

Recognizing the great importance of cooperation among the Parties in conducting search and rescue operations,

Emphasizing the usefulness of exchanging information and experience in the field of search and rescue and of conducting joint training and exercises,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Terms and Definitions

1. For purposes of this Agreement, the terms and definitions contained in Chapter 1 of the Annex to the SAR Convention and in Chapter 1 of Annex 12 to the Chicago Convention shall apply.
2. For purposes of this Agreement, "territory of a Party" shall mean the land area of a State, its internal waters and its territorial sea, including the airspace above those areas.

Article 2

Objective of this Agreement

The objective of this Agreement is to strengthen aeronautical and maritime search and rescue cooperation and coordination in the Arctic.

Article 3

Scope of Application of this Agreement

1. The delimitations of the aeronautical and maritime search and rescue regions relevant to this Agreement are specified in paragraph 1 of the Annex to this Agreement. The area in which each Party shall apply this Agreement is set forth in paragraph 2 of the Annex to this Agreement.
2. The delimitation of search and rescue regions is not related to and shall not prejudice the delimitation of any boundary between States or their sovereignty, sovereign rights or jurisdiction.