



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)**

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**Agenda Item 2: Review and follow up on Recommendations, Conclusions and Decisions applicable to the Task Force**

**FOLLOW-UP ON SP AFI/08 RAN RECOMMENDATIONS, APIRG CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS**

(Presented by the Secretariat)

**SUMMARY**

This paper presents the Recommendations of the Special AFI/08 RAN Meeting, and Conclusions and Decisions formulated within the frameworks of APIRG, for review, follow up action, and update as necessary.

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

**REFERENCES**

- SP AFI/08 RAN Report
- APIRG 17 Report

This Working Paper is related to Strategic Objectives: **A**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The Special AFI RAN Meeting, Durban, South Africa 24-29 November 2008, formulated Recommendation 6/22 that is applicable to the SAR field.

1.2 The APIRG/17 meeting, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso 2-6 August 2010 adopted Conclusion 17/68 and one Decision 17/67 which are directly applicable to the work of the ASSI Task Force.

1.3 The meeting is to take measures to foster implementation thereof and ICAO SAR provisions in general.

**2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 The meeting may recall that the AFI/7 RAN meeting adopted a comprehensive (eight) set of Recommendations, aimed at fostering implementation of current and future imperatives in the field of SAR:

- Recommendation 6/1 – Carriage of 406 MHZ ELTs
- Recommendation 6/2 – Satellite-aided search and rescue
- Recommendation 6/3 – Cooperation between States
- Recommendation 6/4 – Coordination with maritime SAR authorities
- Recommendation 6/5 – Training of SAR personnel
- Recommendation 6/6 – Search and rescue seminars
- Recommendation 6/7 – Search and rescue exercises
- Recommendation 6/8 – Search and rescue facilities

2.2 The APIRG group during its successive meetings expressed its concern on the fact that most of the ICAO provisions relating to Search and Rescue (SAR) Services have continued to remain un-implemented for decades.

2.3 In discussing the SAR issues, the SP AFI/08 RAN meeting noted that the historical approach to SAR system development had rested on the establishment of independent national SAR services. The meeting was made aware that both ICAO and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) now recommend the regionalized provision of SAR services as the means of most expeditiously achieving an effective global SAR system. Regional SAR service provision also offered the opportunity of aeronautical and maritime agencies to cooperate to provide SAR services over a geographic area determined in consideration of need and risk rather than within State borders that, from an operational perspective, were entirely arbitrary.

2.4 Based on the above, the SP AFI/08 RAN Meeting adopted Recommendation 6/22 the text of which is reproduced hereunder:

**Recommendation 6/22 — Establishment of sub-regional search and rescue (SAR) arrangements**

*That APIRG:*

*a) adopt the SAR Performance Objective: Establishment of sub-regional SAR arrangements as contained in the performance framework form in Appendix H to the Report on Agenda Item 6;*

*b) adopt as policy the general concept of sub-regional SAR provision from joint aviation/maritime rescue coordination centres (RCCs) as a key strategy in the improvement of the Africa-wide SAR system;*

*c) support the establishment of a task force to progress the initiative taken at the Port Elizabeth Consultative Conference of October 2007 on the integration of SAR services in the southern African Region; and*

*d) cooperate with ICAO and IMO in their continuing collaboration with African States to implement sub-regional, joint RCCs at strategic locations on the African continent.*

2.5 In view of the above, the APIRG/17 meeting acknowledged that implementation of SAR was not receiving the attention it deserves and that more effort was necessary to give effect to the APIRG Conclusions and AFI RAN meetings Recommendations.

2.6 To this effect and in accordance with the SP AF/08RAN Recommendation 6/22, APIRG/17 adopted Conclusion 17/68 and one Decision 17/67, which are reflected in **Appendix A** to this working paper.

2.7 In accordance with Decision 17/67 of APIRG 17, the ASSI TF was established and the first meeting thereof was held in Dakar, Senegal, from 19 to 20 September 2011. The ASSI TF/1 meeting adopted three draft Conclusions and one Decision which are reflected in **Appendix B** to this paper.

2.8 The meeting may wish to review these conclusion and decision and decide on any follow-up action deemed appropriate.

### **3. ACTION BY THE MEETING**

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Review the Conclusion and Decision at **Appendix A** to this working paper;
- b) Agree on any update and follow-up action deemed necessary to foster the implementation of SAR provisions contained therein.

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**APIRG17 CONCLUSION & DECISION RELATED TO SAR**

Cons/Decs No. Strategic Objectives*	Title of Cons/Decs	Text of Cons/Decs	Follow-up Action	To be initiated by	Deliverable/ Intended Outcome	Target Dates	Status of Implementation
<b>DECISION 17/67</b>  A	<b>AFI SAR SERVICES INTEGRATION TASK FORCE (ASSI TF)</b>	That, in order to progress the initiatives taken at the Port Elizabeth Consultative Conference of October 2007 on integration of SAR services and similar other initiatives in the AFI Region, and to support the implementation of SAR provisions, the AFI SAR Services Integration Task Force (ASSI TF) is established with the terms of reference at Appendix 3.4L to the report on agenda item 3.4.	Coordinate establishment of ASSI TF	ESAF & WACAF Offices	ASSI TF meetings report	March 2011	Completed;ASSI TF/1 meeting 19-20 September 2011
<b>CONCLUSION 17/68</b>  A	<b>SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES</b>	That, with the objective to foster the implementation of SAR services and improvement of SAR systems in the Region,  AFI states are: (a) Urged to establish joint aviation/maritime rescue coordination centres (RCCs) in order to optimize usage of resources and coordination;  (b) Encouraged to establish sub-regional task forces to progress the development of SAR cooperative arrangements and integration of SAR services;	Issue State Letter  Initiate coordination protocols between RCCs  Establish sub-regional task forces	ESAF & WACAF Offices  States  States	State Letter  More efficient and effective SAR services  Cooperative arrangements, integration of SAR services	2010-2011  2010-2011	Completed  Still valid  Still valid



**APENDIX B  
ASSI TF1 MEETING LIST OF CONCLUSIONS AND DECISIONS**

Conclusions/Decisions No.	Title of Conclusion/Decision	Text of Conclusion/Decision	Follow-up Action	To be initiated by	Deliverable/Intended Outcome	Target Dates	Status of Implementation
DRAFT CONCLUSION 1/1	<i>Resolution of SAR deficiencies and establishment of Joint RCCs</i>	<i>That ICAO send a State letter to all AFI States, calling on them to expedite the resolution of the longstanding deficiencies recorded in the SAR field and highlighting that both ICAO and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) now recommend the establishment of joint aviation/maritime rescue coordination centres and regionalized provision of SAR services.</i>	Issue State Letter	ESAF & WACAF Offices			Still valid; to be endorsed by APIRG
DRAFT CONCLUSION 1/2	Development and management of an AFI SAR web page	<p><i>That</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>a) ICAO develops and manage a web page under ESAF and WACAF websites where information from all AFI States on SAR implementation and SAR activities will be posted.</i></li> <li><i>b) AFI States forward to the ICAO regional offices regular information on their SAR activities, for posting on the website.</i></li> </ul>					Pending approval by APIRG

<b>DRAFT CONCLUSION 1/3</b>	<b>Survey on the provision of SAR in the AFI Region</b>	<p><i>That,</i></p> <p>a) <i>ICAO Regional Offices send a State Letter with a questionnaire to all AFI States, prior to 30 November 2011, to collect information on the status of implementation of SAR provisions in the AFI Region and update the list of Air Navigation Deficiencies accordingly;</i></p> <p>b) <i>States send their replies to the ICAO Regional Offices not later than 31 January 2012.</i></p>					Ongoing
<b>DRAFT DECISION 1/1</b>	<b>Organization of ASSI TF meetings</b>	<p><i>That</i></p> <p>a) <i>the ASSI TF meeting be held in a different State each year;</i></p> <p>b) <i>the ASSI TF meeting to coincide with SAR events occurring in the host State (SAR exercises, visit of SAR facilities etc..) if possible.</i></p>					Pending approval by APIRG