



ICAO

International Civil Aviation Organization
North American, Central American and Caribbean Office

WORKING PAPER

ANI/WG/SAR/TF/1 — WP/09
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First NAM/CAR Air Navigation Implementation Working Group (ANI/WG) Search and Rescue (SAR) Implementation Task Force Meeting (ANI/WG/SAR/TF/1)
Mexico City, Mexico, 17 – 19 September 2019

- Agenda Item 3:** **Regional Performance Objective Improve Search and Rescue (SAR) Services of the NAM/CAR Regional Performance-based Air Navigation Implementation Plan (RPBANIP) and the CAR Regional SAR plan**
- 3.1** **Review the Regional Performance Objective *Improve Search and Rescue Services***
 - 3.3** **Follow-up on Regional SAR Valid Conclusions/Decisions and Deficiencies**

SAR PLANNING AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES

(Presented by the Secretariat)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
This Working Paper reviews the Regional Performance Objective Improve Search and Rescue (SAR) Services of the NAM/CAR Regional Performance-based Air Navigation Implementation Plan (RPBANIP) and pending SAR related activities with a proposal to incorporate derived actions to the ANI/WG SAR Task Force Work Programme.	
Action:	Suggested actions are inserted in Section 5.
Strategic Objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety• Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency
References:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ICAO Doc 7300/9 – <i>Convention on International Civil Aviation</i>• ICAO Annex 12 - <i>Search and Rescue</i>• NAM/CAR Regional Performance-Based Air Navigation Implementation Plan (RPBANIP)• Final report of the NAM/CAR Search and Rescue (SAR) Implementation and Civil-military Coordination (SAR/CM), Mexico City, Mexico, 5 – 7 November 2018.

1. Introduction

1.1 Assistance to aircraft in distress is one of the basic principles of the Chicago Convention. Moreover, States and Territories of the CAR Region rely heavily in the tourism industry, that for their location in Caribbean archipelago have aviation as their main transportation for foreign visitors.

1.2 An established Search and Rescue (SAR) service is a priority to guarantee lives of traveling public, air transport continuity, and the significant contribution of aviation. Poor response or ineffective response to a major accident or disaster can also result in worldwide publicity and adversely affect sensitive industries for Caribbean States, such as tourism and transportation. Therefore, an effective SAR service is a vital component to maintain the safe provision of regional air navigation services, and the significant contribution of aviation to the prosperity and growth of the Caribbean economies.

2. Regional Performance Objective Improve Search and Rescue (SAR) Services

2.1 The NAM/CAR Regional Performance-Based Air Navigation Implementation Plan (RPBANIP) has one Regional Performance Objective (RPO) for the improvement of search and rescue (SAR) services.

2.2 SAR RPO and all its related tasks have not been addressed by any ANI/WG body (or any other NACC implementation body). Therefore, it is evident that from the very conception of the planning process, no progress or regional support could be attained in this entire area.

2.3 The progress shown in this area is primarily due to the individual effort of the States, the support of leading States in the Region that are concerned with providing support to initiatives developed in other forums, and the support provided by regional initiatives already established, primarily dedicated to improve the SAR response in the Region and its area of responsibility.

2.4 The establishment of the ANI/WG SAR Task Force opens a new window of opportunity for compliance with this RPO, which, if correctly oriented, will provide a much more harmonized strategy of implementation, which would benefit the CAR Region and the individual development of SAR systems, promoting agreements and sharing resources, which will strengthen SAR systems in those States and Territories, that in this area in particular, have been lagging behind.

3. NAM/CAR Search and Rescue (SAR) Implementation and Civil-military Coordination Meeting (SAR/CM) Pending Conclusions

3.1 The Search and Rescue Implementation Meeting (SAR) and Civic-Military Coordination NAM/CAR (SAR/CM), held in Mexico City, Mexico, from 5 to 7 November 2018, was attended by representatives of 12 States and International Organizations of the NAM/CAR Regions.

3.2 From this Meeting, the following conclusions are pending, which are presented in the **Appendix** to this Working Paper:

- CONCLUSION SAR/CM/1 – *SEARCH AND RESCUE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR THE CAR REGION*
- CONCLUSION SAR/CM/2 – *GLOBAL AERONAUTICAL DISTRESS AND SAFETY SYSTEM (GADSS) BASIC GUIDELINES FOR THE CAR REGION*
- CONCLUSION SAR/CM/3 – *SAR AGREEMENTS AND LETTER OF AGREEMENTS*

3.3 These Conclusions should be incorporated to the ANI/WG SAR Task Force Work Programme.

4. Conclusions

4.1 The establishment of the ANI/WG SAR Task Force, thanks to the approval of the NAM/CAR ANI/WG and the endorsement of the Directors General of the NAM/CAR Region, gives renewed attention to the important subject of SAR implementation in the Region.

4.2 There is a hard work ahead to ensure that this Task Force receives the support of the Civil Aviation Authorities of the CAR Region, which will come as a result of the leadership and thorough development of its activities. We must ensure that this support is received and made worthwhile, because ultimately our mission is to save lives.

5. Suggested actions

5.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) review the content of this Working Paper;
- b) propose that the pending activities and actions are included as part of the NAM/CAR ANI/WG SAR Task Force Work Programme; and
- c) take any additional action deemed necessary.

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**APPENDIX
EXECUTIVE LIST OF CONCLUSIONS**

Number	Conclusion	Responsible for action	Deadline
SAR/CM/1	SEARCH AND RESCUE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR THE CAR REGION		
	That, in order to support the establishment of the provision and oversight of Search and Rescue Services, the ANI/WG Search and Rescue Task Force,		
	a) define a SAR training programme endorsed by established Training Centres in the region, which should comprise and define at least the following training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAR Inspector • SAR On-The-Job Training • Complementary courses; and 	ANI/WG Search and Rescue Task Force	September 2019
	b) coordinate with the NAM/CAR Civil Aviation Training Centres Working Group (CATC/WG) the future availability of this training programme with the training centres of the CAR Region by September 2019.	ANI/WG Search and Rescue Task Force	September 2019
SAR/CM/2	GLOBAL AERONAUTICAL DISTRESS AND SAFETY SYSTEM (GADSS) BASIC GUIDELINES FOR THE CAR REGION		
	That, in order to support the functions of the Global Aeronautical Distress and Safety System (GADSS),		
	a) the ANI/WG Search and Rescue Task Force develop basic guidelines to define search and rescue services requirements and interactions to support GADSS, which shall be included as an Appendix to the CAR Search and Rescue Plan; and	States/ICAO/ ANI/WG Search and Rescue Task Force	September 2019
	b) United States, member of the ANI/WG Search and Rescue Task Force, lead the coordination of this task and report to the Task Force by September 2019.	United States	September 2019

Number	Conclusion	Responsible for action	Deadline
SAR/CM/3	SAR AGREEMENTS AND LETTER OF AGREEMENTS		
	That, considering the importance of SAR Letter of Agreements in order to ensure proper and coordinated SAR response in those circumstances where operations may involve one or more States and the difficulties faced to due to the formality of such letters,		
	a) the ANI/WG Search and Rescue Task Force develop and include different templates for agreements in the CAR SAR Plan; and consider if it is beneficial to create an additional simple format SAR agreement;	ICAO/ ANI/WG Search and Rescue Task Force	September 2019
	b) the ANI/WG Search and Rescue Task Force discuss possible beginning steps to assist States in the negotiation of SAR agreements, comparable letters of agreement, or other acceptable term for a document or procedure to strengthen SAR cooperation and coordination between States; and	ICAO/ ANI/WG Search and Rescue Task Force	September 2019
c) the Secretariat work to identify those States and Territories of the CAR Region with pending SAR agreements, and present them to the ANI/WG Search and Rescue Task Force, to promote the completion of the agreement by September 2019.	ICAO/ ANI/WG Search and Rescue Task Force	September 2019	