



ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATIONALIZATION OF SAR IN GHANA

**PRESENTED BY MARTIN ADU BOAFO
SEARCH AND RESCUE MANAGER
GCAA**



1.0 INTRODUCTION

BRIEF PRESENTATION ON SAR ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATIONS IN GHANA



2.0 GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- **2.1 GHANA CIVIL AVIATION ACT**
- **2.2 STRUCTURE OF SAR IN GHANA**
- **2.3 SEARCH AND RESCUE REGION(SRR)**
- **2.4 ASSETS AVAILABLE**
- **2.5 EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL AGREEMENTS**



2.1 GHANA CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY ACT(G.C.A.A)

2.1.1 G.C.A.A-Act 2004 Act 678

G.C.A.A is the legal entity responsible for the following functions:

- Licensing and Certification of Air Transport Operators
- Licensing and Certification of Aerodromes and the Construction, Operation, Maintenance and Managements of Navigation Sites.
- Provision of Air Navigation Services (Air Space Management) within the Accra Flight Information Region (FIR).
- Regulation of Air Transport Services.
- Promoting the Development of Civil Air Transport Industry in Ghana.



2.1.1 GCAA ACT (cont'd)

- Advising Government on all matters Concerning Civil Aviation, among other functions.
- Provision of oversight for all activities related to civil aviation.
- The provision of and the co-ordination of fire fighting, search and rescue services and facilities within the ACCRA Flight Information Region and any other aerodromes.
- Acting internationally as the national authority or body representing the republic in respect of matters relating to civil aviation, including entering into mutual agreement for the transfer of responsibilities for ensuring the continuous surveillance of registered aircraft operators.



2.2 STRUCTURE OF SAR

SEARCH AND RESCUE COORDINATOR(SC)

**SEARCH AND RESCUE COORDINATING
COMMITTEE(SCC) / EMERGENCY OPERATIONS
CONTROL GROUP**

RESCUE COORDINATION CENTRE(RCC)
- ACCRA

RESCUE SUB CENTRES (RSCs)
- LOME
- COTONOU



2.2 STRUCTURE OF SAR Cont'd

ALERTING POST

- ADJACENT RCC
- ATC UNITS
- MILITARY UNITS
- FIRE SERVICE
- POLICE STATIONS
- NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION
- METEOROLOGICAL STATIONS
- FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT
- GHANA PORTS AND HARBOURS AUTHORITY
- MEDIA GROUPS
- FISHERMEN ASSOCIATION
- GHANA MARITIME AUTHORITY, OIL COMPANIES, ETC



2.2 STRUCTURE OF SAR Cont'd

2.2.1 SEARCH AND RESCUE COORDINATOR(SC)

The administrative SAR Coordinator shall be the Minister responsible for Aviation or his/ her representative. The SC will define policies for smooth operation of SAR. The SC or the chairman of the Search and Rescue Coordinating Committee shall decide on the termination of any SAR operations in the Accra Search and Region(SRR).



2.2 STRUCTURE OF SAR Cont'd

2.2.2 SEARCH AND RESCUE COORDINATING COMMITTEE (SCC)

2.2.2.1 The Search and Rescue Coordinating Committee(administrative function) shall be under the chairmanship of the Director General, Ghana Civil Aviation Authority. Membership of the committee shall include representatives of Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Aviation, Defense, Health, Interior, Communications and Local Government, Rural Development and Environment.



2.2 STRUCTURE OF SAR Cont'd

2.2.2 SEARCH AND RESCUE COORDINATING COMMITTEE (SCC) Cont'd

2.2.2.2 The SCC will implement policy guidelines initiated by the SC. The SCC will solicit funds from government, public and private organizations. Further, the SCC will determine budget and organize agencies or organizations which will provide resources to the SAR organization. The SCC will provide policy guideline to the EOCG. Two representatives each from Togo and Benin will serve under the SCC.



2.2 STRUCTURE OF SAR Cont'd

2.2.3 EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CONTROL GROUP (EOCG)

The EOCG is a function developed for aeronautical emergency operations. The supporting function will have representation from all the ministries operating under the SCC. The EOCG meets regularly to plan emergency exercises and any time there is an aeronautical emergency which will require assistance.



2.2 STRUCTURE OF SAR Cont'd

2.2.4 RESCUE COORDINATION CENTRE (RCC)

2.2.4.1 The Ghana Civil Aviation Authority has established a Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC) adjacent to the Accra Control Centre. The Search and Rescue Unit is established under Ghana Civil Aviation Act 678 (2004).

2.2.4.2 The RCC operates under the RCC Chief (Manager, Search and Rescue) who will ensure that the necessary resources and personnel are available at all times for SAR operations.



2.2 STRUCTURE OF SAR Cont'd

2.2.4 RESCUE COORDINATION CENTRE (RCC) Cont'd

2.2.4.3 The RCC Chief shall ensure that regular exercises are organized to maintain the skill of personnel involved in SAR operations. In distress situations the RCC Chief shall appoint a SAR Mission Coordinator (SMC) who will be responsible for the planning, directing, evaluating and coordinating of SAR Operations.



2.2 STRUCTURE OF SAR Cont'd

2.2.4 RESCUE COORDINATING CENTRE(RCC) Cont'd

2.2.4.4 The RCC is responsible for SAR operations within the boundaries of the Accra Search and Rescue Region (SRR) and any other areas covered in agreements between Ghana and neighbouring states or between Accra SRR and adjacent SRR.

2.2.4.5 The RCC is designated as Search and Rescue Point of Contact.



2.2 STRUCTURE OF SAR Cont'd

2.2.5 RESCUE SUB-CENTRE

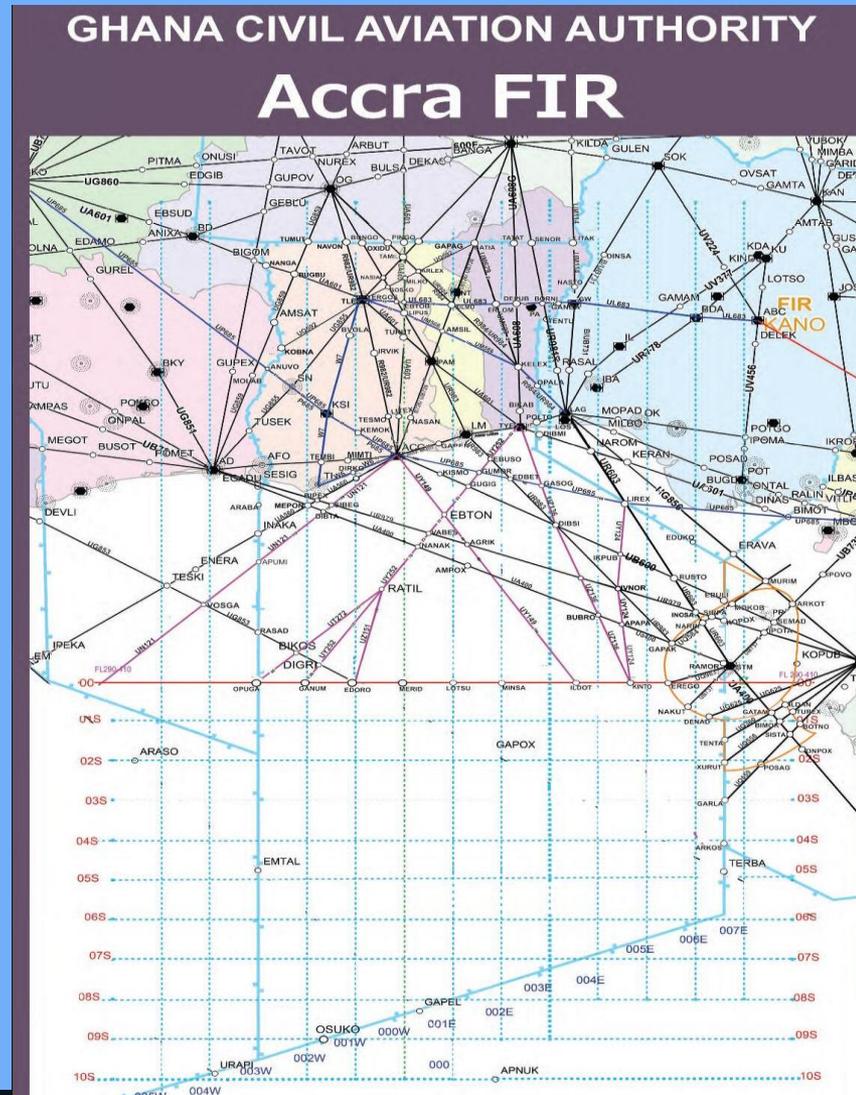
Aeronautical Rescue Sub- Centres are established in Lome and Cotonou.

2.2.6 ALERTING POST

Alerting post shall include ATC, Fire Service, Military, Police, Forestry Department, Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority, National Disaster Management Organization, Media, Meteorological Agency, Fishermen Association, etc.



2.3 SEARCH AND RESCUE REGION (SRR)





2.4 ASSETS

THE ACT ESTABLISHING GHANA CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY (G.C.A.A) MAKES G.C.A.A THE COORDINATING AUTHORITY. THEREFORE G.C.A.A DOES NOT HAVE DIRECT ASSETS FOR SAR OPERATIONS. HOWEVER, G.C.A.A THROUGH ITS COORDINATING ROLE HAS AN UPDATE OF SAR EQUIPMENT OF ALL SAR AGENCIES IN THE SRR. IN ADDITION, GCAA PROVIDES FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR SAR OPERATIONS WITHIN THE SRR ALSO THE STATE HAS WELL TRAINED SAR PERSONNEL.



2.5 SAR AGREEMENTS

- **EXTERNAL**

- TOGO
- BENIN
- BURKINA FASO

- **INTERNAL**

- MILITARY(AIR FORCE, NAVY, ARMY)
- POLICE
 - FIRE
 - NADMO
 - PRIVATE HELI OPERATORS
 - NATIONAL AMBULANCE SERVICE
 - LOCAL FISHERMEN ASSOCIATION
 - GHANA MARITIME AUTH. ETC



CHALLENGES

- 1. BUDGET**
- 2. TRAINING OF SAR PERSONNEL.**
- 3. SIGNING OF SAR AGREEMENTS WITH SOME NEIGHBOURING STATES**



WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

- ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR TRAINING OF SAR PERSONNEL AND SAR ACTIVITIES
- NEED FOR HIGH LEVEL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO BE INVOLVED IN COOPERATION AGREEMENTS BETWEEN NEIGHBOURING STATES.