



Agenda Item 4

Air Navigation Matters

4.2 Follow-up on the implementation of the NAM/CAR Regional Performance Based Air Navigation Plan (RPBANIP) in Eastern Caribbean:

- **Progress reports of the AIM, AGA, ATM, CNS, MET and SAR Committees**

SAR COMMITTEE REPORT

(Presented by the SAR Committee Rapporteur/Trinidad and Tobago)

| SUMMARY | |
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| This paper provides a summary of the SAR Committee's work since the last E/CAR/WG/33 and the E/CAR/DCA/24 meetings. | |
| References: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report of the Thirty-Third Eastern Caribbean Working Group Meeting (E/CAR/WG/33), Christ Church, Barbados, 4 to 8 June 2012;• Report of the Twenty Fourth Meeting of Directors of Civil Aviation of the Eastern Caribbean (E/CAR/DCA/24), Martinique, France, 2 to 5 October 2012; | |
| Strategic Objectives | <i>This working paper is related to Strategic Objectives: A. Safety – Enhance global civil aviation safety C. Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of Air Transport</i> |

1. Introduction

1.1 Following the last Thirty-Third Eastern Caribbean Working Group Meeting (E/CAR/WG/33), Christ Church, Barbados, 4 to 8 June 2012 and the Twenty Fourth Meeting of Directors of Civil Aviation of the Eastern Caribbean (E/CAR/DCA/24), Martinique, France, 2 to 5 October 2012, improvements in Search and Rescue (SAR) Development in the region was accomplished via updates of the SAR matrix and follow up meetings.

1.2 The Thirty-Third Eastern Caribbean Working Group Meeting resulted in the formulation of a SAR Ad-hoc group which created an Action Plan to address pertinent issues with the Eastern Caribbean.

- 1.3 The Action Plan included the following:
- a) Update Point-of-Contact list.
 - b) Follow-up on States submission of SAR Matrix.
 - c) Continue work to develop/amend Letters of Agreements (LOA's) between States.
 - d) Set up meetings with individual States and its respective agencies with the intention of addressing individual challenges/issues that may be affecting the States.
 - e) Harmonize the Individual and Regional Plans to meet the requirements of SAR for the E/CAR and the Piarco FIR.
- 1.4 The E/CAR/DCA/24 meeting was informed among other matters to:
- a) Provide feedback on the analysis of SAR capability in each State and details on resources available;
 - b) Submit the requested information to the Rapporteur of E/CAR SAR Committee (Trinidad and Tobago) at email address; rgarib@caa.gov.tt no later than 31st October 2012;
 - c) Seek to coordinate with local stakeholders and agencies within their State and Territories regarding SAR issues to ensure update of their National SAR Plan with the assistance of your SAR member;
 - d) Provide updates on National SAR developments on a continuous basis to the E/CAR SAR committee Rapporteur; and
 - e) Urge your SAR Committee members to participate in upcoming teleconferences and meetings in order to meet the SAR activities in the E/CAR Region.

2. Discussion

2.1 Analysis of SAR Capability of States and territories in the E/CAR Region were received from Barbados, French Antilles (Guadeloupe and Martinique) and Trinidad and Tobago. A favourable response and commitment to provide the SAR Matrix /Check list was obtained from the UK territories of Anguilla, British Virgin Islands and Montserrat. A request was made to Antigua and Bermuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

2.2 Trinidad and Tobago coordinated a meeting with the French territories, comprising persons from French Guyana, Guadeloupe and Martinique. The meeting was held in Trinidad and Tobago (Trinidad and Tobago Civil Aviation Authority Complex) on April 8-10, 2013. Other invitees included the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard. Discussions were held concerning the responsibility of Martinique, Guadeloupe, French Guiana and Trinidad and Tobago with the intention of concluding the respective Letters of Agreements. A follow up meeting would be coordinated to take place within the French Antilles before August, 2013.

2.3 Trinidad and Tobago has dedicated human resource to develop a Search and Rescue Unit (SRU). The SRU has a mandate to establish an Aeronautical Rescue Coordination Center (ARCC) with the necessary equipment and is working towards obtaining the necessary training to develop human resource in Aeronautical SAR that meets International Standards and Recommended Practices.

2.4 The SRU has developed an action plan to meet the objectives of SAR both Nationally (Trinidad and Tobago) and Regionally (Piarco Flight Information Region). The Action Plan involves completion of a National SAR Plan and Operational Plan.

2.5 Trinidad and Tobago has piloted several SAR meetings with the relevant Stakeholders to assess their Operational capability that influence the SAR Plan. The SAR Plan would be tested by the last quarter of 2013.

2.6 It is the intention of the SAR Committee to strategize and develop a similar Regional SAR Plan and conduct test in due course.

2.7 Work is on-going to complete the letters of Agreements for all States within the Piarco FIR and adjacent States to the Piarco FIR.

3. Suggested Action

3.1 The meeting is invited to:

- a) Note the information presented in this working paper;
- b) Urge E/CAR States/Territories/International organisations to present their improvements based on the analysis of SAR Capability of States and Territories.
- c) Provide other recommendations to improve SAR services in the E/CAR Region.