training programme, review and verification of competences, at least contemplating:

- Study of standards, regulations, guidelines and practices on the application of procedures, techniques and SAR equipment through conferences, site training, audiovisual aids, reading and analysis of manuals and specialized magazines;
- The cooperation or observation during real operations;
- Participation in simulated exercises, oriented towards the familiarization and coordination practices, SAR procedures and techniques.

2. **Analysis**

Training

2.1 To this respect, the CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting noted that the deficiencies in planning and training of human resources were frequently mentioned as important reasons in the lack of implementation of the regional air navigation plans and that many States had problems with the planning and training of human resources.

2.2 Within this context, the CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting recognized that the personnel from RCCs and RSCs perform operations particularly important, which demand a formal training, in order to reach and maintain an appropriate level of competence. It was pointed out, however, that no appropriate standardized didactic material was easily available related to the several SAR aspects.

2.3 Keeping in mind the foregoing, the CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting formulated Recommendation 6/10 - Development of search and rescue (SAR) training material, where the TRAINAIR programme is requested to invite their members to prepare Standard training package (STP) for SAR personnel using as reference document the IAMSAR Manual.

2.4 Currently, the TRAINAIR programme has a SAR STP for SAR personnel have STP SAR at disposal of all States that are part of the mentioned programme.

SAR Exercises

2.5 The Basic CAR/SAM ANP, Part VII – Search and Rescue Services (SAR) under the title, Search and Rescue Operations, incorporates Recommendation 7/12 of the CAR/SAM/2 RAN Meeting through which States are indicated to take the necessary measures to carry out SAR joint exercises,

among their SAR brigades and those of other States, carrying out operations at regular intervals, if possible, at least once a year.

2.6 Likewise, the mentioned recommendation encourages States to invite observers from other States and interested organizations to participate in such exercises as well as to provide fellowships to SAR personnel, to enable their assistance to training courses in this area, once the interested States have provided ICAO with the pertinent information regarding the type of training that will be provided.

3. **Suggested action**

3.1 Keeping in mind the aforementioned, the meeting is invited to note the information presented in this working paper, exchange information regarding their experiences or plans that their respective administrations apply as regards programmes, methodology and matters that will be give in the SAR training areas deemed pertinent for its possible application in the SAM Region sphere, and, if deemed appropriate, approve the following draft conclusions:

Draft Conclusion X/X

Realization of SAR exercises

That:

- a) Those States that have not yet done so, as far as possible, adopt Recommendation 7/12 of the CAR/SAM/2 RAN Meeting (incorporated into the Basic CAR/SAM ANP) with regard to the realization of SAR exercises; and
- b) Keep the South American Office duly informed on the progress reached on this respect.

Draft Conclusion X/X

Training of SAR personnel

That:

- a) Those States, which have not yet done so, as far as possible, adopt Recommendation 6/10 of the CAR/SAM/3 RAN Meeting related with the use of SAR STP of the TRAINAIR programme; and
- b) Keep the South American Office duly informed on the progress reached on this respect.