International Civil Aviation Organization

MIDANPIRG/22 & RASG-MID/12 Meetings

(Doha, Qatar, 4 – 8 May 2025)

Agenda Item 5.3: ANS (AIM, PBN, AGA-AOP, ATM-SAR, CNS and MET)

SAMCC'S SUPPORTED SPOCS/RCCs TRAINING WORKSHOP AND COSPAS-SARSAT SOUTH CENTRAL DATA DISTRIBUTION REGION (DDR) MEETING (SCDDR-2025)

(Presented by Saudi Arabia)

SUMMARY

This paper provides information on the Saudi Mission Control Centre (SAMCC)'s supported Search and Rescue Point of Contacts (SPOCs) training workshop conducted on 24 and 25 February 2025 in Jeddah – Saudi Arabia. This training was followed by the COSPAS-SARSAT South-Central Data Destitution Region (SCDDR) Meeting conducted from 25 to 27 February 2025.

The SPOCs and/ Rescue and Coordination Centers (RCCs) training workshop was a structured two-day Program. It combined theoretical sessions with interactive activities to ensure good understanding of the material, and practical learning. The workshop was facilitated by subject-matter experts from a COSPAS-SARSAT Secretariat, Spanish Mission Control Center (MCC), and Saudi Arabia.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Under the enhancement of the services provided by SAMCC, Saudi Arabia organized a two-day training workshop in 2025 for all SPOCs. The target audience for this workshop was the Saudi Arabia Mission Control Center (SAMCC) Supported SPOCs and RCC staff and operators. All SAMCC's supported SPOCs have been invited to this workshop. In addition to the workshop speakers, a total of 36 participants attended the workshop, including SPOCs and RCC's Staff and operators.

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 The training workshop was organized by the KSA- General Authority of Civil Aviation on 24 and 25 February 2025. The workshop aimed to enhance the level of awareness about the COSPAS-SARSAT Programme and to improve the level of understanding of the technical and operational matters related to distress beacon alerts management, transferring know-how in SAR activities, benefiting from best practices, and promoting collaboration in enhancing SAR services.

2.2 The workshop's training program covered several important topics, and subjects distributed over two days as follows:

- **DAY ONE (24 FEBRUARY 2025):**

  - Introduction to the COSPAS-SARSAT System (Basic System operation, Potential for Participation as User States and Availability of training materials and videos).
  - Organization of the SCDDR.
  - Overview of SIT 185 messages & Actions required by SPOCs/RCCs.

- Exercise Level 1: SIT 185 messages and SAR response.
- Overview of SAR services and SAMCC.
- Distress beacons/evolution (SGB, RLS, TWC).
- Beacon testing and false alerts.

- **DAY TWO (25 FEBRUARY 2025):**

  - Status of Communication between SAMCC and its SPOCs.
  - Beacon Coding, Identification and Regulations (S.007) & 406MHz beacon Registration Matters (24/7, IBRD).
  - ELT(DT) Data Distribution: LADR registration.
  - Exercise Level II

2.3 In addition, the COSPAS-SARSAT South Central Data Distribution Region (DDR) Meeting for 2025 was hosted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from 25 to 27 February 2025. The meeting took place in Jeddah, where the Aeronautical Rescue Coordination Center and the Saudi Mission Control Center (SAMCC) are located. Delegates from Algeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Togo, the United Arab Emirates, and the COSPAS-SARSAT Secretariat participated in the event. All South-Central DDR Mission Control Centers (MCCs) were represented, with the exception of the Nigerian MCC. In total, thirty-four participants from the six COSPAS-SARSAT Ground Segment Providers mentioned above, along with the COSPAS-SARSAT Secretariat, took part in the meeting.

2.4 The primary objective of this regional COSPAS-SARSAT meeting was to provide a platform for discussing current and future cooperative efforts within the South-Central DDR, focusing on a range of operational matters. The meeting aimed to evaluate the performance of MCCs in the region, strengthen coordination, and maintain effective collaboration and strong relationships among all MCCs to ensure smooth and efficient operations across the South-Central DDR.

2.5 Conclusion

The training workshop successfully met its objectives, provided valuable insights to attendees, and contributed to the ongoing professional development efforts of the search and rescue services in the region. According to the feedback received from participants, the workshop increased knowledge and understanding of the COSPAS-SARSAT system and Search and Rescue among them by sharing best implemented practices.

3. ACTION BY THE MEETING

The meeting is invited to note the information provided on the SAMCC's supported SPOCs search and rescue training workshop conducted on 24 and 25 February 2025.

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