TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE SAR WORKING GROUP

The SAR Working Group, taking into account decisions of, and comments and proposals made in Plenary, should:

**Agenda item 7 - DEVELOPMENTS IN MARITIME RADIOCOMMUNICATION SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGY**

.1 as a matter of priority, consider documents COMSAR 17/7 and COMSAR 17/7/1 and provide, as soon as possible, the Technical Working Group with relevant advice from the SAR point of view;

.2 consider the need for the development of advice and guidance on search planning- and coverage procedures and processes to be carried out on receipt of reports of an AIS SART, AIS Man overboard (MOB) or EPIRB-AIS device and provide advice on this matter;

**Agenda item 13 - DEVELOPMENT OF A MANDATORY CODE FOR SHIPS OPERATING IN POLAR WATERS**

.3 as a matter of priority, consider specific issues given in COMSAR 17/J/8 and, in particular, to provide advice on:

.1 a ‘expected maximum time to rescue’, taking into account the existing guidance in MSC.1/Circ.1184 and whether there might be a need to make distinctions on certain matters between requirements applicable for voyages in the Arctic and Antarctic, respectively;

.2 the definition of the term tracking;

.3 whether required tracking is warranted for the ship and survival craft;

.4 a requirement for the interval between transmissions of tracking devices; and

.5 the impact on SAR authorities to receive and use tracking data;

**Agenda item 5 - CONSIDERATION OF DEVELOPMENTS IN INMARSAT AND COSPAS-SARSAT**

.4 consider document COMSAR 17/5 on non-original equipment batteries being sold for use in Cospas-Sarsat type-approved 406-MHz EPIRBs and provide comments and advice, as appropriate;

.5 consider document COMSAR 17/5/2 and provide advice on issues of interest to SAR providers and beacon coding methods;

**Note:**

The Group is instructed to prepare advice for Cospas-Sarsat on IMO’s view on the future implementation of type-2 acknowledgments, type-2 messaging and beacon manipulation under agenda item 6.
.6 consider the development of a recommendation on issues affecting the battery life of EPIRBs, with the aim to advise Cospas-Sarsat on this specific matter to assist them in developing the second generation 406 MHz distress beacon requirements, taking into account information contained in document COMSAR 17/5/4;

Agenda item 6 - SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR)

.7 consider and advice regarding paragraphs 2.1, 2.8, 2.9, 2.11, 2.18 and 2.19 of document COMSAR 17/6, in particular, consider:

.1 encouraging Member Governments to make SAR experts available to participate at meetings of ICAO Regional offices;

.2 providing the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) with advice on the way ahead for the ATCM to make best use of its one full day special working group on SAR on 23 May 2013;

.3 encouraging Member Governments to consider the ATCM request to “include relevant experts on SAR in addition to national Antarctic program personnel in their delegations participating in the special working group” (section 3.3 of the annex);

.4 finalize the draft COMSAR Circular containing Guidance on the use of the graph at Figure N.14, as contained in Appendix N of IAMSAR Manual, Volume II, for approval by MSC 92 with the aim to have it distributed at the same time the 2013 edition of the IAMSAR Manual would be published; and

.5 prepare advise for Cospas-Sarsat on IMO's view on the future implementation of type-2 acknowledgments, type-2 messaging and beacon manipulation, taking into account document COMSAR 17/5/2, and also the development of alternative RLS systems, as appropriate;

.8 consider document COMSAR 17/6/2, containing the proposed update of the List of IMO documents and publications which should be held by a MRCC and prepare the draft revised SAR.7 circular;

.9 provide proper justification, if there is a need for extension of the target completion year of the biennial agenda item "Development of guidelines on harmonized aeronautical and maritime search and rescue procedures, including SAR training matters" to 2014;

Agenda item 8 - DEVELOPMENT OF AMENDMENTS TO THE IAMSAR MANUAL

.10 consider the draft proposed amendment to the IAMSAR Manual, as given in document COMSAR 17/6, appendix D for inclusion in the 2016 edition of the IAMSAR Manual;

.11 provide justification for holding the next session in 2013 of the ICAO/IMO Joint Working Group, prepare the draft provisional agenda and also review its terms of reference, taking into account Appendix G of document COMSAR 17/6;
.12 consider the schedule to finalise the amendments for the 2016 edition of the IAMSAR Manual and advice on the arrangements needed, in order to finalise them in time; and

.13 submit its report on Thursday, 24 January 2013.