NACC/WG/5 — DP/08
25/05/17

Fifth North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group Meeting (NACC/WG/5)
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 22-26 May 2017

Agenda Item 3   **Implementation on Air Navigation Matters**
                       3.3   ANI/WG Progress on AIM, ATM and CNS

SEARCH AND RESCUE REPORT

(Presented by the Ad hoc ANI/WG SAR Rapporteur)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
This discussion paper presents the justification for the establishment of a SAR Implementation Task Force taking into consideration deliberations of the Ad hoc SAR Task Force during the NACC/WG/5.

Strategic Objectives:	• Safety • Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency
References:	• NAM/CAR/SAM Search and Rescue (SAR) Implementation and Civil-military Coordination Meeting, Piarco, Trinidad and Tobago, 25-28 October 2016 • NAM/CAR Search and Rescue Civil and Military Coordination, Presented by ICAO Secretariat (RO ATM/SAR)

1.   Introduction

1.1   During the NAM/CAR/SAM Search and Rescue (SAR) Implementation and Civil-military Coordination Meeting held in Trinidad and Tobago, (25-28 October 2016) it was concluded that "the Meeting consider working with other ICAO Regional Groups (ANI/WG) to prepare a formal paper on SAR activity and the need for implementation assistance for consideration at the next NACC/DCA meeting in September 2017."

1.2   At the Fifth Meeting of North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group (NACC/WG/5), an Ad hoc SAR Implementation Task Force was formed to discuss and develop a draft terms of reference to assist with SAR efficiency and regional coordination as well as to update and report progress to the ANI/WG based on the action plan for these tasks.

2.   **Discussion**

2.1   The Ad hoc SAR Implementation Task Force discussed and proposed a Terms of Reference to assist States in meeting its Air Navigation Implementation initiatives, ICAO Universal Safety Audit Programme (USOAP) Audit requirements and State's Regulatory Audits.

2.2   The Terms of Reference was created to meet the following objectives:

a)   Support States in developing and implementing contingency plans in the event of disruption or potential disruption of Air Traffic Service (ATS) or related supporting services.

b)   Ensure that States establish an entity which provides, on a 24 hour basis, SAR services within its territory and the areas where the State has accepted responsibility to provide SAR to ensure that assistance is rendered to persons in distress, or

c)   If the State has not established a SAR entity to provide 24hour services, ensure that the State arranges with another Contracting State or group of States to provide such SAR services.

d)   Support States with establishing a joint rescue coordinator centre to coordinate aeronautical and maritime SAR operations, or otherwise, when separate aeronautical and maritime RCCs serve the same area, ensure that there is the closest practicable coordination between the centres.

e)   Ensure that States SAR services include the basic elements of:
   i.   a legal framework,
   ii.   a responsible authority,
   iii.   organized available resources,
   iv.   communication facilities, and
   v.   workforce skilled in coordination and operational functions

f)   Assist States with the development of LOAs.

g)   Assist States with the development of their Training Programme.

h)   Assist States with the development of their SAR Operations Manual.

3.   **Recommendations**

3.1   The Ad hoc SAR Implementation Task Force recommends the formation of the SAR Implementation Task Force under the Air Navigation Implementation Working Group (ANI/WG).

3.2   The ICAO NACC Regional Office continues to support and assist States with the development of Search and Rescue in the NACC States.

3.3   States/Territories/Organizations provide the necessary support to ensure that the members are provided with the resources to engage in and contribute to the activities of the Task Force;

4.   Draft Conclusions

4.1   States provide the required Air Navigation Services Provider's personnel to carry out the necessary functions for effective implementation of SAR.

4.2   States budget for and provide the resources required to assist the selected personnel to participate in teleconferences, training, meetings and conferences.

4.3   States facilitate high level meetings between Civil Aviation Organizations and SAR stakeholders in order to enable effective Civil/Military Coordination.

4.4   States/Territories/International Organizations increase their participation to assist with the requirements of SAR.

5   Suggested Actions

5.1   The Meeting is invited to:

a)   take note of the deliberations of the Ad hoc SAR Implementation Task Force during the NACC/WG/5 and;

b)   accept the draft conclusions of the Ad hoc SAR Implementation Task Force;

c)   propose any other action or task as deemed necessary.

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or

— END —

APPENDIX

SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR) IMPLEMENTATION **TASK FORC**E

1. Background

1.1　　　　The objective of the ANI/WG at the point of formation was to consolidate the existing sub-regional working groups, reduce the number of meetings, avoid duplication, expedite work progress, and improve regional harmonization focused on the Air Traffic Management (ATM), Communications, Navigation and Surveillance (CNS) and Aeronautical Information Management (AIM) air navigation fields.

1.2　　　　During the NAM/CAR/SAM Search and Rescue (SAR) Implementation and Civil-military Coordination Meeting held in Trinidad and Tobago, (25-28 October 2016) it was concluded that "*the Meeting consider working with other ICAO Regional Groups (ANI/WG) to prepare a formal paper on SAR activity and the need for implementation assistance for consideration at the next NACC/DCA meeting in September 2017.*"

1.3　　　　At the Fifth Meeting of North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group (NACC/WG/5) meeting, a SAR Implementation Task Force was formed in order to streamline related air navigation implementation activities. This Task Force shall improve SAR efficiency and regional coordination as well as update and report progress to the ANI/WG based on the action plan for these tasks.

2. Responsibilities

The Task Force is responsible for:

a) Work Programme Management;

b) Supporting States with implementing an effective SAR system;

c) Periodically requesting statistics from States to monitor implementation status;

d) Harmonizing A-SAR services through resource sharing and the exchange of technical expertise;

e) Providing assistance to States to satisfy ICAO's USOAP Audits and States Regulatory Oversight Audits.

3. Working Methods

The Task Force will:

a) Present its work programme containing activities in terms of objectives, responsibilities, deliverables and timelines.

b) Avoid duplicating work within the ANI/WG and maintain close coordination among the existing entities to optimize use of available resources and experience.

c) Designate, as necessary, Ad hoc Groups to work on specific topics and activities and organize clearly defined tasks and activities.

d) Coordinate tasks to maximize efficiency and reduce costs via electronic means including emails, telephone and teleconference calls, and convene meetings as necessary.

e) Report on and coordinate the progress of assigned tasks to the ANI/WG.

4. **_Work Programme –_** will be included

5. **_Membership_**

STATE	MEMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS	TEL / CELL / FAX
Antigua and Barbuda			
Anguilla			
Aruba			
Bahamas			
Barbados			
Belize			
Bermuda			
Bonaire			
British Virgin Islands			
Canada			
Cayman Islands			
Costa Rica			
Curacao			
Dominican Republic			
El Salvador			
Guadeloupe			
Grenada			
Guatemala			
Haiti			
Honduras			
Jamaica			
Martinique			
Mexico			
Montserrat			
Nicaragua			
Saba			
Saint Barthelemy			
Saint Kitts and Nevis			
Saint Lucia			
Saint Vincent and Grenadines			
Sint Eustatius			

STATE	MEMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS	TEL / CELL / FAX
Sint Maarten			
Trinidad and Tobago			
Turks and Caicos Islands			
United States			

TASK DESCRIPTION	Estimated Target Date	STATUS
a. Support States in developing and implementing contingency plans in the event of disruption or potential disruption of air traffic service (ATS) or related supporting services.		
b. (1) Ensure that States establish an entity which provides, on a 24 hour basis, SAR services within its territory and the areas where the State has accepted responsibility to provide SAR to ensure that assistance is rendered to persons in distress, or (2) If the State has not established a SAR entity to provide 24hour services, ensure that the State arranges with another Contracting State or group of States to provide such SAR services.		
c. Support States with establishing a joint rescue coordinator centre to coordinate aeronautical and maritime SAR operations, or otherwise, when separate aeronautical and maritime RCCs serve the same area, ensure that there is the closest practicable coordination between the centres.		
d. Ensure that States SAR services include the basic elements of: i) a legal framework, ii) a responsible authority, iii) organized available resources, iv) communication facilities, and v) workforce skilled in coordination and operational functions		
e. Assist States with the development of LOAs to ensure that: (1) States coordinate its SAR organization with those of neighboring States. (2) States permit, subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by its own authorities, entry into its territory of SAR units of other States for the purpose of searching for the site of aircraft accidents and rescuing survivors of such accidents. (3) States authorize its RCCs to provide, when requested, assistance to other rescue coordination centres (RCCs), including assistance in the form of aircraft, vessels, persons or equipment. (4) States arrange for all aircraft, vessels and local services and facilities which do not form part of the SAR organization to		

TASK DESCRIPTION	Estimated Target Date	STATUS
cooperate fully with the latter in SAR and to extend any possible assistance to the survivors of aircraft accidents. (5) States make arrangements for the use of SAR units and other available facilities to assist any aircraft or its occupants who are or appear to be in a state of emergency. (6) States have the closest practicable coordination between the relevant aeronautical and maritime authorities to provide for the most effective and efficient SAR services.		
f. Assist States with the development of their Training Programme to ensure that: (1) States provide Administrative and Operational training for SAR personnel. (2) Each rescue coordination centre (RCC) and, as appropriate, rescue sub-centre (RSC), is staffed 24 hours a day by trained and qualified personnel proficient in the use of the language used for radiotelephony communications. (3) Each rescue coordination centre (RCC) and, if appropriate, rescue sub-centre (RSC), maintains training records for their technical staff. (4) Rescue coordination centre (RCC) personnel involved in the conduct of radiotelephony communications are proficient in the use of the English language. (5) SAR personnel are regularly trained and that appropriate SAR exercises are arranged.		
g. Assist States with the development of their SAR Operations Manual to ensure that: (1) States ensure that each rescue coordination centre (RCC) has prepared detailed plans of operation for the conduct of SAR operations within its search and rescue region (SRR). (2) States designate, as SAR units, elements of public or private services suitably located and equipped for SAR operations. (3) States ensure that appropriate SAR exercises are arranged.		

Rapporteur: TBD

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