

B—Search and Rescue Services

1. The ocean station vessels shall form part of the general search and rescue organization and shall participate in search and rescue operations in accordance with ICAO procedures and with those of the Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea. To this end they shall remain as close as practicable to their assigned locations, unless it becomes necessary for them to leave such location for search and rescue operations.
2. The ocean station vessels shall, as far as possible, assist aircraft, which have signified their intention of ditching alongside the vessel, to execute this manoeuvre successfully.
3. The ocean station vessels shall carry such search and rescue equipment as is necessary in effecting sea rescue, and such medical equipment as is necessary to succour survivors.
4. The crews on the ocean station vessels shall be expertly trained in effecting sea rescues.

C—Communication Services

The communication equipment on ocean station vessels shall be sufficient to ensure:

- (a) the receipt of safety, distress or emergency calls from mobile units, air or surface;
- (b) communication with surface vessels or aircraft for distress, emergency and safety purposes;
- (c) communication on the regional search and rescue and scene of action frequencies;
- (d) the provision of normal aeronautical mobile communications with aircraft;
- (e) communication with land stations.

D—Radio Navigational Aids to Aircraft

The ocean station vessels shall provide, when circumstances so require, radio navigational aid to aircraft by the following means:

- (a) direction finding;
- (b) radio beacon;
- (c) microwave search radar.

E—Incidental Services

In addition to the services specified in paragraphs A, B, C and D above, the ocean station vessels shall perform such incidental services as may be required, on the understanding that the performance of such services does not involve any appreciable addition to the obligatory personnel and equipment carried. These incidental services include:

- (a) collection and retransmission of reports of observations from merchant ships when practicable and permissible;
- (b) any supplementary air traffic control functions which may be prescribed.

F—Other Services to be performed in connection with the operation of Ocean Station Vessels

The Contracting Governments shall use their best endeavours to facilitate the inclusion, in the observational programme of the ocean station vessels, of such oceanographical and other scientific observations as may be found desirable.