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Agenda Item 4: Asia/Pacific and inter-regional SAR planning, coordination and cooperation

THIRD JOINT MONGOLIA-RUSSIA AVIATION SAR EXERCISES

(Presented by Mongolia)

SUMMARY

This paper presents Mongolia and the Russian Federation had successfully conducted the third joint exercises of aviation search and rescue services of both countries from 29 June to 3 July 2014. By this paper Mongolia appealing to initiate aviation search and rescue between East Asian neighboring countries.

1. INTRODUCTION

Mongolia and the Russian Federation had signed a SAR agreement

1.1 The Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of Mongolia concerning co-operation in respect of aviation search and rescue.

1.2 Within the framework of agreement between two governments, an Operational Agreement between Federal Aeronautical Agency of the Russian Federation and the Civil Aviation Authority of Mongolia (CAAM) for SAR cooperation was established on 11th July, 2006.

1.3 According to Chapter 3 of Annex 12 (Cooperation between States) of the Chicago Convention, the governments of Mongolia and Russian Federation signed in Ulaanbaatar the Agreement in aviation SAR cooperation on 11th July 2006. In order to implement this agreement, the CAAM and the Federal Aeronautical Agency of Russia (since 2009 as Federal Air Transport Agency (Rosaviatsia) had signed an Operational Agreement in Moscow on 11 April 2008. Under these documents, the two Contracting States took responsibility to organize and conduct joint exercises of aviation search and rescue services every two years, to ensure preparedness checks of cooperation efficiency.

2. DISCUSSION

The Third Joint Mongolia-Russia Aviation SAR Exercises

2.1 At the end of April 2014, delegates of the Civil Aviation Authority of Mongolia visited the Russian Federation for the coordination meeting of JOINT SAREX-2014. At this meeting, both sides agreed with the date and place to organize the JOINT SAREX 2014 and the exercise scenarios. During the exercises, the two sides planned to repeat 10 exercises including sign searching from the board, rescuer parachute jumps, cord declivity, identification of survivors and other rescue exercises.

2.2 The third JOINT SAREX was held in the territory of the Kemerovo Oblast of the Russian Federation from 29 June to 3 July 2014. In this exercise, Mongolia participated with one special helicopter for SAR Mi-171E and 23 delegates including SAR specialists, rescuers, 3 member of helicopter crew and other relevant officers. The Federal Air Transport Agency of Russia (ROSAVIATSIA) participated with one helicopter (MI-8T), 26 rescuer, 15 aviation SAR specialists, 7 member of helicopter crew and 10 officials. This operation has improved the ability to be ready in extreme situations for all participants.

2.3 The JOINT SAREX-2014 was a Full-Scale Exercise or a Field Exercise, where actual SAR facilities were deployed. This increased the scope of SAR system-testing and added realistic constraints due to times involved in launching, transit and activities of the SAR Units (SRUs).

Exercise Scenario

2.4 On 02 July 2014, An-28 aircraft of airline "Aerogeo" flew on the route Novosibirsk - Ulaanbaatar for the transport of paratroopers in international competitions. The flight was performed at an altitude of 3900 m, speed 310 km/h. At 10:00 the flight crew of the aircraft reported at reporting point WINAP. At 10:15 the pilot-in-command in the area of Mokrushino reported a failure of two aircraft engines. The pilot-in-command gave the command for the immediate evacuation of the aircraft by passengers, using the parachute system. After the aircraft passengers left with parachutes, the crew completed the landing on the platform.

2.5 The exercises were conducted in four stages:

1. search and evacuation of victims of the Mi-171E disaster in the hills of Mongolia;
2. search and evacuation of disaster victims from a water surface by helicopter Mi-8T airline "Eltsovka";
3. search and evacuation of victims of the disaster by ground search and rescue team of the Federal air transport Agency with specialists FBUS SOMC FMBA (Siberian regional medical center);
4. delivery of medical specialists of the Federal Medical-Biological Agency (FMBA) of Russia to the ground on a parachute systems "tandem" rescuers of the Federal air transport Agency.

Conclusion

2.6 After the joint exercises, the two Contracting States checked all the documentation and reviewed details of the contract between CAAM and Rosaviatsia. CAAM amended certain procedures regarding to the delivery of emergency reports to other entities which participants of aviation SAR operations, such as National Emergency Management Agency, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Health, Police Department, General Authority for Border Protection.

2.7 Mongolia has a few SAR operations each year, so exercises were critical to sustaining proficiency for Mongolian SAR specialists. The JOINT SAREX-2014 with adjacent States or parties to SAR agreements were very valuable in this regard.

2.8 The Russian Federation and Mongolia had successfully conducted the JOINT SAREX-2014 from 29 June to 03 July 2014, which was a third joint aviation SAR exercises. The JOINT SAREX-2014 successfully provided activities for the promotion and sustainability of Mongolian SAR specialists proficiency. It has been proven by the JOINT SAREX-2014 that close cooperation of neighboring States conducting SAR operations was very valuable.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1 The meeting is invited to note the information contained in this paper.

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