

GEN 3.6 SEARCH AND RESCUE

1. Responsible service

1.1 The search and rescue service in Namibia is provided by the Namibia Civil Aviation Authority - Head of NAMSAR. The postal and telegraphic addresses of the Namibia Civil Aviation Authority are given under GEN1.1.

1.2 When SAR operations are needed, a Rescue Co-ordination Centre is established, the address is as follows:

Namibia Civil Aviation Authority
Search and Rescue Centre
Eros Aerodrome

Telephone: (264 61) 702070/1

Telefax: (264 61) 702077

Telex: (50908) 811/812

AFIS: FYHQYCYX

1.3 The service is provided in accordance with the provisions contained in ICAO Annex 12 - Search and Rescue.

2. Area of responsibility

The search and rescue service is responsible for SAR operations within Windhoek FIR.

3. Types of service

3.1 Details of related rescue units are given in Table 3.6.3 - Search and Rescue Units. In addition, various elements of the State Police organisation and the armed forces are also available for search and rescue missions, when required. The aeronautical, maritime and public telecommunication services are also available to the search and rescue organisation.

3.2 All aircraft carry survival equipment, capable of being dropped, consisting of inflatable rubber dinghies equipped with medical supplies, emergency rations and survival radio equipment. Aircraft are equipped to communicate on 121.5 MHz, 123.1 MHz, 243 MHz, 500 MHz, 2182 KHz and 8364 KHz. Ground rescue teams are equipped to communicate on 121.5 MHz, 500 KHz and 8364 KHz. SAR aircraft and marine craft are equipped with direction-finding equipment and GNSS.

Table GEN 3.6.3 Search and Rescue Units

Name	Location	Facilities	Remarks
1	2	3	4
Eros	223630S 0170450E	Various fixed wing aircraft available SRG	
Arandis	222800S 0145900E	HEL-H B350 available F406	

4. SAR agreements

4.1 An agreement has been concluded between the SAR service of Namibia and the SAR service of the RSA concerning the provision of assistance upon receipt by the former of a request from the latter for aid. This agreement does not provide for facilitation of the overflight and landing of search and rescue aircraft without prior permission after dispatch of a

flight plan, for similar facilitation of the entry of surface vessels of the SAR service and their operation in border areas, for notification of entry to the authorities controlling entry, for defraying the costs of stop-overs, accommodation and transportation of crew members, and for direct communication between the two SAR services or, all common search and rescue matters. Copies of this agreement are available, upon request, from the Namibia Civil Aviation Authority.

4.2 Requests for the entry of aircraft, equipment and personnel from other States to engage in the search for aircraft in distress or to rescue survivors of aircraft accidents should be transmitted to the Rescue Co-ordination Centre. Instructions as to the control which will be exercised on entry of such aircraft and/or personnel will be given by the Rescue Co-ordination Centre in accordance with a standing plan for the conduct of search and rescue in its area.

5. Conditions of availability

The SAR services and facilities in Namibia are available, at a charge to neighbouring States upon request to the Namibia Civil Aviation Authority, at all times when they are not engaged in search and rescue operations in their home territory. All facilities are specialised in SAR techniques and functions.

6. Procedures and signals used

6.1 *Procedures and signals used by aircraft*

Procedures for pilots-in-command observing an accident or intercepting a distress call and/or message are outlined in ICAO Annex 12, Chapter 5.

6.2 *Communications*

6.2.1 Transmission and reception of distress messages within the Windhoek Search and Rescue Area are handled in accordance with ICAO Annex 10, Volume II, Chapter 5, paragraph 5.3.

6.2.2 For communications during search and rescue operations, the codes and abbreviations published in ICAO Abbreviations and Codes (Doc 8400) are used.

6.2.3 The frequency 121.5 MHZ is guarded continuously during the hours of service at all area control centres and flight information centres. In addition, the aerodrome control towers serving international aerodromes and international alternate aerodromes will, on request, guard the frequency 121.5 MHZ. All coast stations guard the international distress frequencies.

6.3 *Search and rescue signals*

The search and rescue signals to be used are those prescribed in ICAO Annex 12, Chapter 5, paragraph 5.10.

6.4 *Ground/air visual signal codes for use by survivors*

A space of 3 M should separate the symbols when more than one symbol is used.

Symbols		
1.	Require assistance	V
2.	Require medical assistance	X
3.	No or negative	N
4.	Yes or affirmative	Y
5.	Proceeding in this direction	↑