



# *ICAO Inter-regional SAR Workshop 2019*

## Search and Rescue Exercises SAREX

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# *Why Do We Conduct SAR Exercises*



# *Friendly Reminder ...Aircraft Do Land in Water*



## *Benefits of Doing Exercises*

- ◆ **Improve and Maintain Efficiency in SAR**
- ◆ **Identify Weaknesses and Verify Strengths**
- ◆ **Verify that Corrective Actions are Effective (Lessons Learned are implemented)**

## *Practical Advice on Exercises*

- ◆ Many States Have a Weak Exercise Program
- ◆ Actual Operations Can Serve Same Purpose **but...**
- ◆ Identified Problems Can Justify More Budget and Staff
- ◆ SAR Exercises Test the SAR Plan and SAR System, Not the Person

## ***Key Documents include:***

- ◆ ICAO Annex 12 – Search and Rescue
- ◆ ICAO Annex 14 – Aerodromes
- ◆ International Convention on Maritime SAR, Section 2.2.2.2
- ◆ International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual (IAMSAR Manual)



# *Annex 12 – Search and Rescue*

## ◆ Chapter 3. COOPERATION

*3.1.8 Recommendation.* - ...make arrangements for joint training exercises involving their SAR units, those of other States and operators, in order to promote SAR efficiency.

## ◆ Chapter 4. PREPARATORY MEASURES

*Section 4.4 Training and Exercises:* To achieve and maintain maximum efficiency in SAR, Contracting States shall provide for regular training of their SAR personnel and arrange appropriate SAR exercises.

# *Annex 14 – Aerodromes*

- ◆ **Chapter 9 Aerodrome Emergency Plan**
  - **9.1** The Plan to include aerodrome agencies (or services) and those agencies in the surrounding community that could be of assistance.
  - **9.1.4 Recommendation.** – The plan should provide for cooperation and coordination with the rescue coordination center, as necessary



## ***Annex 14 – Aerodromes***

- ◆ **Chapter 9 Aerodrome Emergency Plan**
  - **9.1.13** The plan shall be tested by conducting a full-scale emergency exercise at intervals not exceeding two years with a partial emergency exercise held in the intervening years.
- ❖ **Consider having a joint exercise with your maritime SAR service, as appropriate.**

# ***IAMSAR Manual 2019 edition***

- ◆ **Volume I, Chapter 3, Section 3.3**  
**“Exercises”**
  - Types of Exercises
  - Other Considerations
  - Exercise Elements
- ◆ **Volume I, Chapter 5, Section 5.3.10 (b)**
  - “early detection and correction of procedural and equipment problems before an emergency arises.”
- ◆ **Volume I, Appendix O Sample template for a joint SAR exercise**

# *Types of Exercises*

- ◆ **Communications**
- ◆ **Co-ordination**
- ◆ **Full-Scale or Field**

# *Type of Exercise - Communications*

**Minimal cost in effort, time, and money**

## **◆ Benefits:**

- (1) Verify communications infrastructure
- (2) Verify Points of Contact (POCs)

## **◆ Costs:**

- (1) Minutes to Plan and Conduct
- (2) Actual Communications Charges

## **◆ Frequency: At Least Twice a Year**

## *Type of Exercise – Co-ordination*

Also known as “Command Post” or “Tabletop”

- ◆ Key Players Talk Over **OR** Act Out a Scenario
- ◆ Benefits: (1) Knowledge of the SAR Plan, and (2) Contact with POCs
- ◆ Costs: (1) Staff Time to Organize, (2) “Facilitator” to guide discussion and actions (Recorder?), (3) Scenario Development Time, (4) Travel and Berthing Costs for Attendees
- ◆ Frequency: Once a Year for Half a Day to 3 Days Duration

# *Type of Exercise – Full Scale or Field*

## Most Demanding, SAR Facilities Deployed

- ◆ **Benefits:** Best Experience Gained for SAR Proficiency and Safety
- ◆ **Costs:** Many thousands of dollars; long lead time to plan and effort to involve other agencies; major work to develop scenario, conduct, and evaluate the exercise; actual costs to facilities deployed; travel and berthing of participants;
- ◆ **Frequency:** Once every 3 years (unless actual event occurs). Duration of 2 or more days.



# Exercises Are Necessary to Maintain...

- ◆ Operational Plans (SAR)
- ◆ Operational Response and Crews  
(Proficiency and Safety)
- ◆ Minimize surprises

