



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF THE REGIONAL AERONAUTICAL SEARCH
AND RESCUE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Authorities responsible for Aeronautical Search and Rescue of the Republic of Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Macedonia, Republic of Slovakia and the Republic of Slovenia, Parties to the present Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as: the Parties)

CONSIDERING that the States represented by those respective Authorities responsible for Aeronautical Search and Rescue are Parties to the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention), opened for signature on 7 December 1944;

CONSIDERING that the Chicago Convention and its Annexes provide the essential framework for an international civil aviation System on Search and Rescue operations;

BEARING IN MIND the importance of Search and Rescue, as an operation to retrieve persons in distress, provide for their initial medical or other needs, and deliver them to a place of safety;

RECOGNISING the necessity of full compliance with the Standards and Recommended Practices in the area of Search and Rescue, set out in the Annex 12 of the Chicago Convention and further developed in the International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual (IAMSAR) and other related Search and Rescue documents (hereinafter referred to as: the International SAR provisions);

RECOGNISING that Annex 12 is applicable to the establishment, maintenance and operation of Search and Rescue services in the territories of the Contracting States and over the high seas, and to the coordination of such services between States;

RECOGNISING the need for harmonizing and strengthening international cooperation and especially regional cooperation for the efficient conduct of Aeronautical Search and Rescue operations;

RECOGNISING the efforts by ICAO EUR/NAT European Search and Rescue Task Force to promote the enhancement and improvement of SAR facilities and services within the EUR Region and adjacent regions;

RESPECTING the equity and voluntary membership in regional cooperation;

BEARING IN MIND the conclusions of the Regional Civil Aviation Authorities meeting, held in Belgrade on 22 January 2015 and the Regional Search and Rescue Conference, held in Belgrade on 9 and 10 February 2016;

Have concluded this **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** on the establishment of the Regional Aeronautical Search and Rescue Advisory Committee.

I Objectives of the Regional Aeronautical Search and Rescue Advisory Committee

The main objectives of the Regional Aeronautical Search and Rescue Advisory Committee (hereinafter referred to as: the Regional SAR Committee) are:

- to provide support to the Parties in building and maintaining Aeronautical Search and Rescue capacities and

- to enhance cross-border cooperation among them in this area.

II Activities of the Regional SAR Committee

The Regional SAR Committee shall be established with the view to further developing the regional cooperation in the area of the Aeronautical Search and Rescue operations and promoting the compliance with Standards and Recommended Practices, set out in the international SAR provisions by:

Supporting the transposition and implementation of standards and development of operational procedures in accordance with ICAO and IMO regulations;

Encouraging and promoting the conclusion of regional Cross Border Aeronautical Search and Rescue Agreements;

Enhancing the exchange of experience, good practice and expert knowledge through the joint analysis and regional Aeronautical Search and Rescue planning;

Assisting the communication through exchange of information between the Parties on the management and expert level;

Building the expertise in Regional Aeronautical Search and Rescue by assisting Parties in the organization of regional training and exercise with the aim to improve overall effectiveness and efficiency of SAR Cross Border cooperation;

Promoting Aeronautical Search and Rescue and supporting Parties in media relations in this area.

The Regional SAR Committee may establish cooperation with ICAO and its EUR/NAT Regional Office, as well as with the other aeronautical international organisations willing to support the objectives and activities of the Regional SAR Committee.

The Regional SAR Committee may request the European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation (EUROCONTROL) to provide support to its activities.

III Membership, Legal status and Bodies of the Regional SAR Committee

The Regional SAR Committee will consist of representatives of the Authorities responsible for Aeronautical Search and Rescue in the respective States that have signed this MoU (hereinafter referred to as the: Members);

Any other Authority responsible for Aeronautical Search and Rescue may accede to this Memorandum upon the consent of the Members and thus become the Member.

Any Authority responsible for Aeronautical Search and Rescue or any organization linked to the area of Aeronautical Search and Rescue, willing to participate in the work of the Regional SAR Committee, but not fulfilling the requirements for becoming a Member may obtain the status of Observer, upon the consent of the Members.

The Regional SAR Committee will have no international legal personality.

The Bodies of the Regional SAR Committee will be the Steering Board and the Expert Team (hereinafter referred to as Board and Team respectively). Other bodies may be established as and when deemed necessary by the Regional SAR Committee.

The decisions taken by the Board or the Team will not be mandatory to any Party and will be considered as recommendations. .

The Board shall adopt the Rules of Procedure of the Regional SAR Committee.

The Board shall establish a "policy on confidentiality, data protection and appropriate use of information " (e.g. data, documents and information related to SAR activities).

IV Final clauses

This MoU shall be effective on the date of its signature.

Each Party may terminate its participation in this MoU at any time by giving at least 30 days prior written notice to all other Parties.

This MoU may be amended on a proposal of any Member by an unanimous decision of the Board.

Done in Belgrade, on 3rd November 2016, in eight originals in the English language.

The duly authorized representatives of the Parties have signed this MoU.

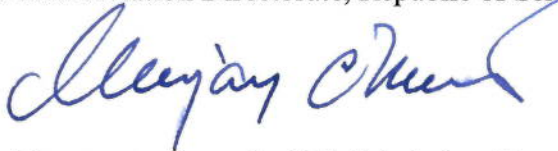
For the Directorate of Civil Aviation, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Member




For the Civil Aviation Agency, Republic of Macedonia, Member;



For the Civil Aviation Directorate, Republic of Serbia, Member;



For the Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Republic of Slovakia, Member;



For the Civil Aviation Agency, Republic of Slovenia, Member;



For the National Protection and Rescue Directorate, Republic of Croatia, Observer;



For the Ministry of Defense, Hungary, Observer.

