



# AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION COMMISSION (AFCAC)

## **Virtual Workshop aimed at providing assistance to AFI States to facilitate the establishment of an effective and operational Search and Rescue**

**8 - 9 October, and 12 November 2020,  
10:30 - 14:30 UTC**

## **Lomé Declaration and Action of Plan SAR High Level Conference**

**Presented by AFCAC**

## ***BACKGROUND***

- ▶ **ICAO AFI/APAC/MID Regional and Inter-Regional Workshop on the Provision and Improvement of SAR Services in the AFI Region held in *Mahe, Seychelles, from 19-22 July 2016* identified challenges in the provision of SAR in Africa**
- ▶ **The Action Plan adopted by this meeting requested AFCAC to participate in the efforts to raise awareness related to SAR with the support of ICAO and IMO**

## **BACKGROUND**

- ▶ **26<sup>th</sup> Plenary (Extraordinary) Session of AFCAC held in *Gaborone, Botswana, 10-11 November 2016* approved the AFCAC **Work Programme for 2016-2018****
- ▶ **One of the activities approved by the 26<sup>th</sup> Plenary was the organization of a *High-Level Conference on SAR* in conjunction with ICAO, as recommended during the third AFI Safety Symposium which was held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea on 28 June, 2016**



# HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON SAR SERVICES IN AFRICA Lomé, Togo

## **OBJECTIVE**

The main objective of the High-Level Conference on SAR was to sensitize decision makers in African States, especially the *Ministers of Air Transport* on the need to address urgently the following challenges:

- Establishment or maintaining of effective SAR services,
- Creation of opportunities for the coordination and establishment of bilateral SAR Agreements between the States, and
- Fostering discussions on establishment of more multilateral agreements



# HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON SAR SERVICES IN AFRICA Lomé, Togo

## ***CONCERNS IDENTIFIED***

- ▶ **The slow progress in the implementation of SARP related as contained in Annex 12 to the Convention**
- ▶ **Insufficient number of trained, qualified and competent technical personnel for effective implementation of SAR services**
- ▶ **Inadequacy of financial resources to ensure effective functioning of SAR units with adequate equipment to conduct their obligations**
- ▶ **Inadequate legislation and national plans related to SAR**



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## ***CONCERNS IDENTIFIED***

- ▶ **The insufficient bilateral and multilateral SAR agreements**
- ▶ **The low participation by States in the COSPAS-SARSAT-international system, and the lack of effective implementation by operators of the requirement for the mandatory carriage and operation of 406 MHz Emergency Locator transmitters beacons (ELT), Personal Locator Beacons (PLB) and Emergency Position Indicator Radio Beacons (EPIRB)**
- ▶ **The absence of regular SAR exercises in accordance with the provisions of Annex 12 to the Convention and International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manuals, ICAO and International Maritime Organization (IMO) Doc9731**



# HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON SAR SERVICES IN AFRICA Lomé, Togo

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- ▶ **Urge African States to meet their obligations under the Aeronautical and Maritime Conventions related to the implementation of SAR services**
- ▶ **Implement policies on enhancement of capacity building of SAR Experts' competency in Africa**
- ▶ **Facilitate negotiations and signing of SAR Memoranda of Cooperation, SAR Agreement among States**
- ▶ **Support the establishment of regional and sub-regional SAR Joint Rescue and coordination Centres (JRCC) and the pooling of resources (human resources, assets and funding)**



# HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON SAR SERVICES IN AFRICA Lomé, Togo

## ***RECOMMENDATIONS***

- ▶ **Ensure that SAR is given its due consideration in States' National Development Plans**
- ▶ **Support the provision of sustainable funding and resources for SAR Units**
- ▶ **Support the Project established by AFCAC for the improvement of the provision of SAR services in Africa**



# HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON SAR SERVICES IN AFRICA Lomé, Togo

## ***Ministers decided to:***

- ▶ **Ensure commitment at the national, regional and continental level for the improvement of SAR services in Africa and making available adequate funds for sustainable SAR Services**
- ▶ **Increase the necessary coordination and cooperation between civil and military organizations involved in SAR operations**
- ▶ **Ensure the signing and implementation of SAR agreements with neighbouring States to strengthen SAR cooperation and coordination**



# HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE ON SAR SERVICES IN AFRICA Lomé, Togo

## ***ACTION PLAN***

The Ministers considered the ***Action Plan for the improvement of the provision of SAR services*** developed by SAR Experts, constituted by high-level measures and timelines

***The high-level measures are relating to 1. FUNDING, 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROJECT TO IMPROVE SAR SERVICES IN AFRICA, 3. BILATERAL/MULTILATERAL SAR AGREEMENTS, 4. MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS BETWEEN STATES, 5. SAR EXERCISES, 6. REGIONAL ECONOMIC Communities /SUB REGIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, 7. CAPACITY BUILDING IN SAR, 8. ESTABLISHMENT OF JRCC***

ICAO was requested through the AFI Plan, in collaboration with AFCAC and Partners to support the implementation of the Action Plan on the improvement of the provision of search and rescue services in Africa



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## **CONCLUSION**

- ▶ ***The Target Dates for the implementation of the Action Plan need to be reviewed, in conjunction with ICAO, for its adoption by the Organs of AFCAC and AUC to obtain the necessary support as the high-level measures still relevant***
  
- ▶ ***Proposed amendments to AFCAP should take into account the **Outcomes** of this workshop***



*Thank You*