

GUIDANCE NOTE 07/2023 (Rev 01)

SEARCH AND RESCUE PLANNING AND EXERCISES IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

To: OWNERS, OPERATORS & MASTERS OF CRUISE SHIPS VISITING THE CAYMAN ISLANDS.

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Chapter V of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) requires passenger ships to maintain a plan for co-operation with appropriate search and rescue services as follows –
 - 1.1.1 **SOLAS VI7.3** – *“Passenger ships to which chapter I applies shall have on board a plan for co-operation with appropriate search and rescue services in event of an emergency. The plan shall be developed in co-operation between the ship, the company, as defined in regulation IX/1 and the search and rescue services. The plan shall include provisions for periodic exercises to be undertaken to test its effectiveness. The plan shall be developed based on the guidelines developed by the Organization.”*
- 1.2 This Guidance Note outlines the assistance the Cayman Islands Coast Guard (CICG) can provide to the owners of passenger ships making frequent or regular visits to the Cayman Islands in preparing and exercising their Search and Rescue (SAR) Co-operation Plans.

2. CAYMAN ISLANDS NATIONAL SEARCH & RESCUE PLAN

- 2.1 A copy of the Cayman Islands National SAR Plan is available to download from the “Global SAR Plan” module of [IMO GISIS](#) (Registration required).

3. SAR PLANNING AND EXERCISES

- 3.1 Passenger ships wishing to engage with the Cayman Islands Coast Guard (CICG) with regards to testing or development of SAR response plan while operating within the Cayman Islands SAR Region can do so by contacting the CICG Operations & Rescue Coordination Centre by calling: +1 (345) 649-6722 or emailing: orcc@cicg.gov.ky.
- 3.2 Passenger ships wishing to conduct SAR exercises in Cayman Islands waters should also contact Hazard Management Cayman Islands by calling +1 (345) 945 4624 or emailing hmci@gov.ky.

4. SAR DATA PROVIDERS

- 4.1 IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1079/Rev.1 provides guidelines for preparing SAR Cooperation Plans.
- 4.2 The United Kingdom Coastguard provides an International SAR Co-operation Plan Index of SAR Co-operation plans they hold. This service is primarily for passenger ships on international voyages encompassing several SAR Regions.
- 4.3 To submit additions to this index, please contact –

International SARCP Index

National Maritime Operations Centre (NMOC)

HM Coastguard
Unit 12
Kites Croft Business Park
Fareham
Hampshire
PO14 4LW

Email sarcp@hmcg.gov.uk

Telephone +44 (0) 2392 556000

Fax +44 (0) 1329 244547

- 4.4 CICG has arrangements with the International SARCP Index to have 24/7 access to SAR Co-operation Plans for SAR exercises, or in the event of a SAR incident, within the Cayman Islands SAR Region.
- 4.5 It is recommended that passenger ships utilize the International SARCP Index to ensure that their SAR Co-operation Plans are known to all search and rescue services through IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1079/Rev.1.
- 4.6 CICG has the capacity to hold the SAR Co-operation Plans of passenger ships operating mainly in the Cayman Islands SAR Region.

- 4.7 Should the owners of a passenger ship operating mainly in the Cayman Islands SAR Region wish CICG to hold a copy of the ship's SAR Co-operation Plane, they should contact the CICG Operations & Rescue Coordination Centre by calling: +1 (345) 649-6722 or emailing: orcc@cicg.gov.ky. However, it is strongly recommended that the [International SARCP Index](#) is used to ensure the plan is available to all SAR Services via IMO Circular MSC.1/Circ.1079/Rev.1.
- 4.8 An index of SAR Co-operation Plans held by CICG is given in the Annex to this Guidance Note.
- 4.9 This Guidance Note will be updated and reissued as SAR Co-operation Plans are added or removed from this Index.

ANNEX

(Index of Search and Rescue Co-operation Plans held by the Cayman Islands Coast Guard)

Name	Call Sign	MMSI	Company Name	Last Amended
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

[No SARCPs held at time of publication]