



*International Civil Aviation Organization*

**MIDANPIRG Air Traffic Management Sub-Group**

**Third Meeting (ATM SG/3)**  
*(Cairo, Egypt, 22 – 25 May 2017)*

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**Agenda Item 7: SAR Issues**

**STATUS OF SEARCH AND RESCUE IN THE MID REGION**

*(Presented by the Secretariat)*

<b>SUMMARY</b>
The paper presents the status of Search and Rescue in the MID Region.
Action by the meeting is at paragraph 3.
<b>REFERENCES</b>
- MIDAPIRG/16 Report
- USOAP CM Results



**1. INTRODUCTION**

1.1 The Standards, Recommended Practices and Procedures and guidance material related to the implementation of Search and Rescue (SAR) are contained in ICAO Annex 12, International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual (IAMSAR - Doc 9731).

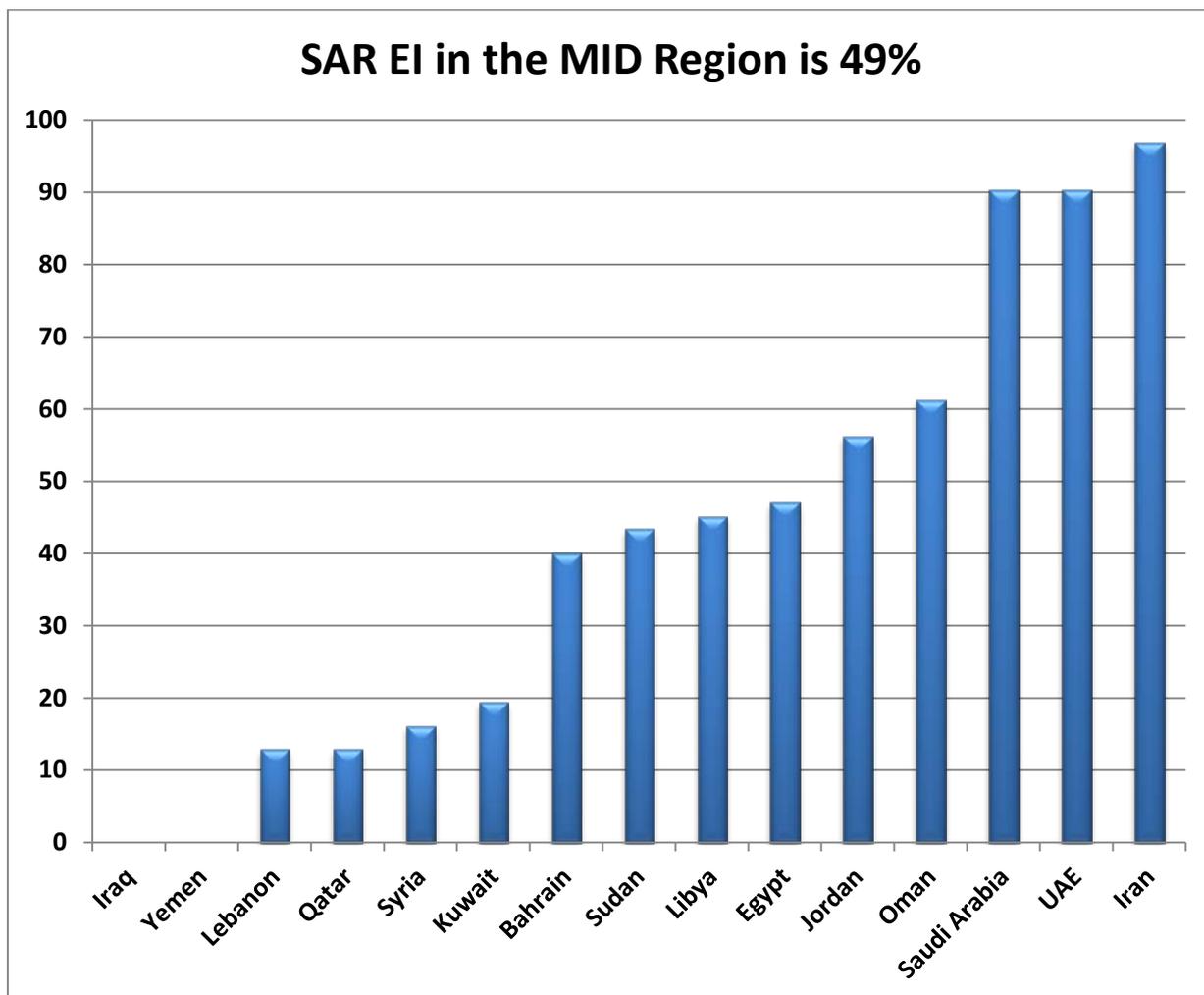
1.2 The ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP) Continuous Monitoring Approach (CMA) focuses on a State's capability in providing safety oversight by assessing whether the State has effectively and consistently implemented the critical elements of a safety oversight system and determining the State's level of implementation of ICAO's safety – related SARPs, including Annex 12 Search and Rescue, and associated procedures and guidance material.

**2. DISCUSSION**

2.1 The meeting may wish to note that SAR main USOAP-CMA findings in the MID Region are related to lack of:

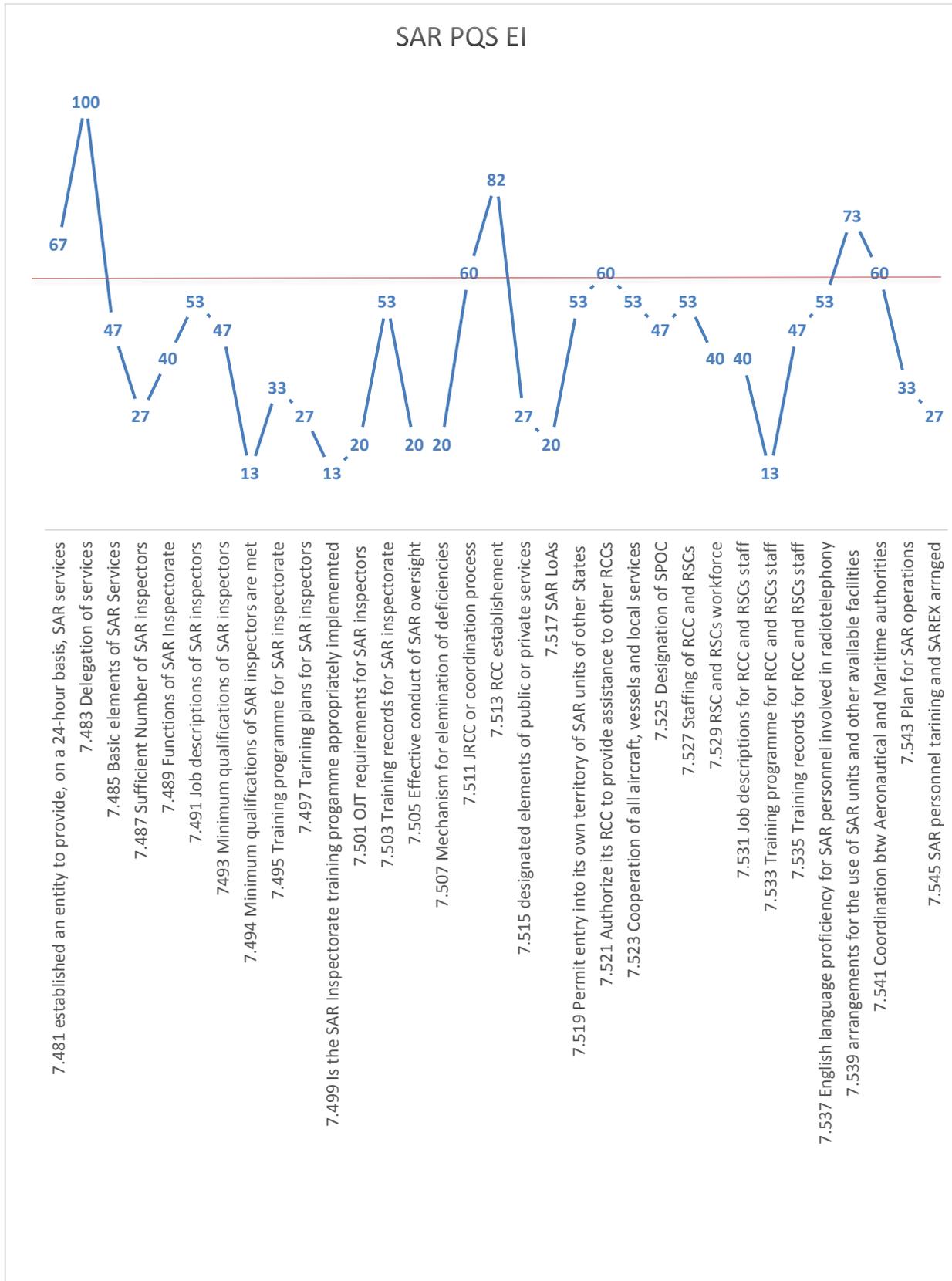
- effective SAR oversight activities;
- English language proficiency for RCC radio operators;
- appropriate training programmes/plans of SAR experts;
- signature of SAR agreements;
- plans of operations for the conduct of SAR operations and SAR exercises;
- provision of required SAR services; and
- non-compliance with the carriage of Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) requirements.

2.2 Based on the USOAP CMA results as of May 2017, the SAR EI per State are reflected in **Graph 1**:



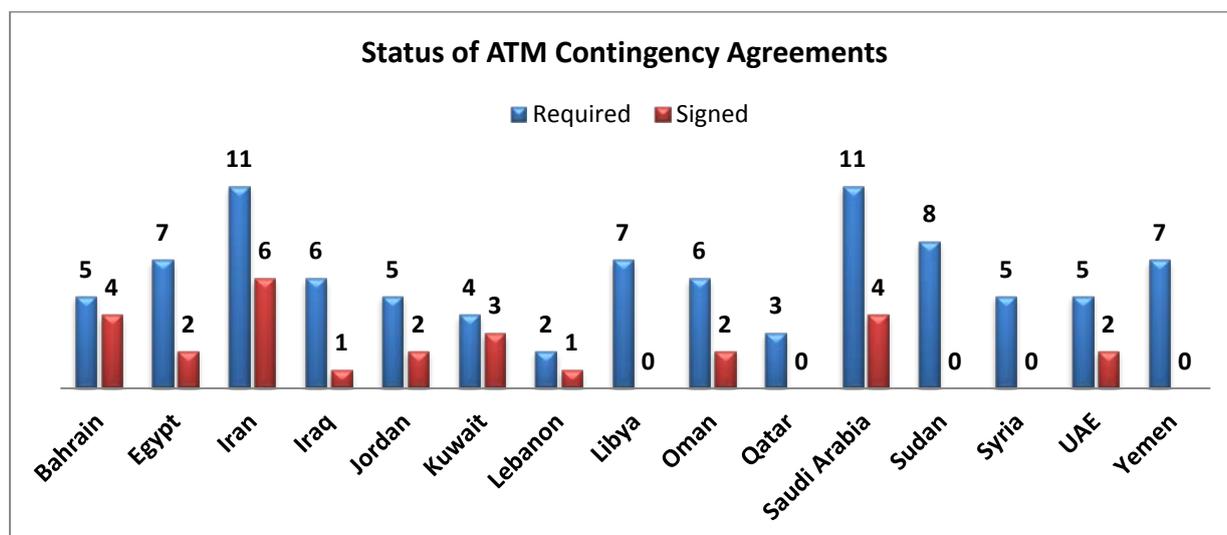
Graph 1

2.3 The SAR EI in the MID Region per Protocol Question (PQ) as of May 2017 are reflected in **Graph 2**:



**Graph 2**

2.4 The meeting may wish to note the status of SAR bilateral Arrangements as of 15 May 2017 at **Appendix A**, which is also reflected in the following **Graph 3**:



**Graph 3**

2.5 The meeting may wish to note that MIDANPIRG/16 meeting (Kuwait, 13-16 February 2017) recalled that during the review of the MIDANPIRG/15 Report, the Air Navigation Commission (ANC) suggested that data from USOAP-CMA and other areas be analysed to determine which SARPs were difficult for States to implement so the identified “problematic” SARPs could be addressed. In this respect, based on the USOAP-CMA results, the meeting recognized that some deficiencies related to the Annex 12 provisions are longstanding and very difficult for States to implement such as the signature of SAR Agreement between States (Reference: Annex 12 Standard 3.1.1 and Recommendation 3.1.5). It was highlighted that the regional effective implementation of the relevant USOAP-CMA Protocol Question (7.517) is only **20%**. The meeting was informed that the updated version of the ANS PQs has been approved with applicability date 1 June 2017.

2.6 The MIDANPIRG/16 meeting underlined that the signature of SAR Agreements with adjacent States, is in most of the cases beyond the CAAs’ responsibilities and involves other authorities from different Ministries. Moreover, it was highlighted that the SAR services are provided by the Military Authority in the majority of the MID States.

2.7 During MIDANPIRG/16 meeting, UAE highlighted that States should, where possible, coerce their SAR providers to collaborate with adjacent States’ SAR Providers in the event of an accident or serious incident requiring SAR Alert or Action. CAAs should be responsible mainly of SAR regulatory, oversight, alerting and coordination functions. In this respect, ICAO should review the SAR provisions, in order to be more focused on the CAAs’ functions and responsibilities.

2.8 The MIDANPIRG/16 meeting recalled that the MID SAR Action Group (SAR AG), established through MSG Decision 5/6, is working on the development of the MID SAR Plan, which will be presented to the upcoming ATM SG/3 meeting. Accordingly, the meeting agreed that the MID SAR Plan should include necessary guidance for States to support the elimination of the longstanding SAR deficiencies. The meeting noted with appreciation that the GCAA UAE, in coordination with the National Search and Rescue Centre in UAE, will host the first face-to-face meeting of the SAR AG.

2.9 Based on the above, the MIDANPIRG/16 meeting agreed to the following Decision:

*DECISION 16/21: SAR LONGSTANDING DEFICIENCIES*

*That, the ATM SG explore ways and means to support States in the elimination of the longstanding SAR deficiencies.*

2.10 The MIDANPIRG/16 meeting reviewed the model Agreement for use between SAR Point of Contact (SPOCs) and Mission Control Centres (MCCs) at **Appendix B**, developed by the Secretariat of COSPAS-SARSAT and ICAO collaboratively. Accordingly, the meeting urged States to ensure that their SPOC sign the MCC/SPOC agreement with their relevant MCC, which would enhance the response to the monthly MCC communication tests.

2.11 The MIDANPIRG/16 meeting was apprised of the outcome of the the ICAO AFI/APAC/MID Regional and Inter-regional SAR Workshop (Mahe, Seychelles, 19 - 22 July 2016). Accordingly, the meeting urged States to implement the relevant recommendations emanating from the Workshop.

2.12 The MIDANPIRG/16 meeting urged States to keep up-to-date their SAR Point of Contact (SPOC) contact details in their AIPs (GEN 3.6) and on the COSPAS-SARSAT website: <http://www.cospas-sarsat.int/en/contact-lists-mccs-and-spocs>

2.13 The meeting may wish to note that a Draft MID Region SAR Action Plan will be presented in WP/36.

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

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) explore ways and means to support States in the elimination of the longstanding SAR deficiencies; and
- b) review and update:
  - i. the status of bilateral Arrangements between ANSPs/ACCs at **Appendix A**;
  - ii. the SAR Point of Contact (SPOC) contact details on the COSPAS-SARSAT website; and
  - iii. the list of SAR focal points in the MID Region at **Appendix C**.

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APPENDIX A

**MID REGION SAR AGREEMENT STATUS BETWEEN ANSPS/ACCS**

**May 2017**

STATE	CORRESPONDING STATES			REMARKS
<b>BAHRAIN</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SAUDI ARABIA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KUWAIT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UAE	<input type="checkbox"/> QATAR	4/5
<b>EGYPT</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CYPRUS <input type="checkbox"/> JORDAN <input type="checkbox"/> SUDAN	<input type="checkbox"/> GREECE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> LYBIA	<input type="checkbox"/> Israel <input type="checkbox"/> SAUDI ARABIA	2/7
<b>IRAN</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARMENIA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BAHRAIN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OMAN <input type="checkbox"/> TURKMANISTAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AZERBAIJAN <input type="checkbox"/> IRAQ <input type="checkbox"/> PAKISTAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UAE	<input type="checkbox"/> AFGHANISTAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KUWAIT <input type="checkbox"/> TURKEY	6/11
<b>IRAQ</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> IRAN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> JORDAN	<input type="checkbox"/> KUWAIT <input type="checkbox"/> SAUDI ARABIA	<input type="checkbox"/> SYRIA <input type="checkbox"/> TURKEY	1/6
<b>JORDAN</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EGYPT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRAQ	<input type="checkbox"/> ISRAEL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SAUDI ARABIA	<input type="checkbox"/> SYRIA	2/5
<b>KUWAIT</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BAHRAIN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRAN	<input type="checkbox"/> IRAQ	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SAUDI ARABIA	3/4
<b>LEBANON</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CYPRUS	<input type="checkbox"/> SYRIA		1/2
<b>LIBYA</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ALGERIA <input type="checkbox"/> CHAD <input type="checkbox"/> EGYPT	<input type="checkbox"/> MALTA <input type="checkbox"/> NIGER	<input type="checkbox"/> SUDAN <input type="checkbox"/> TUNIS	0/7
<b>OMAN</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> INDIA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SAUDI ARABIA <input type="checkbox"/> PAKISTAN	<input type="checkbox"/> UAE <input type="checkbox"/> YEMEN	2/6
<b>QATAR</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> BAHRAIN	<input type="checkbox"/> SAUDI ARABIA	<input type="checkbox"/> UAE	0/3
<b>SAUDI ARABIA</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BAHRAIN <input type="checkbox"/> IRAQ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OMAN <input type="checkbox"/> UAE	<input type="checkbox"/> EGYPT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> JORDAN <input type="checkbox"/> Qatar <input type="checkbox"/> YEMEN	<input type="checkbox"/> ERITREA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KUWAIT <input type="checkbox"/> SUDAN	4/11
<b>SUDAN</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> CENTRAL AFRICAN <input type="checkbox"/> CHAD <input type="checkbox"/> EGYPT	<input type="checkbox"/> ERITREA <input type="checkbox"/> ETHIOPIA <input type="checkbox"/> LIBYA	<input type="checkbox"/> SAUDI ARABIA <input type="checkbox"/> SOUTH SUDAN	0/8
<b>SYRIA</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> IRAQ <input type="checkbox"/> JORDAN	<input type="checkbox"/> LEBANON <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CYPRUS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TURKEY	2/5
<b>UAE</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BAHRAIN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IRAN	<input type="checkbox"/> OMAN <input type="checkbox"/> SAUDI ARABIA	<input type="checkbox"/> QATAR	2/5
<b>YEMEN</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> DJIBOUTI <input type="checkbox"/> ERITREA <input type="checkbox"/> ETHIOPIA	<input type="checkbox"/> INDIA <input type="checkbox"/> OMAN <input type="checkbox"/> SAUDI ARABIA	<input type="checkbox"/> SOMALIA	0/7

Agreement Signed       Agreement NOT Signed      Signed Agreements / Total No. of required Agreements

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APPENDIX B

ICAO/IMO JWG-SAR/22-WP/x - Attachment 1

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Attachment 1

**DRAFT  
MCC/SPOC Model Agreement**

**[Agreement]  
between**

**[ name] Mission Control Centre**

**and**

**[State name] SAR Point of Contact**

**for the Distribution and Reception of COSPAS-SARSAT Distress Alert Data for Search  
and Rescue**

**DEFINITIONS**

“**Agreement**” means this Agreement;

“**Ground Segment Provider**” means any State which establishes and operates the ground segment equipment and avails itself to the System, under the terms of the International COSPAS-SARSAT Programme Agreement (ICSPA) and in the context of this [agreement], [State];

“**Local User Terminal (LUT)**” means a computer hardware system installed to receive signals relayed by the satellites and processes them to determine radio beacon location;

“**Mission Control Centre (MCC)**” means a computer system established to accept the output from the Local User Terminal and convey distress alert and location data to appropriate authorities and in the context of this MOU, the [name] SPOC;

“**Radio beacons**” means distress alert instruments designed to be activated in a distress and to transmit a radio signal at 406 MHz, the characteristics of which comply with appropriate provisions of the International Telecommunication Union and COSPAS-SARSAT specifications;

“**Search and Rescue Point of Contact (SPOC)**” means Rescue Co-ordination Centres and other established and recognized national points of contact which can accept responsibility to receive COSPAS-SARSAT alert data to enable the rescue of persons in distress;

“**Service Area**” means that part of the world within which a COSPAS-SARSAT alert data distribution service is provided by an MCC, in accordance with document C/S P.011 “COSPAS-SARSAT Programme Management Policy”; an MCC Service Area is defined by the list of SPOCs to which that MCC distributes COSPAS-SARSAT alert data;

“**System**” means the COSPAS-SARSAT System comprising a Space Segment, Ground Segment and radio beacons operating at 406 MHz.

## 1. PURPOSE

- a. The purpose of this Agreement between the [MCC] and [SPOC] is to formalize the exchange of space based distress alerts received through the satellite system of the International COSPAS-SARSAT Programme. This is to ensure that institutional arrangements between the two entities at the operational level are effective.
- b. This Agreement aims to ensure that rapid and reliable two-way communication is established between the two centres servicing the [name] Search and Rescue Region (SRR) for prompt provision of Search and Rescue Services to persons in distress in aviation, maritime and land incidents.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

- a. Knowing the importance of co-operation in search and rescue (SAR), and of the provision of expeditious and effective SAR services;
- b. Desiring to support the provisions of the Convention on International Civil Aviation of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO);
- c. Noting the Standards and Recommended Practices in Annex 12 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation of ICAO and the provisions of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS);
- d. Supporting the principles of the COSPAS-SARSAT Programme as determined by the COSPAS-SARSAT Council;
- e. The [MCC] and [SPOC] have agreed as follows:

## 3. OBJECTIVES

[Administration of MCC], as signatory to the International COSPAS-SARSAT Programme Agreement, shall pursue the following objectives:

- a. Provide distress alert and location data from the System to the international community in support of SAR operations on a non-discriminatory basis;
- b. Support, by providing these distress alert and location data, the objectives of IMO and ICAO concerning search and rescue;
- c. Cooperate with other national authorities and relevant international organizations in the operation and co-ordination of the System;

- d. Provide and confirm distress alert and location data from the COSPAS-SARSAT System from the [name] MCC to the [SPOC]; and
- e. Provide information concerning the System status to [SPOC].

The [SPOC] shall at all times endeavour to support the [MCC] in its efforts to fulfil its objectives and commitments under the ICSPA in accordance with the provisions of this [Agreement].

The MCC and SPOC shall establish reliable communication links (AFTN, fax, email) and operational procedures, which include backup routines.

In the spirit of close cooperation, the MCC and SPOC shall consult from time to time with a view to ensuring the full implementation of the provisions of this [Agreement] and necessary amendments as appropriate.

#### **4. PROCEDURES**

- a. The [name] Mission Control Centre ([.]MCC) established in [location], [State], providing services under the ICSPA shall communicate distress alerts located in the SRR of the SPOC, or for beacons which contain the country code of the SPOC to [SPOC], [State] for undertaking search and rescue services, assisted as required by RCCs within the State of the SPOC.
- b. MCC and SPOC agree that the distribution of alert data by [name] MCC is undertaken on a best effort basis and that [name] MCC cannot guarantee continuous system availability.
- c. [State] shall designate a single SAR point of contact (SPOC), where possible, for receiving COSPAS-SARSAT alert and location data for distress locations in their SAR area of responsibility and provide the address, telephone, telex or facsimile number or AFTN address of their SPOC to [MCC] and the COSPAS-SARSAT Secretariat (Attachment 1).
- d. [SPOC] will immediately notify [MCC] of any changes to the provided contact details in (Attachment 1).
- e. [SPOC] shall develop a comprehensive plan for the distribution of distress alert and location data to SAR authorities within its SRR, as appropriate.
- f. The [SPOC] shall endeavour to minimize false alerts in their country.
- g. The [SPOC] shall provide information on their national point of contact for beacon registers to the COSPAS-SARSAT Secretariat and the [MCC].
- h. The [SPOC] shall maintain reliable communication links with MCC and respond to monthly communication tests from the [name] MCC immediately after receipt thereof (not using an automatically generated response) to verify the integrity of communications links between the MCC and SPOC.
- i. [SPOC] shall communicate routine reports, such as alert summaries and monthly operations reports on SAR incidents that were assisted by Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELTs), Emergency Position-indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRBs) or

Personnel Locator Beacons (PLBs) to [MCC] on a regular basis, with special reports as and when required.

## 5. DEPOSITARY

The Depositary of this Agreement and any subsequent amendments thereto shall be the Secretariat of the International COSPAS-SARSAT Programme.

The MCC and SPOC will also provide a signed copy of this Agreement to the ICAO Regional Office concerned with the [name] SRR and the IMO Secretariat, if desired by them.

## 6. ENTRY INTO FORCE, AMENDMENT, RENEWAL AND TERMINATION

This [Agreement] will enter into effect when it has been signed on behalf of all parties. The [Agreement] shall remain in force for a period of **two** years from the date on which it enters into force and shall be extended automatically for successive periods of **two** years.

- a. This [Agreement] is signed on Day \_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ 20xx, between [MCC] and [SPOC].
- b. The [Agreement] will be reviewed as required and may be modified or amended by mutual agreement of both parties in writing.
- c. Both parties, in the event of initiating action to terminate the [Agreement] shall give the other party a minimum of 120 days prior notice in writing.

(I) **SIGNATURE**

\_\_\_\_\_

**AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE**

**[MCC]**

\_\_\_\_\_

(II) **SIGNATURE**

\_\_\_\_\_

**AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE**

**[SPOC]**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Attachment 1: CONTACT DETAILS**

[MCC]

**Phone:**

**Fax:**

**Email:**

**AFTN:**

**Other:**

[SPOC]

**Phone:**

**Fax:**

**Email:**

**AFTN:**

**Other:**

[Other]

**Phone:**

**Fax:**

**Email:**

**AFTN:**

**Other:**

[Add further contacts as required]

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## APPENDIX C

MID REGION SAR FOCAL POINTS CONTACT DETAILS

STATE	NAME	TITLE	ADDRESS	EMAIL/AFS	FAX	TEL	MOBILE
<b>Bahrain</b>	ACC Duty Supervisor	ACC Duty Supervisor	Bahrain CAA P.O.Box – 586 Kingdom Of Bahrain	bahatc@caa.gov.bh	+973 17321029	+97317321081 +97317321080	
<b>Egypt</b>	Mr. Khaled Abdelraouf Kamel	General Director of Operations Centers & Crisis Management	Ministry of Civil Aviation Cairo - EGYPT	Operation-center-ecaa@hotmail.com Operation-center-ecaa@yahoo.com	202 22681371	202 22688387 202 22678535	01147710035 01001112375
<b>Iran</b>							
<b>Iraq</b>	Ali Muhsin Hashim	Director ATS	ANS Building, BIAP	Atc_iraqcaa@yahoo.com		+964 7815762525	+964 7815762525
<b>Jordan</b>	Mr. Ahmad Al Heders	Chief Amman ACC	Queen Alia Airport	Ahmad.al-heders@carc.gov.jo			+962796664328
<b>Kuwait</b>							
<b>Lebanon</b>							
<b>Libya</b>							
<b>Oman</b>	RCC HQ RAFO		P.O. Box 722 Muscat P.C. 111, Oman	Hq.rafo.@rafo.gov.om AFS:- OOMSICYX	+968 24334776	+968 24334211 +968 24334212	

STATE	NAME	TITLE	ADDRESS	EMAIL/AFS	FAX	TEL	MOBILE
<b>Qatar</b>							
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	Mr. Fahad Saud Alharbi	Manager SAR Head of SAMCC	Saudi Air Navigation Services	fasalharbi@sans.com.sa	+966126402855	+966126717717/ 1840	+966505329284
<b>Sudan</b>	Hashim Mohamed Ahmed	RCC Head	Sudan CAA PO BOX 165	BEGER124@gmail.com	249183528323	249183528323	24912327797 249912382433
<b>Syria</b>	Mr. Monif Abdulla	Head of S.A.R. Department Syrian Civil Aviation Authority	Damascus Airport	monif77@hotmail.com	963-11 540 0312	963-11 540 0312	963 932 710351
<b>UAE</b>	UAE ATC Duty Supervisor			atc@szc.gcaa.ae	971 2 599 6850	971 2 599 6969	
<b>Yemen</b>							

- END -