Circumpolar collaboration search and rescue (SAR)

Amy A. Merten
Chair, Emergency Prevention, Preparedness and Response Working Group, Arctic Council

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EPPR is responsible for implementing three circumpolar instruments:

1. **Agreement on Cooperation in Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue in the Arctic** (2011)

2. **Agreement on Cooperation on Marine Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response in the Arctic** (MOSPA) (2013)

EPPR Search and Rescue

- New Mandate from the Iqaluit Ministerial (2015)
- Agreement is with the Eight Arctic Nations
- EPPR SAR Expert Group established (Dec 2015), Norway Lead

- EPPR will focus on SAR lessons learned:
  - Host lessons-learned library on EPPR website
  - Provide mechanism for sharing SAR exercise announcements

- Develop collaboration with the newly established Arctic Coast Guard Forum (operational entity)
Follow-up from Arctic Zephyr

- Mass SAR TTX – Oct 2015
- Recommendations for EPPR
- Outlined in memo to EPPR (March 11, 2016) from USCG Deputy Commandant, North American Aerospace Command and US Northern Command
Recommendations from Arctic Zephyr

• Observation/Issue I: Exercising and enhancing cooperation for the SAR agreement
  – No clear process or mechanism among Arctic Nations to exercise Articles 9 (*Cooperation Among Parties*) and 10 (*Meetings of the Parties*)
  – No process for deconflicting Arctic SAR EX planning
  – Transition from SAR to post-SAR rarely practiced

• Recommendation: Each Nation during its AC Chairmanship, exercise 9 and 10, including post-SAR issues and evaluating Incident Command Structure
Recommendations from Arctic Zephyr

• Observation/Issue II: Coordination among SAR Centers
  – Even though SAR agreement exists, cooperation and coordination could be strengthened through institutionalizing through EPPR
  – Regional Coordination Centers possess technologically advanced awareness but not compatible for sharing data
  – The International Aeronautical and Maritime Search & Rescue (IAMSAR) Manual contains comms protocol not adequately tested in Arctic
  – No single database of SAR capabilities/requirements
• Recommendations: EPPR should continue to develop SAR cooperation and coordination
  – SAR-related gaps for the attention of EPPR:
    • Develop Arctic SAR interoperable data sharing format supporting national comprehensive awareness pictures
    • Establish SAR-specific comms protocols across domains, consistent w/ international agreements/fora
    • Develop International infrastructure and SAR resource capability database
Recommendations from Arctic Zephyr

• Observation/Issue III: Coordination with other SAR partners
  – The cruise industry is interested in exercising, practicing, and sharing information with the Arctic SAR enterprise

• Recommendation:
  – Encourage the institutionalization of industry-agency collaboration through Arctic SAR-related events/exercises, similar to Arctic Zephyr, that advocate information exchange and planning coordination between industry and Arctic SAR entities
Upcoming EPPR Efforts

• Develop EPPR response to Arctic Zephyr Recommendations

• Arctic Coast Guard Forum – EPPR Chair participates, Jun 2016

• EPPR SAR Expert Group – Next EPPR Meeting (June 2016)
  – Discuss Joint SAR Manual presented by Norway (Tore Hongset)
  – Develop work plan
  – Continue adding SAR exercise planning and lessons learned to website
  – Invite Industry/cruise ship experts to participate
SAR Exercises

• Russia – April 2016 (Safe Settlement)
• Iceland – April 2016
• BARENTS 2016 – Jun 2016
  – EPPR observer invitation
  – Arctic Nations participating