



**GREPECAS Programmes and Projects Committee (PPRC) Third Virtual Meeting
 (ePPRC/03)
 Online, 22 – 23 July 2021**

**Agenda Item 2: Follow-up on GREPECAS Programmes and Projects
 2.1 Reviewed GREPECAS Programmes and Projects**

CHALLENGES FOR SAR IMPLEMENTATION IN THE CAR/SAM REGIONS

(Presented by the Secretariat)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
<p>The purpose of this Working Paper is to bring to the attention of GREPECAS important matters of interstate and regional collaboration to support an adequate implementation and operation of the Search and Rescue (SAR) systems in the CAR/SAM Regions, in order to promote regional actions to address them. In the same line, it is proposed to incorporate the provision of SAR services as part of GREPECAS projects.</p>	
Action:	Suggested actions are included in Section 6.
<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency
<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chicago Convention • Annex 12 – <i>Search and Rescue</i> • CAR/SAM electronic Air Navigation Plan (eANP)

1. Introduction

1.1 Assistance to aircraft in distress is one of the basic principles of the Chicago Convention. The adequate provision of the Search and Rescue (SAR) service is a priority to guarantee the life of the traveling public, the continuity of air transport and the important contribution of aviation.

1.2 A poor or ineffective response to a major accident or disaster can also generate negative publicity and decrease public confidence in air transport, affecting various productive and communication activities.

1.3 An effective SAR service is a vital component in maintaining the safe provision of air navigation services and the important contribution of aviation to the prosperity and growth of peoples

2. SAR Agreements

2.1 The implementation of SAR, although it is developed individually, depends significantly on national and international collaborative frameworks. Due to the amount of resources required for the implementation and execution of SAR operations, national and regional cooperation is essential.

2.2 Annex 12, in general, establishes two types of SAR agreements:

- those related to the coordination between SAR organizations of neighbouring States with respect to their operations; and
- those related to cooperation and coordination in search and rescue matters, setting forth the conditions for search and rescue brigades of one State to enter into the territory of another, with the minimum of formalities.

2.3 The formalization of the SAR agreements is one of the matters still pending by several States of the CAR/SAM Regions, which in many cases requires high-level support in order to be finalized.

3. CAR/SAM Electronic Air Navigation Plan

3.1 The Electronic Air Navigation Plan for the CAR/SAM Regions (eANP) provides for the planning and implementation of air navigation systems for the aforementioned regions, in accordance with the agreed global and regional planning framework.

3.2 The eANP is used as a repository document for assigning responsibilities to States for the provision of air navigation facilities and services in a determined area in accordance with article 28 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Doc 7300), Additionally contains requirements related to facilities and services to be implemented by States in accordance with regional air navigation agreements.

3.3 The Regional Air Navigation Plans represent the bridge between, on the one hand, the global provisions of the ICAO Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs) and the Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP), and on the other hand, the air navigation plans of the States and the state of implementation.

3.4 Consequently, the eANP includes the agreed regional requirements that are considered the minimum necessary for the effective planning and implementation of search and rescue (SAR) facilities and services in the Caribbean and South American regions, complementing the provisions of the ICAO related to SAR.

4. GREPECAS SAR Responsibilities

4.1 The development and maintenance of Regional Air Navigation Plans are carried out by the ICAO PIRGs with the assistance of the ICAO Secretariat. Among the objectives of GREPECAS is to serve as a regional cooperative forum that promotes regional priorities, develops and maintains the Regional Air Navigation Plan (R-ANP CAR/SAM) in its three volumes, as well as the Work Programme directed to the adoption of the GANP (Doc 9750).

4.2 Currently, GREPECAS does not consider the follow-up of the SAR implementation among its projects, which would lead to a lack of regional alignment of the structures established to support this implementation.

4.3 Additionally, GREPECAS should be the main forum in which Regional and interregional SAR agreements could be consolidated.

5. Conclusions

5.1 The provision of SAR services constitutes a key element in the provision of air navigation services in the CAR and SAM Regions.

5.2 Regional collaboration is a fundamental element for the implementation of SAR systems, as well as for the efficient execution of their operations.

6. Suggested Actions

6.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a. urge States and Territories of the CAR/SAM Regions to continue supporting SAR implementation activities, as well as the formalization of agreements;
- b. instruct the Secretariat to take actions to incorporate the provision of SAR services as part of GREPECAS projects; and
- c. arrange for any other action deemed necessary.