



ICAO

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

Twenty-Seventh Meeting of the AFI Planning and Implementation Regional Group (APIRG/27)

5 to 6 November 2024

Agenda Item 3: Implementation of air navigation goals, targets and indicators, including the priorities set in the Regional Air Navigation Plan

Aeronautical Search and Rescue

(Presented by Kenya)

| SUMMARY | |
|--|---|
| <p>This paper discusses the implementation of Aeronautical Search and Rescue in Kenya in accordance with Annex 12, Doc 9731 and Global Air Navigation Plan (Doc 9750) and Global Safety Initiatives.</p> <p>Action by the Meeting is as per paragraph 3.</p> | |
| <i>References</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Doc 9750, Global Air Navigation Plan ➤ Annex 12: Search and Rescue ➤ Doc 9731: IAMSAR Manual – International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual |
| <i>Strategic Objectives</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Air navigation Capacity and Efficiency. ➤ Timely and adequate SAR response to aircraft in distress. |

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. ICAO Global Air Navigation Plan presents to States a planning tool supporting a harmonized global Air Navigation system. It identifies all potential performance improvements available today, details the next generation of ground and avionics technologies that will be deployed worldwide.
- 1.2. Kenya is committed to the implementation of the Global and Regional Air Navigation Plans. Therefore, in 2015 as reviewed in 2020 and 2024, Kenya developed the National Air Navigation Plan based on a prioritization of benefits in terms of key performance areas.

2. DISCUSSION – Aeronautical Search and Rescue Services

In 2018, Kenya as an ICAO contracting state domesticated ICAO SARP in Aeronautical Search and Rescue into the Kenya Civil Aviation Regulations (KCARS) providing a firm legal framework for SAR services in the country. The country thereafter implemented 24-hour services at the Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC) and embarked on robust coordination with national stakeholders, development of SAR policies and procedures, acquisition of systems and tools for use in the RCC and undertaking several preparatory activities which included national mapping of SAR assets and personnel. In 2019, the SAR

system was subjected to an evaluation through a national SAR exercise which set the stage for key improvements. Kenya has learned important lessons through regular SAR exercises in areas of SAR:

- i. Organization;
- ii. Communication;
- iii. Coordination;
- iv. Collaboration;
- v. Distress alerting; &
- vi. Training.

2.1. ICAO through the various SAR regional workshop from 2016 to 2024 has consistently called for harmonization and improvement of SAR services in the AFI region.

2.2. Kenya has implemented the following aspects in aeronautical Search and Rescue:

2.2.1. Development of National SAR Plan.

2.2.2. Twenty-four (24) hour Search and Rescue Services

2.2.3. National Search and Rescue Committee.

2.2.5. Aeronautical Search and Rescue Regulations.

2.2.6. Trained SAR Mission Coordinators.

2.2.6.1 Basic SAR Training

2.2.6.2 Specialized SAR Training

2.2.6.3 Competency checks

2.2.7. Fully equipped Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC)

2.2.7.1 Communication

2.2.7.2 Surveillance

2.2.7.3 SAR management

2.2.7.4 SAR Library

2.2.8. SAR Agreement (Internal SAR Agencies & neighboring states).

2.2.9. SAR Standard Operating Procedures.

2.2.10. SAR Manual.

2.2.11. Comprehensive preparatory program “preventive SAR”

2.2.11.1. Registration of emergency beacons

2.2.11.2. Mapping of SAR assets and contacts

2.2.11.3. Mapping of aircraft wreckage likely to cause confusion during aerial search.

2.2.11.4. Awareness sessions for SAR stakeholders and public

2.2.11.5. Regular Joint inter-agency training sessions

2.2.11.6. Regular SAR exercises at all levels (communication, partial and full scale)

2.2.11.7. Regular audits of the SAR coordination function. (Quality and Regulatory)

2.2.11.8. Regular SAR stakeholders’ workshops.

2.2.11.9. Droppable medical and Survival Kits

3 ACTION BY THE MEETING

3.1. The meeting is invited to:

- a. Take note of progress made in Kenya in establishing and operating an effective Aeronautical Search and Rescue Services;
- b. Request ANSPs to undertake peer collaborations and evaluations in Search and Rescue for purposes of harmonization of Search and Rescue Services; and
- c. Encourage States to undertake Search and Rescue exercises to evaluate their SAR system establishment and benchmark with other that have gained experience in conducting the exercises.