



RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation



Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Croatia

Regional Search and Rescue Seminar **“Coastal Search and Rescue and Mass Casualty Situations”**

Dates 29 September – 02 October 2014

Venue Split, Republic of Croatia

Background The activity is part of RACVIAC Regional Search and Rescue project. This Seminar represents a continuation of a series of activities organized on this topic as a result of cooperation between RACVIAC and the Tactical Air Command Denmark. The initial event was held in May 2011 in Belgrade, the Republic of Serbia, followed by the project development conference held in RACVIAC in November 2012, the Basic SAR Course in April 2013 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the SAR Mission Coordinator Course in September 2013 in Tara Mountain, the Republic of Serbia.

During the course of these events it was recommended to further pursue closer cooperation and communication among the different actors responsible for SAR missions. RACVIAC stands ready to support these efforts by continuing to provide a platform for the countries of the South-East European region in reaching their common goals in the field of search and rescue.

The aim of the Regional Search and Rescue Seminar is to continue the positive RACVIAC practices designed to support the countries in the field of search and rescue.

The topic of this event will be “Coastal Search and Rescue and Mass Casualty Situations”. The Seminar will be organized jointly by the Tactical Air Command of the Kingdom of Denmark, the Croatian Coast Guard and RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation. Part of this Seminar will be a SAR demonstration on the sea on the coastline of the city of Split which will be executed by the Croatian Coast Guard.

Due to an emergency situation and the human casualties caused by the floods in several countries in the region the Regional Search and Rescue Seminar „Winter Search and Rescue, Cold Exposure and Hypothermia" that was scheduled to be held from 20-22 May 2014 in Belgrade, the Republic of Serbia, was postponed. Given the importance of the subject which had to be discussed, it was decided to merge the postponed event with this Seminar.

Purpose & Objectives The purpose of this Regional Search and Rescue Seminar is to inform, educate and inspire through discussions the designated SAR responsible persons from different national institutions, selected to direct and coordinate SAR operations, especially with regards to coastal SAR and mass casualties situations.

The objectives are:

- To specify the role and responsibilities of the involved SAR mission staff in order to enable them to deal with coastal emergency situations with mass casualties;
- To present examples of best practices needed to manage coastal emergencies and mass casualty situations;
- To inspire the generating of contingency plans for the management of efficient and cost effective response and rescue;

Participants The event will include participants from each of the RACVIAC Agreement signatory countries, civilian or military officials at decision-making levels and experts representing relevant national institutions dealing with SAR issues: Defence/Armed Forces, national RCC authorities, national Directorates for Search and Protection, Civil Aviation Authorities, Ministries of the Interior, Civil Emergency Management Authorities, etc. Representatives of other MAG countries and relevant international organizations, NGOs and the media will be invited.

Methodology The event will last for three days and will involve lectures, discussions and rescue demonstrations on the sea on the coastline of the city of Split, the Republic of Croatia. The working language will be English.

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