

OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT

BETWEEN THE NORWEGIAN AND SWEDISH AUTHORITIES, RESPONSIBLE FOR AERONAUTICAL AND MARITIME SEARCH AND RESCUE

The responsible authorities for the SAR services, acting in accordance with Article 6 of the Agreement between the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway concerning co-operation in respect of aeronautical and maritime search and rescue, have agreed as follows:

Article 1 References

1. For the purpose of this Operational Agreement, Annex 12 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, 1944 (the Chicago Convention), and the Annex to the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979 (the SAR Convention), shall be applicable.
2. The Chicago Convention, the SAR Convention and the IMO/ICAO International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual (IAMSAR) shall be used as a basis for the conduct and carrying out of search and rescue missions (SAR missions).

Article 2 Responsible aeronautical and maritime search and rescue services

1. The services responsible for aeronautical and maritime search and rescue (the SAR services) are:

In Norway

The Royal Norwegian Ministry for
Justice and the Police

for aeronautical and maritime
search and rescue

In Sweden

The Swedish Civil Aviation Administration for aeronautical search and rescue

The Swedish Maritime Administration for maritime search and rescue

Adresses and particulars about available communication systems are to be found in the Aeronautical Information Publications (AIP) and in the IMO Global SAR Plan of the parties.

2. The responsible authorities shall inform each other of the equipment and facilities of their respective SAR services and shall immediately inform each other about changes in them.

Article 3 Working language

The working language between the SAR services shall be English.

Article 4 Co-operation between aeronautical and maritime rescue coordination centres

1. All requests for assistance from one Rescue Co-ordination Centre (RCC) shall be made to the corresponding RCC of the other party. The parties' Search and Rescue Regions (SRR) and the location of each region's RCC are shown on the attached map (see Attachment).
2. All requests for assistance shall immediately be acknowledged by the receiving RCC.
3. The receiving RCC shall as soon as possible advise whether assistance which has been requested can be rendered and, if so, inform about the number, type(s) and call sign(s) of the rescue units offered.
4. The requesting RCC shall, upon receipt of the information about the rescue units offered referred to in paragraph 3, arrange for the necessary permission and any special conditions for the entry into its State's territory of rescue units of the other party. The permission shall be transmitted as soon as possible to the other party's RCC.

Article 5 Entry into the territory of Sweden and Norway during rescue missions

1. A request for permission to enter the territory of the other State for a rescue mission not covered by Article 4 shall be addressed to the RCC within whose SRR the mission is intended to be carried out.
2. Such a request shall immediately be acknowledged and processed by the receiving RCC.
3. To the benefit of persons in distress, each SAR service shall use its best endeavours to facilitate the entry of rescue units for rescue missions within each other's territories.

Article 6 Principles for coordination and communication

1. A SAR mission shall be co-ordinated by the RCC within whose SRR the mission is carried out, unless otherwise agreed. For the efficiency of a SAR mission, the RCCs may agree between themselves on a different way to conduct and co-ordinate the mission.
2. When carrying out a joint SAR mission, the RCC in the SRR of the party where such a mission is carried out, shall co-ordinate with the RCC of the other party the way to communicate with the rescue units. All vital information shall be confirmed in written form using the SITREP-format.

3. Exchange of information and co-operation between aircrafts participating in a SAR mission and the air traffic services shall be in accordance with established routines in the AIP of the respective countries.
4. The SAR services shall inform each other about radio frequencies and call signs, telex telefax and AFTN-numbers and about other means of communication, if any. They shall immediately inform each other about changes.
5. Regular checks of the relevant communication channels shall be made.
6. The SITREP-format, commenced and ended with the word "exercise" shall also be used as request for assistance for a simulated accident. The answer shall inform about the possibilities to render assistance.

Article 7 Debriefing

After a major SAR mission, a debriefing shall be arranged as soon as possible.

Article 8 Meetings of the representatives of the SAR services

1. Representatives of the SAR services should meet regularly. The function as host shall alternate, if not otherwise agreed. At these meetings they shall in particular consider matters concerning
 - meetings between the responsible authorities
 - liason visits of SAR experts
 - mutual exercises
 - the possibility for SAR experts to participate in national exercises of the other party
 - preparation of proposals for amendments or modifications with the aim of promoting the co-operation within the frame of this Operational Agreement
 - planning and development of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) and the future use of that system.
2. The meetings and exercises referred to in paragraph 1 may be combined with multilateral SAR meetings and SAR exercises.

Article 9 Amendments

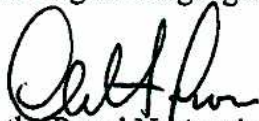
Amendments to this Operational Agreement, within the frame of the Agreement between the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway concerning co-operation in respect of aeronautical and maritime search and rescue, may be agreed to between the responsible authorities and shall be made in written form.

Article 10 Entry into force and validity

This Operational Agreement shall enter into force thirty (30) days after its signing.

It shall remain in force as long as the Agreement between the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway concerning co-operation in respect of aeronautical and maritime search and rescue is in force.

Done at the Ministry of Justice and the Police, Oslo, Norway, February 9th 2004, in duplicate in the English language.



For the Royal Norwegian Ministry of
Justice and the Police



For the Swedish Civil Aviation Administration



For the Swedish Maritime Administration

Norwegian and Swedish Search and Rescue Regions

