

SAFEMED IV Project - Training on main principles of SAR, online 24 - 25 - 26 March 2021

1st Scenario

Instructions:

4 groups will be created. In each one a representant will be nominated to present the outcome of the discussion. Case study has been drafted to stimulate the debate and it might be that there is not just one behaviour that should be considered correct. Furthermore, all reflections provided shall be considered for training purpose and cannot be taken as an example for real cases.

Please take into consideration all 5 injects and provide answers to all questions.

The coastal State of Paperopoli declared its SRR and appointed 1 RCC and 15 RSCs. Each RSC is responsible for its SRS. You are the responsible for one of this RSC located in Papero port.

On Wednesday 24th March early morning, the State Aircraft Centre communicated to the RCCC and to all RSC that the only fixed wing dedicated for the SAR operation is under maintenance and the two helicopters are not available.

At 1400 UTC you copy by VHF the following message:

"Help us help us. My name is John Troublemaker, I rented a 40-feet boat in the port of Papero and I sailed away to NE for three hours at 6/8 knots speed together with my wife Cinthya and our 1-year-old baby Lucilla. After 3 hours of navigation I realised that a column of smoke was coming up from the engine casing and when I removed the floor plate I was engulfed by a flame and my eyes are burning. I cannot see anything and I'm not able to give you the boat position because I cannot read the GPS. There is no cell service out here. My wife is so scared, and my baby is crying please help us help us. Sea conditions are getting worse and I'm completely blind"

You try to call back by VHF the caller, but no one reply.

You look the last weather forecast and you see the following:

Some drizzle, heaviest during Wed afternoon. Mild temperatures (max 10°C on Wed afternoon, min 3°C on Wed night). Mainly strong winds. Wave heights are increasing across the area.

Sunrise is at 17:30:

Your SAR assets are two patrol boats with the following characteristics:

Patrol boat 1:

Patrol boat 2

Main Characteristics

LOA: 16.65 m
Breath moulded: 2.60 m

9.83 m
2.20 m

Speed:	24.5 knots	32 knots
Fuel autonomy	250 Nm	160 Nm

Team Crew of patrol boat 1 is composed by 6 people, Master is Captain Saul Goodman, 20 years of experience in SAR operations.

Team Crew of patrol boat 2 is composed by 4 people, Master is Captain Jimmy McGill, 10 years of experience in SAR operations.

What do you do?

2nd Scenario

Same situation of the 1st scenario, with aircraft and helicopters available and with high likelihood that the boat's position is inside the SRS assigned to your RSC.

Use the following checklists in IAMSAR Manual Vol. II :

- Alert phase – Appendix E Overdue checklists
- Distress phase checklist - Appendix F

Overdue checklists

Overdue aircraft

- 1 Alert SRU(s).
- 2 Request ATS units to attempt contact.
- 3 Review any flight plans filed.
- 4 Alert radar and DF nets.
- 5 Have ATS units alert en-route aircraft.
- 6 Alert other agencies.
- 7 Alert adjacent RCCs or other SAR authorities.
- 8 Start search planning.
- 9 Dispatch SRU for initial search.
- 10 Designate SMC.
- 11 Use (as appropriate):
 - (a) NOTAMs.
 - (b) News media broadcasts.
- 12 If located:
 - (a) Close case.
 - (b) Cancel broadcast and notices.
 - (c) Notify all concerned.
- 13 When situation deteriorates and a unit or person is considered to be in grave and imminent danger, advance to distress phase.

Overdue vessel

- 1 Alert SRU(s).
- 2 If submersible, request Navy or other special assistance.
- 3 Complete preliminary communications search and carry out extended communications search.
- 4 Alert other agencies.
- 5 Alert adjacent RCCs or other SAR authorities.
- 6 Start search planning.
- 7 Dispatch SRU for initial search.
- 8 Designate SMC.
- 9 Use (as appropriate):
 - (a) Urgent broadcasts.
 - (b) Hydros.
 - (c) Notices to Mariners.

- (d) News media broadcasts.
- 10 If located:
 - (a) Close case.
 - (b) Cancel broadcasts and notices.
 - (c) Notify all concerned.
- 11 If not located by completion of extended communications search, advance to distress phase.
- 12 When situation deteriorates and a unit or person is considered to be in grave and imminent danger, advance to distress phase.

Appendix F

Distress phase checklist

Note: Ensure uncertainty and alert phase checklists items are considered.

- 1 Designate SMC, if not already done.
- 2 Notify adjacent RCCs or RSCs or other SAR authorities.
- 3 Dispatch SRUs if distress location is known.
- 4 If submersible or underwater habitat, request Navy or other special assistance.
- 5 Dispatch any specialized units needed.
- 6 Develop initial search action plan.
- 7 Provide SRUs with mission information.
- 8 Designate OSC.
- 9 Consider use of multiple OSCs.
 - (a) Air OSC.
 - (b) Surface OSC.
 - (c) Geographical OSC.
- 10 Assign on-scene frequencies.
- 11 Consider the use of datum marker buoys.
- 12 Ensure briefing of search crews.
- 13 Pass instructions to OSC.
- 14 Request other available agencies provide assistance.
- 15 Query radar and direction-finding stations.
- 16 Issue distress broadcasts.
- 17 Consider tracking and locating capabilities of mobile telecommunication devices, e.g. mobile phones and apps.
- 18 Request news media to include urgent requests for information.
- 19 Determine merchant vessel location, if appropriate. (See ship reporting discussion in paragraph C.3.2.)
- 20 Have ATS unit alert en-route aircraft and consider establishing a temporary Area of SAR Action.
- 21 Maintain communications link with distressed craft.
- 22 Inform distressed unit of action taken.
- 23 Send request for assistance to specific vessels.

Appendix F – Distress phase checklist

- 24 Begin planning for extended search efforts.
- 25 Use computer-assisted search planning tools, if available.
- 26 Establish contact and maintain liaison with distressed craft's operating agency.
- 27 Notify authorities of country of registry of distressed craft.
- 28 Notify accident investigation authorities.
- 29 Maintain records and charts of search activities and estimates of search effectiveness.
- 30 Send required reports.
- 31 Ensure debriefing of SAR crews.
- 32 If search is successful and rescue effected, cancel broadcasts and close case.
- 33 If search is unsuccessful:
 - (a) Continue operations until all reasonable effort has been made.
 - (b) Obtain management concurrence to suspend search.
- 34 Notify all concerned of actions taken.
- 35 Send required final reports.

1st INJECT

At 1430 UTC you copy by VHF the following message:

"Help us help us, my name is John Troublemaker, I switched on the EPIRB. We need help, we are in the middle of Ocean, my eyes are burning I'm completely blind. Please come as soon as possible. My baby and my wife are on board. I do not know what I have to do."

Questions:

- 1) Write the text of your reply to him via VHF.
- 2) Choose the search pattern more convenient according to the information that you have (position of ship is available thanks to EPIRB) and motivate your choice.
- 3) Consider that the boat is in a very congested area where many commercial ships are sailing. What do you do?

2nd INJECT

At 1530 UTC you copy by VHF the following message:

"Papero port RSC, Papero port RSC, this is the Master of ship STROCKOFLUCK IMO 9257722, we rescued the three survivors. They are in good condition. We wait the rescuers in the following position: Lat....Long. Please be informed that the rescued boat is drifting".

Questions:

- 1) Write the text of your reply to the Master of **STROCKOFLUCK** via VHF
- 2) Which are your next actions?

3rd INJECT

At 1900 UTC you copy by VHF the following message:

“Papero port RSC, Papero port RSC, this is Master Saul Goodman Patrol Boat 1, the survivors are on board. ETA in Papero port at 2000 UTC. Baby with breathing problems. Copied?”

Questions:

- 1) Write the text of your reply to the Master of Patrol Boat 1 via VHF
- 2) Which are your next actions?

4th INJECT

At 1930 UTC you receive a phone call in the office:

"Hello, Jonh Fakenews speaking. I'm a journalist of BFN channel, I was told that a 1-year old baby has been rescued today and he is being transported to the hospital for severe sickness. I would like to receive more information because the people need to know. When can I interview you?"

Questions:

- 1) Write the text of your reply to the journalist.
- 2) Which are your next actions?

5th INJECT

The rescue operation has been conducted successfully. All survivors are safe and sound.

The day after, in the morning you receive a phone call in the office:

“Good morning, this is the communication office of the mayor John Cleverguy. We would like to invite you to the press conference that the municipality will host this afternoon, at 3 pm to provide all the information about the brilliant search and rescue operation conducted by you. At the press conference all journalists of the local press will be invited. The press conference will be chaired by Mr Jonh Fakenews from BFN channel”

Questions:

- 1) Write the text of your reply to the communication office of the mayor.
- 2) Which are your next actions?