



International Civil Aviation Organization
Western and Central African Office

**Second Meeting of the AFI SAR Services Integration Task Force
 (ASSI TF/2) (Nairobi, Kenya, 05-06 December 2012)**

Agenda Item 6: Review/update of the deficiencies in the Search and Rescue

Review/update of the deficiencies in the Search and Rescue

(Presented by the Secretariat)

Summary

This paper discusses the status of deficiencies in the SAR field in the AFI Region.

Action by the meeting is at **paragraph 3**

References:

SP AFI/8 RAN Report
 APIRG/17 Report
 ASSI TF1 report
 APIRG/18 report

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The definition “deficiency” as approved by the ICAO Council is that:

“a deficiency is a situation where a facility, service or procedure does not comply with a regional air navigation plan approved by the Council, or with related ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices, and which situation has a negative impact on the safety, regularity and/or efficiency of international civil aviation”

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The ASSI TF1 meeting noted, as APIRG/17 meeting did, that based on currently available information, most States had three or four similar deficiencies in the field of SAR (lack of SAR legislation, lack of SAR agreements, lack of ELT carriage legislation, lack of SAR exercises) all

identified between 1991 and 1995.

- 2.2 The meeting recalled the *APIRG Conclusion 17/100* which called for the establishment of a comprehensive list of all air navigation deficiencies consistent with the ICAO definition of deficiency as approved by the Council, in order to more closely reflect the actual status of deficiencies, and in turn to trigger appropriate measures to resolve such deficiencies.
- 2.3 In this regard the meeting considered and amended a list of SAR deficiencies to be used as a guide to minimum reporting. This list of deficiencies then endorsed by the APIRG/18 is shown at **Appendix A** to this paper.
- 2.4 In the same vein, the Task Force may recall that the ASSI TF1 meeting agreed that a survey should be conducted by the ICAO Regional Offices in order to collect information on the status of implementation of SAR provisions in the AFI Region. In this regard a questionnaire was forwarded to States with the invitation letter to this meeting. States representatives that have not already done so may wish to seize the opportunity to fill the questionnaire and render it to the secretariat.
- 2.5 The meeting may wish to review the list in **Appendix A**, having in mind that a balance should be established between over-reporting which could make prioritizing difficult, and little or no reporting; both of which could defeat the purpose of identifying the deficiencies and the ability to find solutions.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING:

The Sub-Group is invited to:

- a) note the information in this working paper
- b) review and amend the proposed list of SAR deficiencies for reporting

MINIMUM DEFICIENCIES REPORTING LIST

SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR)								
Item No	Deficiencies				Corrective Action			
	ICAO Reference Document & GPIs	Description	Date first reported	Remarks/ Impact of non-implementation	Action by States	Action taken/planned by State (including timelines/target dates)	Identified implementation impediment and action thereon	Status
1.	[Annex 12, Chapter 3] AFI/7 Rec. 6/3	Lack of Search and Rescue Agreements between neighboring States		Lack of SAR agreements can be detrimental to safety of persons in distress where searches overlap national boundaries.				
2.	[Annex 12, Section 4.3]	Search and rescue units		Lack of adequately equipped and trained search and rescue units and adequate survival and medical supplies can seriously affect the conduct and outcome of SAR operation				
3.	AFI/7 Rec. 6/5	Search and Rescue Training		Lack of formal training for SAR personnel can hinder the effectiveness of SAR operation				
4.	[Annex 12, Section 4.4]	Search and rescue exercises		Lack of regular training of search and rescue personnel and conduct of regular search and rescue exercises can prevent achievement of maximum efficiency in search and rescue operation.				

MINIMUM DEFICIENCIES REPORTING LIST

Appendix X

TEMPLATE

5.	AFI/7 Rec. 6/1 AFI/7 Rec. 6/2	Satellite aided search and rescue		Lack of implementation will result in difficulty in detection, identification and location of activated 406 Mhz ELTs and loss of valuable time for SAR				
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