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Virtual Workshop on the establishment of an effective Search and Rescue (SAR) organization

Topic: NATIONAL SAR COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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NATIONAL SAR COMMITTEE?

- The National Search and Rescue Committee is established as a standing interagency group to oversee the National Search and Rescue Plan and to act as a coordinating forum for national SAR matters as the policy making body.



OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIONAL SAR COMMITTEE

- Recommend implementation strategies and actions that ensure that the [State] meets domestic needs and international commitments to provide effective civil SAR services.
- Hold sole responsibility for the provisions of the National SAR Plan.
- Serve as the primary coordinating forum within the national government for the conduct and support of SAR operations covered by the National SAR Plan, and for matters relating to national SAR policies and positions.



OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIONAL SAR COMMITTEE

- Administer the National Search and Rescue Supplement to the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual for interagency guidance on implementing the National SAR Plan.
- Seek to ensure compatibility between the National SAR Plan and the National [Disaster] Response Plan (NRP) so that the National SAR Plan can be implemented independently or concurrently with the NRP during an incident of national significance.



OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIONAL SAR COMMITTEE

- Promote application of research and development, improved standards and procedures, new technologies, regulations, and education to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of distress alerting and other civil SAR services, and to reduce the associated risks.
- Help coordinate the SAR efforts of the National SAR Committee Member Agencies with other national and international government, private, and volunteer organizations;



OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIONAL SAR COMMITTEE

- Promote the effective use of all available resources to support SAR.
- Foster appropriate use of SAR agreements and other arrangements and plans to improve cooperation and mutual support among the various national and international civil SAR communities.
- Promote close cooperation among civilian and military authorities and organizations for provision of effective SAR services.



OBJECTIVES OF THE NATIONAL SAR COMMITTEE

- Promote analysis and initiatives to help citizens avoid or cope with distress situations.
- Consider, as appropriate, contingency plans for use of SAR resources in emergencies other than SAR.
- This Committee is chaired by an executive level person to the SAR custodian in a State.



NATIONAL SAR COMMITTEE?

- Promote close cooperation among civilian and military authorities and organizations for provision of effective civil SAR services;
- Promote analysis and initiatives to help citizens avoid or cope with distress situations; and
- Consider, as appropriate, contingency plans for use of SAR resources in emergencies other than civil SAR.
- This committee is normally chaired by an executive in the office of the custodian of SAR in a State.



WHO FORMS A TYPICAL NATIONAL SAR COMMITTEE?

- **Ministry of Transport**
- **Ministry of Police**
- **Ministry of Shipping**
- **Air Navigation Service Provider**
- **Ministry of Health**
- **Ministry of Sports and Recreation**
- **Ministry of Home Affairs**
- **Ministry of Environmental Affairs**
- **Emergency Management Agency**
- Ministry of Defence**
- Ministry of Communication**
- Ministry of Telecommunications**
- Civil Aviation Authority**
- Maritime Safety Authority**
- Ministry of Home Affairs**
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs**
- Weather Services**



SAR COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- An effective process for SAR coordination is the establishment and use of SAR coordinating committees (SCCs) comprising SAR system stakeholders to provide a strategic, whole-of-government approach to national SAR system cooperation and coordination.
- Can be established at SAR agency, national or regional level, and, ideally, at all three levels. SAR agency SCCs should deal with local operational SAR issues and have the ability to refer matters higher if required.
- Committees established at a national level may consider strategic SAR policy matters and should have the ability to take matters to their respective governments for consideration. Regional SCCs should be able to refer SAR matters of a regional nature to their incorporated national committees for consideration.



SAR COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- The establishment of these SAR committees can improve and support the SAR system in a number of ways, including: –
- Develop and recommend national strategic policy to their respective governments.
- Remove agency integration barriers by managing issues related to SAR policy, processes, organization,.
- The sharing of best practices and lessons learned, as well as other areas to promote SAR cooperation.



SAR COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- Provide a standing forum for coordination of administrative and operational SAR matters.
- Develop plans, policies, positions, manuals, etc., to: – resolve cross-agency jurisdictional issues.
- Develop joint solutions for SAR matters of common concern.
- Assign and coordinate SAR responsibilities.
- Develop and implement SAR requirements and standards. – establish agreements, requirements and/or guidelines for SAR services and others operating in areas remote from SAR facilities;



SAR COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- Define areas remote from SAR facilities within their SRR as necessary;
- Identify conditions (e.g. weather, terrain, seasonal icing, sea state, etc.) in areas remote from SAR facilities, for the purpose of providing unique processes and procedures including contingency plans.
- Effectively use all available resources for SAR, including global, regional, national, private, commercial, and volunteer resources (such resources may include advice, communications facilities and databases, ship reporting systems, training, SAR facilities, search planning expertise, technical assistance, foreign language assistance, medical or fuelling facilities, regulatory support and others).



SAR COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- Develop common equipment, facilities and procedures as appropriate.
- Interface with other national and international organizations involved with emergency services.
- Promote close cooperation and coordination between civilian and military authorities and organizations for the provision of effective SAR services.
- Serve as a cooperative forum to exchange information and develop positions and policies of interest to more than one member agency.



SAR COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- Improve cooperation, communication and understanding among aeronautical, maritime and land SAR communities.
- Determine ways to enhance overall effectiveness and efficiency of SAR services.
- Promote safety programmes to help citizens avoid or cope with distress situations.



SAR COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- Develop contingency plans for use of SAR resources during disasters.
- A national SAR plan or a regional SAR agreement should establish an SCC.
- This provides the process for SAR cooperation and coordination.



SAR COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- Participating organizations would include those directly involved with SAR and those in a supporting role.
- The national SAR plan or a regional SAR agreement should also contain any written agreement, which involves the sharing of responsibilities when conducting SAR missions in areas remote from SAR facilities, and provide details on how responsibilities are assigned.



Benefits of a SAR Committee

- Synergy
- Common Procedure
- Financial Sustainability
- Reduced Risk



To prevent chaos and loss of life!





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THANK YOU