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WORKING PAPER

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**Third NAM/CAR North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group
Search and Rescue Implementation Task Force (NACC/WG/SAR/TF/3) Meeting**
ICAO NACC Regional Office, Mexico City, Mexico and On-line, from 17 to 19 October 2022

Agenda Item 2: Search and Rescue (SAR) Global and Regional Affairs
2.3 GREPECAS project to support SAR implementation in the CAR/SAM Regions

PROPOSAL FOR THE PROJECT TO SUPPORT SAR IMPLEMENTATION IN THE CAR/SAM REGIONS

(Presented by the Secretariat)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
This Working Paper presents the proposal for a project to support SAR implementation in the CAR/SAM Regions to be presented to the GREPECAS as an interregional collaboration and work initiative for the implementation of Search and Rescue (SAR) services in the CAR/SAM Regions.	
Action:	Suggested actions are included in Section 6.
<i>Strategic Objectives:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategic Objective 1 – Safety• Strategic Objective 2 – Air Navigation Capacity and Efficiency
<i>References:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chicago Convention• Annex 12 – Search and Rescue• GREPECAS Procedures Manual• Final Report of the Nineteenth Meeting of the CAR/SAM Regional Planning and Implementation Group (GREPECAS/19), Online, 27 – 29 October 2021

1. Introduction

1.1 Search and Rescue (SAR) services constitute an essential element of Air Navigation Services (ANS), reflected as part of the commitments of the Contracting States of the Chicago Convention.

1.2 The proper establishment of SAR services represents an important means of protecting the lives of those who use aviation as a means of transportation. Additionally, the availability of SAR resources often provides a critical initial response and life-saving relief capability in the early stages of a natural or man-made disaster. Therefore, SAR services are sometimes part of a local, national or regional emergency management system.

2. Background

2.1 The CAR/SAM Regional Planning and Implementation Group (GREPECAS) is responsible for the development and maintenance of air navigation plans and provides for the planning and implementation of air navigation systems within specific areas, in accordance with the planning frameworks agreed at global and regional level.

2.2 GREPECAS is the guidance and coordination body for all activities carried out by ICAO in relation to the air navigation system for the CAR/SAM Regions and its activities are subject to review by the ICAO Council. In other words, it is through GREPECAS that the ICAO Council is informed about the development and implementation of specific issues for air navigation, as well as the regional and emerging air navigation challenges experienced that affect the implementation of the provisions. ICAO Global Guidelines by States and the measures taken or recommended to address them effectively.

3. GREPECAS working methodology

3.1 The GREPECAS work programme is developed through two fundamental schemes:

- a) the permanent activities that correspond to the primary functions of a Planning and Implementation Regional Group (PIRG): management and maintenance of the Air Navigation Plan (ANP), deficiencies, etc. as well as to ensure that the implementation of Air Navigation Systems in the CAR/SAM Regions is consistent and compatible with the developments in the adjacent regions, and is in accordance with the ATM Operational Concept (Doc 9854), Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP), Aviation System Block Upgrade (ASBU) and the Plan /Air Navigation Strategy of the CAR/SAM Regions; and
- b) specific activities to be carried out through programmes and projects.

3.2 The specific activities of GREPECAS will be carried out through the project management methodology. The GREPECAS Programmes and Projects Review Committee (PPRC) will be the body responsible for rendering accounts and reviewing the progress of each of the projects. Every project must be clearly identified with an operational benefit/improvement and justified under a Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA).

3.3 The programmes will be coordinated by the Regional Officers and the projects will be coordinated by experts from the States. The Projects in their conception are expected to be CAR/SAM, except in the particular cases in which it is duly justified that they are only CAR or only SAM.

3.4 The respective CAR or SAM Regional Office will designate programme coordinators. To assist in the design, monitoring and achievement of the objectives of each project, the Regional Office programme coordinator will have the support of project coordinators appointed by the States. Each Regional Office will use its own implementation methodology to meet the objectives of the regions' programmes and projects.

4. Analysis

4.1 The CAR Region has experienced significant growth in the flow of operations, as well as in infrastructure and support services for air navigation. Unfortunately, this expansion has not seen the provision of SAR services receive comparable attention to other areas of air navigation.

4.2 Additionally, support and monitoring activities for the implementation of SAR services have been significantly reduced in recent years. The support of the States for the participation of SAR experts has been diminished, leaving very few forums available in which the main issues concerning this service can be discussed, as well as the development of joint collaboration and integration strategies.

4.3 The CAR and SAM Regions have their implementation mechanisms for air navigation, which attend to the implementation of SAR services, separately. GREPECAS would be the ideal mean to promote the harmonization of the CAR/SAM Regions in SAR matters.

5. Conclusion

5.1 The North American, Central American and Caribbean Working Group (NACC/WG) Search and Rescue Task Force (SAR/TF) has been working on the development of a work programme to support SAR implementation, primarily for the CAR Region. It is evident that since the implementation of SAR services is such an important aspect, with interregional links, it is necessary to have an interregional link with the SAM Region.

5.2 The approval of a SAR project in GREPECAS will enable greater visibility and support for related activities, communicating more objectively to the ICAO Council the progress of SAR implementation in the CAR/SAM Regions. In the same sense, a higher level support will be promoted to meet the signing of SAR agreements.

6. Suggested actions

6.1 The Meeting is invited to:

- a) support the conclusions shown in section 5;
- b) request the Secretariat to submit to GREPECAS the project proposal found in the **Appendix**; and
- c) take any additional action deemed necessary.

APPENDIX / APÉNDICE

SAR IMPLEMENTATION / IMPLEMENTACIÓN SAR

<i>CAR Region / Región CAR</i>	PROJECT DESCRIPTION / DESCRIPCIÓN DEL PROYECTO (DP)	DP N° XX	
<i>Programme / Programa</i>	Title of the Project / Título del Proyecto	Start / Fecha inicio	End / Fecha término
<i>SAR Implementation/ Implementación SAR (Programme Coordinator / Coordinador del Programa: Eddian Méndez)</i>	<i>SAR Implementation/ Implementación SAR Project Coordinator / Coordinador del Proyecto: Calvin Zúniga (COCESNA)</i>	2023	2026
Objective / Objetivo	Support the SAR implementation based on the requirements of Annex 12 and the CAR/SAM Regional Air Navigation Plan/ Apoyar la implementación SAR con base en los requisitos del Anexo 12 y el Plan Regional de Navegación Aérea CAR/SAM.		
Scope / Alcance	Implementation of the elements of the search and rescue system that allow to ensure an effective response when the activation of these services is required, promoting continuous improvement towards an efficient use of available resources./ Implementación de los elementos del Sistema de búsqueda y salvamento que permitan asegurar una respuesta eficaz cuando la activación de estos servicios sea requerida, promoviendo la mejora continua hacia un uso eficiente de los recursos disponibles.		
Metrics / Métricas	Percentage of States that have arranged for the establishment and provision of SAR services within its territory and the areas where the State has accepted responsibility to provide SAR on a 24-hour basis in accordance with Annex 12 provisions/ Porcentaje de Estados que han hecho arreglos para el establecimiento y suministro de servicios SAR dentro de su territorio y las áreas donde el Estado ha aceptado la responsabilidad de proporcionar SAR las 24 horas del día de conformidad con las disposiciones del Anexo 12.		
	Percentage of States with established RCC or, as applicable, an RSC in each search and rescue region (SRR)/ Porcentaje de Estados con RCC establecido o, según corresponda, un RSC en cada región de búsqueda y salvamento (SRR).		
	Percentage of States that have prepared detailed plans of operation for the conduct of SAR operations/Porcentaje de Estados que han preparado planes de operación detallados para la realización de operaciones SAR.		
	Percentage of States with operational coordination SAR agreements between their SAR Organization and their neighboring States SAR Organizations/Porcentaje de Estados con acuerdos SAR de coordinación operativa entre su Organización SAR y las Organizaciones SAR de sus Estados vecinos.		

<p>Strategy / Estrategia</p>	<p>The implementation activities will be coordinated between Project members, the Project Coordinator and the Programme Coordinator. The Programme Coordinator will coordinate with the Project Coordinator requirements of other projects and NAM/CAR implementation working groups. Experts nominated by States, Territories and International Organizations will be incorporated, as required. / La ejecución de las actividades será coordinada entre miembros del Proyecto, el Coordinador del Proyecto y el Coordinador del Programa. El coordinador del Programa coordinará con el Coordinador del Proyecto los requerimientos de otros proyectos y Grupos de Trabajo de Implementación NAM/CAR. Se incorporarán expertos nominados por los Estados, Territorios y Organizaciones Internacional, según sea requerido.</p>
<p>Targets / Metas</p>	<p>80 % of States that have arranged for the establishment and provision of SAR services within its territory and the areas where the State has accepted responsibility to provide SAR on a 24-hour basis in accordance with Annex 12 provisions/ 80 % de Estados que han hecho arreglos para el establecimiento y suministro de servicios SAR dentro de su territorio y las áreas donde el Estado ha aceptado la responsabilidad de proporcionar SAR las 24 horas del día de conformidad con las disposiciones del Anexo 12. 80 % of States with established RCC or, as applicable, an RSC in each search and rescue region (SRR)/ 80 % de Estados con RCC establecido o, según corresponda, un RSC en cada región de búsqueda y salvamento (SRR). 80 % of States that have prepared detailed plans of operation for the conduct of SAR operations/ 80 % de Estados que han preparado planes de operación detallados para la realización de operaciones SAR. 60 % of States with operational coordination SAR agreements between their SAR Organization and their neighboring States SAR Organizations/60 % de Estados con acuerdos SAR de coordinación operativa entre su Organización SAR y las Organizaciones SAR de sus Estados vecinos.</p>
<p>Justification / Justificación</p>	<p>The CAR/SAM ANP includes the agreed regional requirements considered to be the minimum necessary for effective planning and implementation of search and rescue (SAR) facilities and services in the Caribbean and South American regions and the assignment of responsibilities to States for the provision of SAR facilities and services within the ICAO CAR and SAM Regions in accordance with Article 28 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Doc 7300). As such, GREPECAS must provide adequate monitoring and regional support. / El ANP CAR/SAM incluye los requisitos regionales acordados que se consideran los mínimos necesarios para la planificación e implementación efectiva de las instalaciones y servicios de búsqueda y salvamento (SAR) en las regiones del Caribe y Sudamérica y la asignación de responsabilidades a los Estados para la provisión de instalaciones y servicios SAR dentro de las regiones CAR/SAM de la OACI de conformidad con el Artículo 28 del Convenio sobre Aviación Civil Internacional (Doc 7300). Como tal, GREPECAS debe brindar un adecuado seguimiento y apoyo regional.</p>
<p>Related Projects / Proyectos relacionados</p>	