

GEN 3.6 SEARCH AND RESCUE

1. Responsible service

The search and rescue service in the Mauritius FIR is organised in accordance with the Standards and Recommended Practices of ICAO Annex 12 by the Department of Civil Aviation in collaboration with other departments.

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REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

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2. Area of responsibility

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

3. Types of service

Details of the rescue coordination centre (RCC) and related rescue units are given below. In addition to these units, various local organisation as well as aeronautical, maritime, and public telecommunication facilities are available for search and rescue missions when required.

All aircraft earmarked for use are land-planes and, apart from the helicopter, carry droppable survival equipment consisting of inflatable life-rafts with medical supplies, emergency rations and survival radio. Aircraft and rescue vessels are able to communicate with the RCC, when activated, 121.5 MHz, 2182, 5680, and 8100 kHz. Police vessels, harbour tugs and the helicopter use other frequencies, and messages are relayed to them via the RCC.

Search and Rescue			
Name 1	Location 2	Facilities 3	Remarks 4
MAURITIUS RCC Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport	20 26S 057 41E	ELR C160 MRG Aircraft	On deployment from Perth Australia On deployment from St. Denis Gillot, Reunion. 24 Hr PN Endurance 9 Hr, 150/180 Kt Two (02) Dornier 228 aircraft based at Maritime Air Squadron, Plaisance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endurance – 04 hr 30 min • Speed –180 knots • Ability to monitor DF Frequencies Sensors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELTA V3/V3 + Radar • COMPASS III / FLIR • AIS datalink • SAR Homer Air Droppable Liferaft <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 men capacity • Rescue line • Equipment bag with First Aid kit

Port Louis	20 09S 057 29E	Helicopter	4 Mauritius Police helicopters 1 Dhruv + 2 Chetak + 1 Allouette
		RV	National Coast Guard (Port Louis) 5 Vessels
		RB	10 Fast Interceptor boats + 7 Heavy duty boats (5 in Mauritius and 2 in Rodrigues) + 3 Defender boats

4. SAR agreements

An agreement has been concluded between the SAR services of Mauritius and Australia concerning the provision of SAR assistance. This agreement provides for the overflight and landing of search and rescue aircraft, for defraying the costs of stop-overs, and for direct communications between the two SAR services on all common search and rescue matters.

A similar agreement has been concluded with the SAR services of France on the neighbouring island of Reunion.

Request for the entry of aircraft, equipment and personnel from other states to engage in SAR operations should be transmitted to the RCC. Instructions as to the control which will be exercised on entry of such aircraft and personnel will be given by the RCC.

5. Procedures and signals used

Procedures and signals used by aircraft

Procedures for pilots in command observing an accident or intercepting a distress call or message are outlined in Annex 12 chapter 5.

Ground /air visual signal codes for use by survivors

No	Message	Code Symbol
1	Require assistance	V
2	Require medical assistance	X
3	No or Negative	N
4	Yes or Affirmative	Y
5	Proceeding in this direction	↑

Instruction for use:

1. Make signals not less than 8 ft (2.5m).
2. Take care to lay signals exactly as shown.
3. Provide as much colour contrast as possible between signals and background.
4. Make every effort to attract attention by other means such as radio, flares, smoke, reflected light.