

CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF VIET NAM

GUIDANCE MATERIAL FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISE

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GUIDANCE MATERIAL FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISE

PART I. INTRODUCTION

1. OVERVIEW

1.1. Legal Facility

In accordance with ICAO Annex 12 Search and Rescue (SAR), the Civil Aviation Authority of Viet Nam (CAAV) has been promulgated the Manual of Standards Search and Rescue which requires search and rescue service provider to arrange appropriate Search and Rescue Exercises (SAREX). Guidance Material for SAREX has been developed to assist search and rescueservice provider about the SAREX arrangement, including the testing and complement in all functions of SAR Service for the readiness in actual SAR operations.

SAREX is periodically organized operation under Article 155 of Circular Regulations on management and assurance of flight operations in Consolidated Document No. 21/VBHN-BGTVT dated 16th June 2022 of the Ministry of Transport (consolidated Circular No. 19/2017/TT -BGTVT dated 6th June 2017 of the Minister of Transport regulations on management and assurance of flight operations, effective from 1st August 2017, amended and supplemented by: Circular No. 32/2021/TT-BGTVT dated 14th December 2021 of the Minister of Transport amending and supplementing a number of articles of Circular No. 19/2017/TT-BGTVT dated 6th June 2017 of the Minister The Ministry of Transport regulates the management and assurance of flight operations, effective from 2nd February 2022 (ANS Circular)) and,

Search and Rescue Exercise Preparation Manual was issued by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

1.2. The goal of the exercise

- Forge, enhance the ability to hold command, operating the Search and rescue of civil aviation in flight information region and the authorized airspace regions are assumed by Vietnam.

- Testing the command, the contract, and run the Search and rescue and,

- Propaganda, widespread popularity for organizations, agencies, units and people who know the reality of the Search and rescue of civil aviation activity and responsibility, the obligations of local, organizations and individuals in the Search and rescue of civil aviation operation according to the aviation SAREX Coordination Regulation - issued by Decision 33/2012/QĐ-TTg on 6th August 2012 by the Prime Minister.

Through an exercise to introduce and demonstrate to ICAO, civil aviation organizations and aircraft operators in the area and the world in terms of the ability to secure Vietnam's Search and rescue services.

1.3. All types of exercise

As defined by ANS Circular, SAREX operation is composed of two main types I-1 20/09/2023



of exercise, include:

a) The exercise of the civil aviation operate search and rescue (the operation of the staff, command and the contract), this type of exercise is periodically held annually, inwhile:

- Every year, enterprises providing aviation search and rescue services plan and organize the implementation in order to check and operate the committee of advising, commanding, and coordinating Search and rescue for emergency situations. assume that the aircraft in danger or distress in the area of responsibility for Search and rescue with other relevant agencies and units.

- The funding ensures this type of exercise is guaranteed by the self-assured unit according to the annual training budget.

b) Rehearsal for Search and Rescue exercise of civil aviation (Steering committee operates the enforcement of the staff, command, community, and exercise), this type of area periodically happens every 02 years, inwhile:

- Periodically 2 years ago, the Vietnam Aviation Administration Steering committee planning, in coordination with the enterprise providing Search services, the civil aviation rescue operation carried out to test, operate the staff Steering committee, command, contract coordination, and force mobiles, the media reported. Search and rescue missions in the area search and rescue of civil aviation in Vietnam;

- The funding ensures that the type of exercise consists of a budget and a portion of the funding provided by the airline business for the means, equipment, and forces to participate in the exercise.

2. PURPOSE, REQUEST AND SCOPE APPLICABLE

2.1. The purpose of the exercise guide process

- Guide to units and individuals involved in the preparation of search and rescue exercise organization that organizes an exercise in Search and Rescue of civil aviation.

- Details of the preparation steps before the exercise.

2.2. Request

- Make sure the consistency in the preparatory work for annual Search and rescue.

- The guide needs to be clear, easy to apply.

2.3. Range and subject applicable

- The applicable status: This process is applied in the SAREX system of the civil aviation industry in relation to the exercise activity.

- Subject applies: Officer, employee related to SAREX operation.

2.4. Acronym:

- Area control centre: ACC

- Air Navigation Department of CAAV: AND



- Aviation Search and Rescue Coordination Centre: ARCC
- Air traffic control: ATC

- Circular No. 19/2017/TT -BGTVT dated 6th June 2017 of the Minister of Transport on management and provision of air navigation and Circular No. 32/2021/TT-BGTVT dated 14th December 2021 of the Minister of Transport amending and supplementing a number of articles of the Circular No. 19/2017/TT-BGTVT dated 6th June 2017: ANS Circular.

- Civil aviation Authority of Vietnam: CAAV

- Exercise preparation team: EPT

- Emergency Locator Transmitters: ELT

- Steering Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control (Command of Disaster Prevention and Control)

- National SAR Committee: NSC
- Steering Committee/Command Committee: SC/CC.
- Search and Rescue Region: SRR.



PART II. SHOW CONTENTS

1. SAREX Conduction

1.1 Type of SAREX

As defined by the ANS Circular, SAREX operation is composed of two main types of exercise, include:

a) The exercise of the civil aviation operates search and rescue (the operation of the staff, command and the contract), this type of exercise is periodically held annually, inwhile:

- Every year, enterprises providing aviation Search and rescue services plan and organize the implementation in order to check and operate the committee of advising, commanding, and coordinating Search and rescue for emergency situations. assume that the aircraft in danger or distress in the area of responsibility for Search and rescue with other relevant agencies and units.

- The funding ensures this type of exercise is guaranteed by the self-assured unit according to the annual training budget.

b) Rehearsal for Search and Rescue exercise of civil aviation (Steering committee operates the enforcement of the staff, command, community, and exercise), this type of area periodically happens every 02 years, inwhile:

- Periodically 2 years ago, the CAAV's Steering committee plans (in coordination with the enterprise providing SAR service) that the civil aviation rescue operation carried out to test, operate the staff Steering committee, command, contract coordination, and force mobiles, the media reported;

-The funding ensures that the type of exercise consists of a budget and a portion of the funding provided by the airline business for the means, equipment, and forces to participate in the exercise.

1.2 Other Consideration

The need for exercise varies. Based on SAR operations so exercises may add little to their learning experience, except when conducted with other States with which they may not routinely work. Other States may have very few SAR operations each year, so exercises will be critical to sustaining proficiency. Joint exercises among neighboring States or parties to SAR agreements will also be valuable. It may be necessary to assign person full-time to planning and evaluating exercises.

Success of an exercise is measured by:

1.2.1 The simplest type of exercise, a communication exercise, requires the least planning. It consists of periodic use of all means of communication between all potential users to ensure capability for actual emergencies.

1.2.2 How many problems are discovered

1.2.3 How much is learned



1.2.4 How much operating plans are improved; and

1.2.5 How few mistakes are repeated during the next exercise.

SAR service provider should conduct regular SAREX regularly (at least once every two years) to test and evaluate existing coordination procedures, data and information sharing and SAR response arrangements involving:

a) both aeronautical and maritime SAR authorities including both civil and military agencies as applicable, and related bodies such as Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs) and Airline Operations Centers (AOCs);

b) where appropriate, cross-aeronautical Search and Rescue Region (SRR) boundary coordination (SAREX should routinely involve SAR authorities of adjacent SRRs); and

c) SAREX effectiveness through a post-SAREX review and written report, completed to ensure that deficient areas or latent problems are identified and remedied.

Note 1: A SAREX template is provided in the 2019 edition of the IAMSAR Manual, Volume I, Appendix O, Sample template for a joint SAREX.

Note 2: SAREX should test the SAR system, including unannounced alerts that allow an actual search (whether it is a desktop or a physical operation), to be conducted which will indicate weaknesses in the system. SAREX should not be confused with, or take the form of, simulated crash fire exercises such as for Aerodrome Emergency Procedures that do not have a search component.

Note 3: Real SAR incident responses which include an adequate post-response review and evaluation with lessons learned may replace the need for a SAREX.

2. SAREX Elements

Successful exercises require planning, execution, evaluation. Exercises are carried out for training, to evaluate established plans and procedures and to test new concepts. Exercises also offer experience in the management of risks and safety for SAR operations.

2.1 Planning

The typical exercise sequence involves:

2.1.1 development of the concept (broad goals and objectives) of what is to be exercised.

- 2.1.2 selection of participants (staff and facilities).
- 2.1.3 detailed planning for how the exercise will be conducted.
- 2.1.4 conduct of the exercise; and

2.1.5 evaluation to determine lessons learned and to develop recommendations for improvement. It is essential to have a clear understanding of which plans and procedures are being exercised. Scenarios can then be developed that include specific situations to which personnel will react and respond. Response, or lack of response, to established policy and guidance, and need for additional policy guidance, is evaluated.



2.2 Execution

Those who plan exercises should not be the same ones who respond to the created scenarios. This avoids covering up known weaknesses to ensure ideal results, instead of revealing what would occur in an actual SAR situation.

2.2.1 Scenarios might be as realistic as possible. The decision as to how large and realistic exercises should be will depend on the extent of the SAR service, the demands expected to be made upon it and general considerations of the economy. If primary responsibility for SAR has been delegated to military authorities or Government services, full-scale exercises involving as many units and facilities as possible may provide satisfactory means of implementing training programs.

Where private concerns are relied upon to play a major part in SAR, the timing of major exercises should be arranged to minimize disruption to normal activities.

2.2.2 Opportunities should be taken to complement formal training programs with exercises conducted on a unit basis by combining them with normal activities during quiet periods. They should be carried out at regular intervals and arranged so that all personnel participate. This is particularly important in respect of those facilities which seldom receive operational calls.

2.2.3 Exercises carried out separately by facilities will not be as valuable as combined operations, but they can ensure that the SAR service will function in an emergency.

2.2.4 As many facilities, including air and surface craft, should be exercised as possible. Communications between the SRUs is a vital test of coordination.

2.2.5 It is not always practicable for organizations to engage in formal SAR training programs. Whenever possible, personnel from these organizations should be invited to participate in or observe training exercises. They should be provided with documents, publications or other literature which describe the NSC policies and procedures used by the SAR service, showing the desired roles of the participating organizations in SAR operations.

2.2.6 RCC should periodically execute SAREXs together to develop and maintain efficient cooperation and coordination between their services. These exercises need not always be on a large scale, but at least those SRUs which are likely to operate together should engage periodically in coordinating exercises. Much may be learned by exchanging information on training methods (e.g; programs, literature, and films) and visits between staff of adjacent SRR.

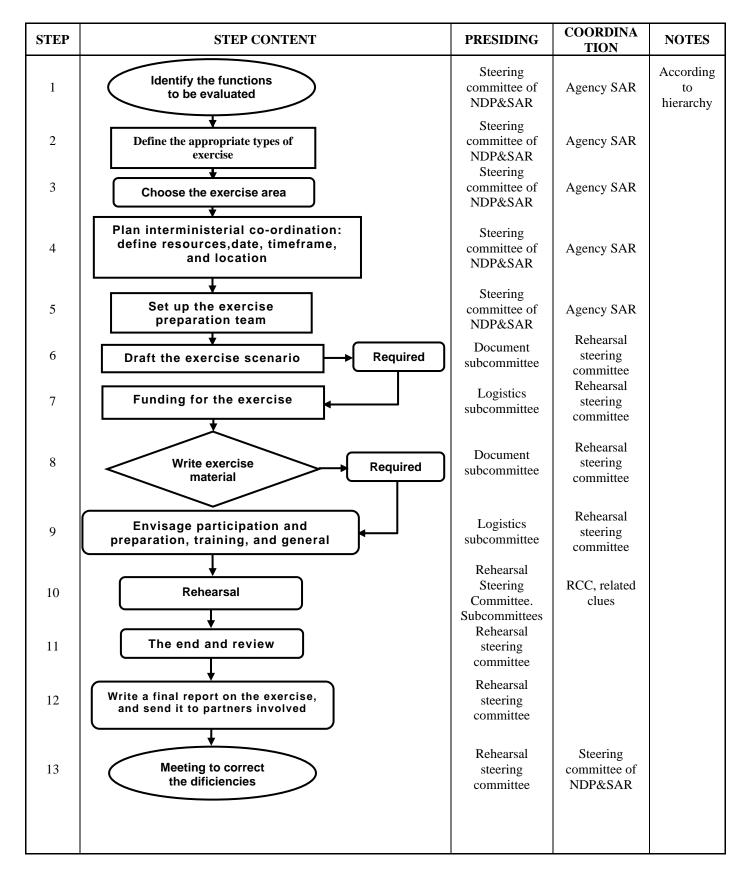
2.2.7 Safety requirements, particularly when using live "survivors", may impose significant constraints on the conduct of SAREXs. RCC should ensure that specific safety rules and limitations are issued for use during both the planning and conduct of SAREXs.

2.3 Evaluation

- 2.3.1 Before the SAREX/Training
- 2.3.2 During the SAREX/Training
- 2.3.3 After the SAREX/Training



3. PROCESS DIAGONATION





3.1 Identify the Functions to be Evaluated

The purpose of the SAREX is to evaluate the effectiveness of a functional element of the SAR system. Thus, before one defines the type of exercise to be organized, one might identify the functions that will be tested during the exercise. This first step will determine the subsequent preparations for exercise. Each exercise should be part of a yearly or even multi-year program of exercises which, when completed, will have tested the entire system. Ideally, several partial exercises should be organized each year and a full national or international exercise should be organized at least every two years. Lastly, at a later stage in the service quality control process, a set of procedures, based specifically but not exclusively on the exercises based on feedback from real cases, previous exercises, international documentation, the experience of neighboring States, etc.

No distinction is made, at this point, between sea, land, or air units, nor on the status of these units (military, public safety, private...)

(See Appendix A for a SAR System Functions)

3.2 Define the Appropriate Types of Exercise

The purpose of an exercise is to evaluate the effectiveness of a functional element of the SAR system or the entire SAR chain. The type of SAREX is thus determined by the functions of the system to be tested.

Based on the exercise objectives, the preparation team chooses the type of exercise. This decision has an impact on which parties will be involved, how long it will take to prepare the exercise and the cost of the exercise.

The choice of exercise may also be determined by regulatory requirements, which may specify a minimal frequency for conducting each type of exercise.

The very first step in preparing a SAREX involves defining the purpose and objectives as precisely as possible.

Then, in addition to choosing the functional element to be tested, the exercise director will have answered certain vital questions in the very first phases of the preparations, such as: will the exercise be held during the day or night? Will searches be held on land or on water (for the States concerned)? In the case of full-scale exercises, should certain specific types of SRUs be involved?

3.3 Choose the Exercise Area

3.3.1 Plan the Exercise and Select the Area

The NSC determines, on a long-term basis, the areas where exercises will be organized. Normally, the SAR system should be tested by means of a full-scale exercise at least every two years.

3.3.2 Choice of Area

It is the responsibility of the exercise director to choose the exercise area, based on directives from the NSC, and, eventually, in conjunction with the local authorities



concerned.

Selection of an exercise area is guided by whether the site engages the SAR system functionalities the organizers wish to test (limited accessibility, topography, inhospitable or sparsely populated area, sea or desert, tropical forest, swamps.). The director is, however, responsible for site safety, and will review the exercise area to identify specific features or aspects with a view to adequately evaluating and preventing risks.

Once the area is chosen, the exercise director drafts a request for a message of flight restriction in the related portion of airspace, namely a notice to airmen (NOTAM).

3.4 Plan Inter-Ministerial Co-ordination

It is the responsibility of the NSC to define, on an annual basis, the calendar for full-scale exercises. Note that under the terms of the ICAO Annex 12 and the IAMSAR manual, this committee normally includes high-level representatives from all departments involved in the national SAR system.

However, in States where the NSC is not functional, it may be desirable to institute, for full-scale exercises that require the deployment of operational units, an Exercise Commission, headed by the NSC, with representation from the authority that has the power to engage all parties that could be solicited during the exercise. The advantage of such a commission is that it would involve, from the very start, the parties who can make a technical, financial, or administrative contribution.

This commission could include local authorities, as well as senior-level health, public safety, police, or customs authorities, as well as national or international funders.

Such a commission validates the nature, scope and goals of the exercise and ensures that financial and logistical support is always available.

However, to maintain confidentiality, some or all these prerogatives may be delegated to the exercise director.

No matter what the exercise scope and type, one of the first and most important actions, even before planning begins, is to assign responsibility for exercise planning to a competent person or group. To control events during the exercise, advance planning is required. Without such control, the exercise quickly becomes chaotic, with very little usefulness.

There are two categories of people who work on preparing an exercise (except for a Communications Exercise).

3.4.1 The exercise preparation team (EPT)

3.4.2 The persons responsible for the operational side of the exercise. This second category, which cannot be fully known until after the scenario has been written, is further sub-divided into personnel responsible for supervising the exercise, and personnel in an operational role.

3.5 Set Up the Exercise Preparation Team

Defining and setting up the team responsible for preparing a SAREX can have a



critical impact on the success of the operation. The process should fulfill two objectives:

3.5.1 Obtain the agreement of all departments likely to be involved in the activities related to the exercise.

3.5.2 Involve professionals to capitalize on their expertise throughout the process of organizing a SAREX.

Members of the EPT might be available and present for the entire period of the preparation, organization conduct, and evaluation of the exercise. A typical EPT is comprise of the following:

a) Exercise Director

The exercise director is appointed by national authorities to assume responsibility for the exercise from start to finish by:

i. directs and approves the work of the scenario team during the planning stage, in accordance with the purpose and objectives of the exercise, as defined by the committee or the NSC;

- ii. directs the information meetings
- iii. performs the duties of chief controller during the exercise
- iv. when so delegated by the NSC, plans, and conducts evaluation meetings; and
- v. drafts the report at the end of the exercise.

The person appointed to this position is usually a fairly high-level representative of the main agency involved in the exercise, or a representative of the NSC. He or she may also be the head of the RCC or an officer of the NSC or one of its collaborators.

b) Scenario Team

Assistant directors may also be appointed. It is important to note that the presence and availability of this authority should be guaranteed throughout the preparation, enactment, and evaluation of the exercise.

The writing team might be made aware of the importance of keeping all their preparatory work strictly confidential. To this end, it is desirable to keep the team as small as possible given the scope of the exercise.

The team's critical mission is to assist the exercise director in drafting the exercise scenario, based on the goals of the exercise, and considering the identified resources. Once the scenario has been approved, the team might organize the logistics and prepare all the documents required for the exercise.

c) Logistic Support Team

Reporting directly to the exercise director and carrying out actions based on the scenario, the logistical support team is responsible for organizing the logistics required for the exercise to run smoothly.

This team's mission is twofold: on the one hand it helps execute the scenario (e.g.: placing of dummy objects, wreckage, a beacon, preparing victim identification cards ...); on the other it is responsible for background logistics of the exercise (meals,



transportation, accommodation - as applicable), in accordance with the administrative and financial decisions made previously by the SAR Coordinator (SC) or the NSC.

Note: The team providing logistical support for the exercise might be careful to interfere as little as possible with the teams providing logistical support to the operational services involved in the exercise, which are also monitored during the exercise.

Like the members on the scenario team, the logistical support team might be made aware of the importance of keeping all their work strictly confidential.

Note: Access to people involved in the exercise in certain restricted areas (e.g RCC) might be arranged before the exercise is conducted (appropriate accreditations might be provided by the competent authority).

3.6 Draft the Exercise Scenario

The scenario is based on the purpose and objectives of the exercise. When the exercise goals, objectives, type, and area have been decided, the EPT writes the scenario for the exercise.

It is at this stage that the EPT decides on the operational difficulties to be encountered. For instance, it could write the following difficulties into the scenario:

3.6.1 bad weather conditions

3.6.2 inaccurate eyewitness accounts

3.6.3 no flightplan

3.6.4 pilot navigation error

3.6.5 critical period or time frame (night, weekend, holidays / statutory holidays);

3.6.6 3.6.6 critical location (sea, mountain, desert, swamp); and

3.6.7 technical communication problems.

3.7 Funding for the Exercise

The financial requirements for holding the exercise depend largely on the type of exercise, and more particularly on whether operational resources are deployed.

For communication and co-ordination exercises, the costs, given the fact that no resources are deployed, are minimal or nonexistent.

However, for a full-scale exercise, a few expenses might be taken into account:

- 3.7.1 operations cost of resources deployed
- 3.7.2 insurance for volunteers
- 3.7.3 transportation (dummy objects, participants, visitors...)
- 3.7.4 acquisition of mannequin(s)
- 3.7.5 video equipment and operators
- 3.7.6 overhead (office equipment, telecommunications)



3.7.7 meals for participants; and

3.7.8 compensation for ham radio associations.

Usually, these costs (including operational unit costs) are assumed by the departments responsible for the resources deployed. However, in some States, provisions related to funding the operational costs of SRUs are set out in specific texts.

In addition, during the preparatory meetings, provisions for the funding of certain exercise costs may have been made based on the specific constraints of the exercise.

Repairing damage that occurs during an exercise is, unless otherwise stipulated, normally assumed by the author of the damage, the administration the author belongs to or its insurance.

3.8 Personnel Participating

There are 8 types of participants:

3.8.1 Exercise Director and EPT

(As described in section 3.5)

3.8.2 Coordinators

The coordinators determine and control the pacing and direction of the exercise by transmitting messages to participants and observing their reactions. They work in the exercise control room and the field, under the orders of the exercise director, with whom they are in constant contact.

3.8.3 Observers

Observers might be present at the various locations where the operational actors are engaged. They observe and assess the conduct of the exercise, the transmission of messages and the reactions of the various actors. Observers fill in the evaluation forms developed during the preparation phase and are a key source of information at evaluation meetings and for the final exercise report.

Like coordinators, observers do not play a role in the scenario. They report any incident or accident that occurs during the exercise to the exercise director, with whom they are in constant contact. The number of control personnel (coordinators and observers) assigned to observe is not governed by set rules; it depends on the scope of the exercise, the number of participants, and the locations and agencies involved.

Ordinarily, the core group of control personnel is the EPT, because they developed the exercise and know every detail. The EPT may be reinforced by additional coordinators and observers, if warranted by the nature and scope of the exercise.

In a medium or full-scale exercise, the control staff should include at least one exercise director, three to five coordinators and as many observers. The same person may sometimes be both a coordinator and an observer.

3.8.4 Actors

There are 2 types of actors:

a) actors who generate events based on specific instructions and who play a role



according to the scenario: witnesses, dummies, victims, passengers, etc.; and

b) operational actors reacting to events, who are not, in principle, given any instructions beforehand (with some exceptions). They carry out their ordinary roles (air traffic controllers, police, SAR mission coordinators, etc.). They act in accordance with the operational procedures of the different services to which they belong.

The sequence of events might be followed and coordinators might verify that actors ("players") are reacting realistically, that is, as if they were involved in a real incident. Control personnel might be aware of safety aspects during the exercise and the need to avoid damage to equipment.

3.8.5 Visitors

It is important to prepare for the presence of certain officials (ministers, department heads, other dignitaries) who will wish to attend all or part of the exercise. All officials / visitors might:

a) give the exercise director advance notice of their plans to attend, so that the exercise director can take appropriate measures

b) be welcomed and escorted at all times by a designated coordinator

c) wear exercise identifying items (badge, armband, scarf or jacke); and have attended a specific information meeting before the exercise.

Officials / visitors should not:

a) be left in the exercise area without an escort.

b) interfere in the scenario.

c) make a contact with or talk with actors; and

d) be in possession of confidential exercise documents before or during the exercise.

Some officials may wish to move about during the exercise. The organization and conditions of such movements might be carefully planned and prepared in advance.

3.8.6 Media

Any exercise of this type may, wittingly or unwittingly, attract media attention. As during a real rescue effort, a plan and methods for dealing with media pressure might be prepared in advance, so that all contacts with the media are managed appropriately.

In preparation for the exercise, a media/press resource person may be designated from the EPT to promote the event to certain invited media.

3.8.7 Video Operators

The organizers may wish to video the exercise so that they have a teaching aid for further training by the various departments involved. To that end, cameras may be placed in the accident area, in the RCC, at the control center, etc.

However, it is important to carefully prepare and monitor this activity (specific schedule, special information meeting, mandatory accompaniment, specific identifying



markers and advance information to all actors) so that the filming does not interfere with the exercise. In particular, a specific time schedule should be drawn up.

It might also be ensured, before videoing starts, that the legal provisions regarding image copyright are respected.

Lastly, video operators might maintain strict confidentiality.

3.8.8 Dummy Objects

A dummy is used to simulate wreckage or survivors, as realistically as possible. For example, during a search for survivors at sea, a buoy can be used to simulate an individual or a barrel to simulate a lifeboat. During an air-land rescue exercise, a scrap bus or car can be used to represent aircraft wreckage.

The dummy object plays a critical role in the success of the exercise. It should be correctly placed, marked and protected so that it:

a) does not impede, wherever possible, normal activities in the area; and

b) is not subject to vandalism by people who are not involved in the exercise.

3.9 Write the Exercise Material

3.9.1 Exercise Documents

To be effective and achieve its purpose and objectives, an exercise might have prepared and directed with care. The idea is not to simply simulate an incident to see how people react. The direction and pace of the exercise might be controlled by following the scenario.

The content of the exercise materials changes with each exercise, but for fullscale exercises it usually includes the following:

- a) general instructions and appendixes
- b) storyline
- c) specific narrations
- d) specific messages
- e) sequence of events
- f) evaluation forms
- g) instructions to control personnel (chronology of specific messages and sequence of events); and
- h) meeting schedule.
- 3.9.2 Document Color Coding

The different types of documents have different functions and are aimed at different people or agencies. To eliminate any confusion and avoid the risk of a participant receiving too much information by accidentally seeing documents for controllers, material is usually printed on different colors of paper and documents are usually designated by their color.



Although the choice of color is not standardized, the following codes are provided as a guideline:

- a) general instructions and appendixes WHITE
- b) meeting schedule WHITE
- c) storyline WHITE
- d) specific narrations BLUE
- e) specific messages PINK
- f) instructions to control personnel GREEN

The GREEN, PINK and BLUE documents are classified "EXERCISE - CONFIDENTIAL."

3.9.3 General Instructions (WHITE)

This is the reference document for the exercise. It contains everything that participants must know (type, theme, objectives, participants, safety guidelines, logistics, limits of the exercise....). It usually contains the following sections:

- a) Introduction (conventional exercise name, time frame, type of exercise, references, intended recipients.)
- b) Purpose and objectives
- c) Storyline
- d) Participants in the exercise (EPT, actors, coordinators, observers, video operators, dummy object)
- e) Conducting of the exercise (exercise perimeter, possible damage, visitors, identification signs/dress code, transportation, meal services, restrictions, aeronautical information, working language of exercise)
- f) Exercise conventions (specific provisions)
- g) Meetings (coordinators, observers, actors generating events / reacting to events, video operators)
- h) Instructions about protecting documents (exercise documents, secret documents)
- i) Communication methods specific to the exercise
- j) Safety rules
- k) Relations with the media
- 1) Reports by parties involved and final report
- m) End of exercise
- n) Appendixes (if any)

(See appendix C-1 for an example of General Instruction)

3.9.4 Meeting Schedule (WHITE)



A schedule of the various meetings (WHITE) must be drawn up so that participants have sufficient advance notice of meeting times. The schedule should state the dates, locations, target audience, parties attending, and documentation required.

3.9.5 Storyline (WHITE)

Issued along with the general instructions, the storyline (WHITE) describes the situation that frames the exercise.

There are no special rules or principles for writing scenarios. However, it is strongly recommended that the names of real people or groups not be used, to avoid any confusion with real events.

It is also recommended that the exercise be given an explicit name, to distinguish it from any other activity or national exercise that could be held at the same time. For example, an exercise could be called SAREX.

It is also important to define a code for the downed aircraft that will not create confusion. Note that in the event of a simulated collision between two aircraft, a second code must also be defined.

The EPT writes the storyline after it has established the purpose and goals of the exercise. The text must give participants enough information so that they can interpret exercise messages correctly and react appropriately.

It is important to ensure that the "white notes" do not give too much information to participants. The white notes will be distributed to all participants before the exercise starts. If they contain too much information, actors will be able to act in advance of the messages and push the pace of the exercise faster than the EPT intends.

(See appendix C-2 for an example of a Storyline)

3.9.6 Specific Narrations (BLUE)

Specific narrations are texts that contain information prepared by the EPT and are issued to certain actors at the start of the exercise, which they will disclose during the exercise, either when asked, or at a predefined time, or after a sequence of events that concerns them.

At the start of the exercise, each actor is given their specific narrations. The specific narrations are not included in the storyline.

(See appendix C-3 for an example of Specific Narrations.)

3.9.7 Specific Messages (PINK)

Specific messages are used to control the pace of the exercise by providing information as the exercise progresses. The content of specific messages is like that of specific narrations, except that they are not given out at the start of the exercise.

Specific messages generate actions. Thus, the actors to whom the messages are issued are event generators.

Some of the messages are drafted during the preparatory phase and the EPT knows when they will be disclosed; others are not planned nor even foreseeable at the start of the exercise, and are written and distributed by coordinators during the exercise



(e.g.: the RCC goes in the wrong direction based on information from a witness; a specific message to the Mission Control Center (MCC) can generate a message from the MCC to the RCC based on Cospas-Sarsat information that "redirects" the search).

The timing of the transmission of the messages must be planned in advance to ensure the smooth and regular unfolding of events. In general, the messages are issued one after another in order to make it easier to analyze reactions during the subsequent evaluation of the exercise.

However, the coordinators, with the agreement of or on the initiative of the exercise director, can alter the timing of the messages to intensify the stress and tension of key actors, particularly the SAR Mission Coordinator (SMC).

In most cases, the messages will be written information transmitted by coordinators. But they could also be radio or telephone messages. In all cases the messages must be preceded by the wording EXERCISE - EXERCISE - EXERCISE to prevent any confusion about it being a real event; there is always a possibility that a real event will occur while an exercise is being conducted.

When the messages are written and analyzed, they are each assigned an ID number. The EPT prepares the messages following a standard format, which includes the following elements:

- a) Message number
- b) Date and time
- c) Recipient
- d) Mode of transmission
- e) The words EXERCISE EXERCISE EXERCISE at the start and end of the text
- f) Body of the message
- g) Possible notes from control personnel.

(See appendix C-3 for an example of Specific Narrations.)

3.9.8 Instructions for Control Personnel (GREEN)

Control personnel (coordinators and observers) must be given precise and detailed information in order to control and direct the exercise in close coordination with the exercise director. They must therefore have a complete set of all documentation for the exercise, including the confidential green documents reserved specifically for them (sequence of events, chronology of specific messages and evaluation forms).

a) Sequence of events (GREEN)

The sequence of events sets out the basic plan for the exercise and provides details on the various events, execution times and expected reaction of participants. It is an important green paper document that may only be read by control personnel (exercise director, coordinators, and observers).

The sequence of events is presented in a slightly different format than the specific



messages; the messages are briefly described with the expected events and their possible repercussions. Control personnel can thus determine whether participants are reacting as expected.

(See appendix C-4 for an example of a Sequence of Events)

b) Chronology of specific messages (GREEN)

When all the planned specific messages (PINK) have been prepared and approved, they are arranged in chronological order to form the chronological set (GREEN) of specific messages.

It is important to distinguish between the PINK specific messages, distributed to actors, from the GREEN chronological set of messages which may only be read by exercise control personnel (controllers and observers).

c) Evaluation forms (GREEN)

Evaluation forms, as detailed in section 3.11.2 - 3.11.3, are prepared by the EPT and distributed to observers. These forms are tools used by observers to determine if the objectives of the exercise are being met.

(See appendix D for an example of an Evaluation Form)

3.10 Emergency Procedures

It is always possible for a real incident to occur during an exercise. The exercise might then be interrupted (suspended or stopped completely) in accordance with a predetermined emergency procedure.

The accident or incident information will be received at the RCC. Given the exercise, a controller and/or an observer will be positioned at the RCC and will immediately inform the exercise director who, based on the information received and in cooperation with the competent authorities, will decide whether to stop or suspend the exercise.

The following are examples of messages to stop or suspend the exercise:

EXERCISE - EXERCISE - EXERCISE FINEX SAREX 50-05 REAL ACCIDENT. EXERCISE - EXERCISE - EXERCISE TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF SAREX 50-05 EXERCISE REMAIN IN POSITION AND AWAIT FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.

3.11 Exercise Evaluations

Evaluation is an integral part of any exercise and the EPT might take it into account when choosing the site and drafting the scenario.

The purpose and objectives of the exercise should be prepared keeping the evaluation phase in mind. The objectives are usually "observable actions" that can be reported on by observers.



When the EPT prepares the exercise documents, it might also prepare observers' evaluation forms, to standardize the evaluation process. There is a standard method for preparing evaluation forms.

The quality of the valuation is largely dependent on having competent and wellinformed evaluators.

3.11.1 Exercise Evaluation Process

The evaluation process is divided into three stages:

Before the exercise

- a) Select the evaluation team (observers);
- b) Establish the evaluation methodology; and
- c) Inform and assign tasks to evaluation team.

During the exercise

- a) Observe the actions of participants.
- b) Record activities in registers and documents; and
- c) Analyze the actions of participants.

After the exercise

- a) Oversees the analysis of data collected from the evaluation team
- b) Coordinates the involvement of the evaluators in any post SAREX / Training meetings
- c) Coordinates and reviews the preparation of written reports
- d) Oversees the development of SAREX report and includes feedback through to the Training Planner; and
- e) Guides the development of an improvement plan.

The committee that prepares the evaluation report is supervised by the exercise director. The exercise director can therefore carry out all the tasks related to the evaluation. Depending on the exercise, the observations can be complied with a chief observer for analysis and summary.

3.11.2 Evaluation Forms

Evaluation forms is a key role in the quality of the evaluation. The purpose of the forms is to:

- a) Guide observers during the information-gathering process
- b) Help observers gather specific information in an organized manner
- c) Provide written data for efficient analysis and evaluation

The evaluation forms are used to evaluate objectives; they are designed to closely reflect the objectives of the exercise. This means that when the EPT sets those objectives, it must also take the evaluation process into account.



3.11.3 Evaluation form Content

The form must provide certain information, including the following:

- a) Observer identification;
- b) Observation location;

c) Observation time frame;

d) An assessment framework that shows, for each event (from the sequence of events), the time and nature of the event, the expected action, the action observed and the time it took; and

e) A blank box where the observer can write observations / comments / suggestions.

3.12 Post Exercise Activities

3.12.1 Final Report on the Exercise

The final report on the exercise analyses the extent to which each objective was achieved. SAR service provider should write a final report on the exercise, and send it to participants involved.

It identifies the strengths and weaknesses (deficiencies) revealed by the exercise and contains recommendations to improve the operational procedures of the various actors in the SAR system as well as the National SAR Plan of Vietnam

It can also be used to improve the organization of future exercises and the evaluation method.

The recommendations in the final report can be used by the NSC to suggest a plan for corrective action to the SC.

3.12.2 Action Plan to Correct Deficiencies

SAR service provider should elaborate a plan for corrective action and hold follow-up meetings to correct the deficiencies identified in final report. This action plan contains the following elements:

- a) Findings (strengths, weaknesses)
- b) Proposed corrective measures
- c) Time lines; and
- d) Authorities responsible for implementation.

4. SAREX Report

4.1 Report

A permanent record of the exercise, addressing each element, is necessary to disseminate valuable information and to maintain a historic file for later case studies, analyses and system improvements. A system of indexing and filing the reports is recommended for later retrieval.

(See Appendix E for an example of SAREX Report)



Example contents of the SAREX report

4.1.1 Executive Summary

It will be informed by the body of the report and will detail a summary of the outcomes of the exercise.

4.1.2 Recommendations

If an unmet Objective was mentioned in the Conclusions, it should be expanded on in the Recommendations. Each Recommendation should be succinct and usually no longer than one sentence. List and number of Recommendations. Keep the sentences brief and clear, and use action-orientated verbs to start each. The substance of your Recommendations, along with supporting evidence, will be in the main body of your report.

4.1.3 Introduction

Succinctly introduce the readers to the exercise organization. Detail the type(s) of exercise and how it was planned and conducted.

4.1.4 Background

This section explains the context within which your evaluation was undertaken.

4.1.5 Findings

Convey the most important results of your evaluation. Relate to KPI's and sector standards. Make certain what you choose to include tells the complete story - both positive and negative findings. Quote the related evidence you have gathered to verify and support your findings. Be fair, balanced and objective.

4.1.6 Conclusions

Interpret your Findings for the reader in broad overarching statements. Refer back to the exercise Objectives. Answer the question of whether the in-scope Objectives were met, and the general extent to which that occurred.

4.1.7 Appendix

Specifically include evidence to substantiate Findings, Conclusions, Recommendations. Number the Appendices in order, title or caption each piece of information.



RCC Functions				ATC Services Functions SRU Fi				U Fur	nctions			
PREPARATORY MEASURE							AWAR	ENE	SS			
Update cor and operatio Update inven	onal plans	RCC			Receive SAR phase initiation (from ATC) Receive information regarding a distress event (witnesses or other alerting post.)				ecord mation	_	nderstand / analyze formation	
Update reference Update in emergency proced	e forms n-flight assistance	ATC	classificatio n transm			ansmi rding t	e SAR phase and mit information g the distress event to RCC					
Maintain operational monitoring												
					INIT	TIAL A	ACTION					
Appoint an SMC Evalua and staff to emerge provide assistance leve			ency	ncy initiate (known track + would normally run out of fue					un out of fuel, rformance in			
					Reco	ord inf	ormation					
				N	otify	parties	s concerned					
Transmit information about the distress event to the RCC (flight plan, eye-witness accounts, reported reception of a beacon signal by a pilot.)												
PLANING STAGE												
	Assess situation (weather condition topograph)	$r \\ mc \\ s, the$		or fter Sea ent con		Chart Search areas		Prep sear patte	rch	Assi search a search to SR	ireas / plans	Develop and Communicate search plans

Appendix A: SAR System Functions

Guidance Material for Search and Rescue Exercise Appendix A



			Record info	ormation				
	Inform appropriate parties (services)							
Transmit	distress ever	nt informati	ion (witnesses, pil RCC — contin		receptio	on of a bea	acon	signal) to the
			Receive informatio n from RCC		Evaluat situati prepare missi	on, e the		
				ONAL STA				
		0	PERATIONAL S	STAGE - Se	arch			
Develop search plan	Assign search areas to SRUs /	Coordinat e search	analyze location of			plans		
			D 11.0		e metho	d and cho	ose r	esources to be
		In	Record info form appropriate		ices)			
			ovide assistance a					
			AR air traffic flyi			pace		
	Receive detailed briefing from RCC		Debrief RCC (search results for assigned areas)					
		Coordin	ate operations in	the field, if n	ecessar	y, and as a	arrang	ged with the
			Provide	assistance at	sea, if	necessary		
			Remain	in continual				
						od and restored an		es to be used, RCC
			OPERATION	AL STAGE	1			
		0	PERATIONAL S	STAGE - Re	escue			
Activa	ate emergency	y plans and	l delegate eventua	l direction o	f rescue	operation	is to c	competent
If no delegation plan for			If no delegati appropriate medi and mo	ical units (fixed If no delegation, coordi				
Decide whether and what kind of survival equipment to drop								
т	C	·	Record info		4:	-1: /		
Inform appropriate parties (services) (accident investigations, police / coast guard) Provide assistance at sea, if necessary								
			AR air traffic flyi			pace		

Guidance Material for Search and Rescue Exercise Appendix A



Drop survival equipment, in accordance with orders fromProvide rescue personnel and equipment, in accordance with RCC instructionsProvide rescue personnel and equipment, in accordance with RCC instructions Coordinate operations in the field, if necessary, and as arranged with the RCC					
	Provide	assistance at sea, if	necessary		
		CONCLUSION			
Cancel Emergency phases	Decide to stop searches	Stop rescue operations	Suspend or close SAR operation	Produce report	
				Produce report, if necessary (may not be necessary in case of INCERFA / ALERFA)	
	Stop search operations	Stop rescue operations		Produce report	



Appendix B B - 1 Example of SAREX Checklist

No	SAREX Checklist	Checking/Note
1	Purpose of the SAREX	
2	Types of SAREX Ex. A full-scale exercise	
_		
3	Exercise Area	
4	Plan inter-ministerial participation	
5	Set up the Exercise Preparation Team	
6	Draft the Exercise name and scenario	
7	Funding for the Exercise	
8	Personnel participating	
9	Exercise material	
10	Emorgonou procedure	
10	Emergency procedure	



B – 2 AIRCRAFT SEARCH AND RESCUE PLAN TEMPLATE

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF VIETNAM

"SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM Independence - Freedom - Happiness"

....., date on year

SEARCH AND RESCUE AIRCRAFT PLAN To: National Committee for Disaster Response and Search and Rescue

I. INFORMATION ABOUT THE DISTRESSED AIRCRAFT:

1. Aircraft type:	- Name:
2. Airline:	- Registered nationality:
3. Flight route:;	- Take-off airport/landing airport:;
Flight altitude: According to the detai	led scenario.
4. Number of people on board:	
5. Last known contact location:	
Time:	
Location:	
Altitude:	
Heading:	
6. Emergency situation:	
II. DETERMINING THE SEARCH A	AREA:
The anionity course and the	······································

The priority search area is delimited by the following points:

A:	B:
C:	D:

III. FORCES AND RESOURCES PARTICIPATING IN SAR

- 1. By land:
- 2. In the air:
- 3. At sea:



IV. CONTACT INFORMATION USED FOR SAR

1. Within the search area:

VHF:

HF:

2. At the scene:

Aerial:

VHF:

HF:

Maritime:

VHF:

HF:

V. ASSIGNMENT OF OPERATIONS AND COORDINATION AMONG SAR FORCES

- 1. Search operation lead:
- 2. Rescue operation lead:
- 3. On-scene command:
- 4. Aerial forces:
- 5. Ground forces:
- 6. Maritime forces:

VI. OTHER CONTENTS AND REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Weather conditions in the SAR area:
- 2. Terrain conditions in the search area:"

NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR NATURAL DISASTER RESPONSE AND SEARCH AND RESCUE APPROVAL''

"VIETNAM CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY



B – 3 SEARCH AND RESCUE FLIGHT PLAN TEMPLATE

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF VIETNAM

SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM Independence - Freedom - Happiness''

....., *date on year*

SEARCH AND RESCUE FLIGHT PLAN FLIGHT

I. AIRCRAFT PARTICIPATING IN SAR OPERATIONS

1. First Force

- Number of Aircraf: - Aircraft Type:

- Name of Aircraft: - Flight route:

2. Second Force

Number of Aircraft:
Name of Aircraft:
Flight route:

II. COMPOSITION OF SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAMS

1. Search team: Number according to the establishment;

2. Rescue team: Number according to the establishment.

III. FLIGHT PLAN

V. SEARCH AREA / SEARCH SITE:



V. ENSURING COMMUNICATION AND FLIGHT CONTROL

1. Military air traffic control frequency:	MHz
2. Ground control frequency:	MHz
3. Unicom frequency:	MHz
4. Unicom frequency	MHz
5. Maritime frequency: HF:;	VHF:
6	
7	

VI. OTHER CONTENTS

Weather in the search area:

LEADERSHIP OF THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY



Appendix C: Example of Exercise Material

C-1 General Instructions Form (WHITE)

Conventional Name:	xxx
Period:	From <i>DD/MM/YYYY</i> to <i>DD/MM/YYYY</i>
Type of Exercise:	"Communication", "Coordination" or "Full-Scale"
Reference:	xxx
Recipients:	xxx
General:	(explain the exercise briefly)
Purpose and Objective:	"To verify ", "To train ", "To test "or any others.
Participants:	xxx
Meeting:	The preparatory meeting for the exercise will be held on " <i>DD/MM/YYYY</i> ". The hot debriefing meeting will be held in the offices of " <i>XXX</i> " immediately after the exercise terminates. The final meeting will be held in the offices of " <i>XXX</i> " on " <i>DD/MM/YYYY</i> ".
Safety Rules:	xxx
Reports from parties involved and final report	xxx
End of Exercise	(Following 2.13 Emergency procedures)
Appendix	(If any)



C-2 Storylines Form (WHITE)

Example 1:

EXERCISE - EXERCISE - EXERCISE SAREX 50-05 A medium-size aircraft is flying under VFR with a flight plan from "town1" to "town2." It has not filed an arrival report to close its flight plan.

Example 2:

EXERCISE - EXERCISE - EXERCISE SAREX 50-05

Flight "VV WW" took off under IFR from "town1" heading for "town2." Just after takeoff it contacted air traffic control on "FFF" MHz. It was climbing toward flight level "FL". No contact has been established since then. It was supposed to contact "town3" regional control center on "FFF" MHz when it flew over the VOR "VVV" - start exercise.

Example 3:

EXERCISE - EXERCISE - EXERCISE SAREX 50-05

The control tower at "town1" receives a message from flight VV - SAR about a serious problem. The pilot mentions the loss of part of a wing and engine vibration. He says he'll try to make a forced landing in a field in (inaudible). End of radio transmission - start exercise.

Example 4:

EXERCISE - EXERCISE - EXERCISE SAREX 50-05 RCC receives a Cospas-Sarsat message with unconfirmed position- start exercise.

Example 5:

EXERCISE - EXERCISE - EXERCISE SAREX 50-05 A witness calls the police to say he has been waiting for an hour for a client who was supposed to arrive by plane at the "town1" aerodrome - start exercise.



C-3 Examples of Narrations Form (BLUE) / Specific Messages Form (PINK)

1. Report from a controlling agency that had contact with the craft in order to narrow down field of investigations

"The VV - SAR you're looking for contacted us at hh:mm to cross our area. It closed out of the area at hh:mm + 8 minutes. He was headed to "town1". It estimated beacon "BBB" at hh:mm + t" Upon request only, add: "IFF: 3/A flight level "FL" last position "PPP""

2. Report from an aerodrome member indicating a change in initial elements

"This morning I saw VV - SAR getting ready to leave, he was waiting for Mr. X, who didn't fly with him." "The pilot was worried; the plane had just come out of maintenance the day before. After taking off, he came back and landed again and raised the hood, did something inside and then took off again. I filled up the gas tank on the plane".

3. Police report from eyewitness

(Don't provide name or phone number, to test the reactions of the person who takes the call)

"At hh:mm I saw a plane that seemed to be having engine trouble and that was flying very low between "town1" and "town2"."

4. Cell phone contact with a passenger on a plane

(can't be contacted to test information and transmission of information)

"We just crashed into a forest. I'm trapped in the plane and the people in front are no longer responding...I don't know where we are but about two minutes ago we flew over a large body of water...; my battery is running out; come quick...." end of communication.

5. Initial elements

Available upon request at the start of the exercise because they are normally held by control services, but communicated at the request of the parties concerned; they will generate reactions but are not given to all participants at the start of the exercise.

6. Radio transcripts

Available at the control center level at the start of the exercise (specific narration) or at a time chosen by the control team (specific message), a transcript of air / ground communications on the control frequency will be communicated to the RCC upon request, after a certain technical delay.

7. Radar trajectory transcriptions

Available at the control center level (civil or military) at the start of the exercise (specific narration) or at a time chosen by the control team (specific message), the radar plots for the downed aircraft will be communicated to the RCC upon request, after a certain technical delay.



C-4 Example of Excerpts from Sequence of Events Form (GREEN)

"H" means an activation INCERFA (Uncertainty Phase)

Time	Event	Actor	Expected Actions	
H1	Activate INCERFA	ATC	Contact from the RCC, activation of INCERFA	
H2	Receive message INCERFA activated	RCC	Collect initial information, especially from controlling agencies [depends on specific procedures]	
H2		RCC	Notify Cospas-Sarsat	
H3	Request information received by RCC	ATC	Ask for information from other controlling agencies	
H3		ATC	Ask aerodromes about route	
Н3		ATC	Ask aerodrome(s) about diversions	
H3		ATC	Transmit initial elements to	

"Hn" means an activation DETRESFA (Distress Phase)

Time	Event	Actor	Expected Actions	
Hn1	Activate DETRESFA phase	RCC	Assign search areas to SRUs	
Hn1		RCC	Brief SRUs	
Hn1		RCC	Send scramble order	
Hn1		RCC	Activate Command Post (CP)	
		ĸcc	local administration	
Hn2	RCC receives scramble brief	(air) SRUs	Scramble	
Hn3	RCC receives activation request	CP local administration	Activate ground units	
Hn4	CP local administration receives activation request	Ground units	Deployment	



Appendix D: Example of Evaluation Forms

(One sheet per agency controlled)

Date: DD/MM/YYYY

Name of exercise: *xxx*

Expected Time of Event	Event	Actor	Expected Reactions	Real Time (amount of time)	Observed Reactions	Comment/ Suggestions
H1	Activate INCERFA phase		Collect initial information, particularly from control agencies [depend on specific procedures]		Call controlling agency 1 to request info. From aerodromes 1, 2 and 3	
H1		SMC 1	Notify Cospas- Sarsat	H1 + At'	Nend message to	Time it took operator to respond considered too long
Hn	Activate DETRESFA phase	SMC 1	Assign search areas to SRUs	H1 + At	Call local administration CP	Lost time looking for new phone number of contact person / update directory
Hn			Assign search areas to SRUs	H1 + At'	Call air base town 4	
Hn			Brief SRUs	H1 + At1	Call air base town 4	About color of downed craft
Hn		SMC 1	Send scramble order	H1 + At2	Call air base town 4	
Hn			Activate local administration CP		Call local administration CP	Lost time because contact was unfamiliar with SAR procedures



Appendix E: Example of SAREX Report

SAREX REPORT

- 1. Executive Summary (Description)
- 2. Recommendations (Description)
- **3. Introduction** (*Description*)
- **4. Background** (*Description*)
- **5. Findings** (*Description*)
- 6. Conclusions (Description)
- 7. Appendix (Description)