

**PROTOCOL BETWEEN THE FRONTIER GUARD AND THE CIVIL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION IN FINLAND AND THE NATIONAL MARITIME ADMINISTRATION AND THE CIVIL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION IN SWEDEN ON CO-OPERATION IN RESPECT OF THE RESCUE OF HUMAN LIFE**

The Frontier Guard and the Civil Aviation Administration for the Republic of Finland and the National Maritime Administration and the Civil Aviation Administration for the Kingdom of Sweden, being responsible authorities of the Contracting Parties under Article 2, paragraph 3 of the 1993 Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Finland and the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden concerning co-operation in respect of Maritime and Aeronautical Search and Rescue (hereinafter called the Agreement) acting in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 2 of that Agreement, have agreed as follows:

Article 1

**PURPOSES AND DEFINITIONS**

1. For the purposes of this Protocol the terms and definitions contained in Chapter 1 of the Annex to the International Convention on Maritime Search and Rescue, 1979, and in Chapter 1 of Annex 12 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, 1944, shall be applicable.
2. In addition, the IMO Search and Rescue Manual, the MERSAR-Manual, Annex 12 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, 1944, and the ICAO Search and Rescue Manual shall be used as a basis for the conduct and carrying out of rescue missions covered by the Agreement and this Protocol.

Article 2**RESPONSIBLE MARITIME AND AERONAUTICAL SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES**

1. The services responsible for maritime and aeronautical search and rescue (hereinafter referred to as SAR-services) are:

- in Finland

The Frontier Guard	for Maritime Search and Rescue
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The Civil Aviation Administration	for Aeronautical Search and Rescue
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- in Sweden

The National Maritime Administration	for Maritime Search and Rescue
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The Civil Aviation Administration	for Aeronautical Search and Rescue
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Addresses and telephone numbers are to be found in the IMO Baltic Rescue Plan and in the Aeronautical Information Publications (AIP) of the Parties.

2. The responsible authorities shall inform each other of the equipment and facilities of their respective SAR-services and shall immediately inform each other about changes in them.

### Article 3

#### **CO-OPERATION BETWEEN MARITIME AND AERONAUTICAL RESCUE CO-ORDINATION CENTRES**

1. A request for assistance from one rescue co-ordination centre (RCC) shall be made to that RCC, deemed best positioned to give the necessary assistance. The Parties' Search and Rescue regions (SAR-regions) and the location of each region's RCC are shown on attached map (see Annex).
2. All requests for assistance shall immediately be acknowledged by the receiving RCC.
3. The receiving RCC shall as soon as possible advise whether assistance which has been requested can be rendered and, if so, about number, type(s) and call sign(s) of the rescue units offered.
4. The requesting RCC shall, upon receipt of information about rescue units offered, referred to in paragraph 3, arrange for any necessary permission for entry into its State's territory of rescue units of the other Party.
5. A permission to enter, referred to in paragraph 4, shall include any special conditions for the entry, e.g. ports and landing grounds to be used, customs and immigration clearance, and shall be transmitted as soon as possible to the other Party's RCC.

Article 4

**ENTRY INTO THE TERRITORY OF FINLAND OR SWEDEN DURING  
RESCUE MISSIONS**

1. A request for permission to enter the territory of the other State during a rescue mission, in cases not covered by Article 3, shall be addressed to the RCC within whose SAR-region the mission is intended to be carried out.
2. Such a request shall immediately be acknowledged by the receiving RCC.
3. The receiving RCC shall as soon as possible advise whether entry into its territory is permitted and any special conditions for the entry.

## Article 5

### **PRINCIPLES FOR CO-ORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION**

1. SAR-missions are normally co-ordinated by the RCC within whose SAR-region the mission is carried out.
2. When carrying out joint SAR-missions the RCC, in the SAR-region of the Party where such mission is carried out, shall co-ordinate with the RCC of the other Party the way to communicate with the rescue units. All messages shall be confirmed via radio, telex, telefax or AFTN using the SITREP-form.
3. For the efficiency of a SAR-mission, the RCCs can agree between themselves on a different way to conduct and co-ordinate the mission.
4. The responsible authorities shall inform each other about radio frequencies and call-signs, telex, telephone, telefax and AFTN numbers. They shall immediately inform each other about changes.
5. The serviceability of the lines shall be checked at least twice a year at any time during the day.

The SITREP-form shall be used and it shall commence with the word "exercise".

The SITREP-form shall also be ended with the word "exercise".

The SITREP-form shall be made as a request for assistance for a simulated accident. The answer shall inform about the possibilities to render assistance.

## Article 6

### **MEETINGS OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SAR-SERVICES**

Representatives of the SAR-services should, as a rule, meet yearly. At these meetings they shall in particular consider matters concerning:

- meetings between the responsible authorities;
- liaison visits of SAR-experts;
- mutual exercises;
- the possibility for SAR-experts to participate as observers at national exercises of the other Party;
- preparation of proposals for amendments or modifications with the aim of promoting the co-operation within the frame of this Protocol;
- planning and development of the Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) and the future use of that system.

## Article 7

### **AMENDMENTS**

Amendments to this Protocol, within the frame of the Agreement, may be agreed between the responsible authorities and shall be made in written form.

Amendments to the Annex shall be agreed in writing between representatives of the responsible authorities.

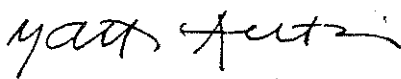
Article 8

**ENTRY INTO FORCE AND VALIDITY**

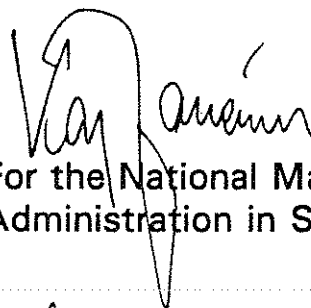
This Protocol shall enter into force on the same date as the 1993 Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Finland and the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden concerning co-operation in respect of Maritime and Aeronautical Search and Rescue enters into force. The Protocol shall remain in force as long as the Agreement is in force.

From the date this Protocol enters into force, the Agreement of 7 December 1982 between the Finnish Frontier Guard Department and the Swedish National Administration of Shipping and Navigation on co-operation regarding Maritime Search and Rescue Service, as well as the Protocol of 25 March 1975 between the Finnish Civil Aviation Administration and the Swedish Board of Civil Aviation on co-operation regarding Aeronautical Search and Rescue and the additional Agreement thereto, signed in Helsinki 22 March 1976 and in Copenhagen 26 March 1976, shall cease to be effective.

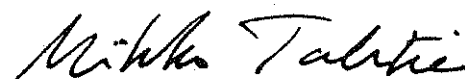
Done at *Espoo* on the *1. February* 1994 in quadruplicate, each in the Finnish, Swedish and English languages, all texts being equally authentic.



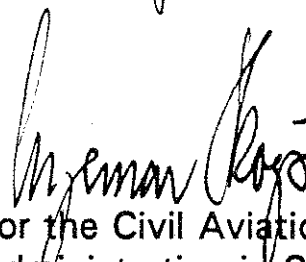
For the Frontier Guard  
in Finland



For the National Maritime  
Administration in Sweden



For the Civil Aviation  
Administration in Finland



For the Civil Aviation  
Administration in Sweden

# MARITIME AND AERONAUTICAL SEARCH AND RESCUE REGIONS AND RESCUE CO-ORDINATION CENTRES

- The borders of the sar-regions between the parties
- Maritime and aeronautical rescue co-ordination centres
- - - National borders between the maritime rescue sub-areas
- - - National borders between the aeronautical rescue sub-areas

