




# **SEARCH AND RESCUE AWARENESS STAGE, FUNCTIONS AND HOW SAR WORKS**

**Presentation by Engr. Ibrahim Shettima Arfo**

**RMRCC LAGOS, NIGERIA**



# Objective

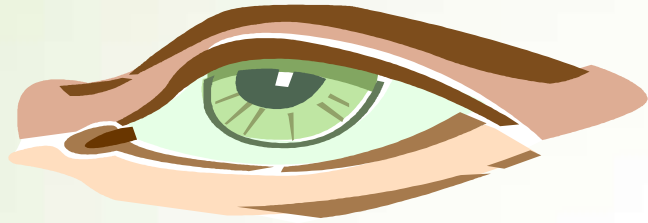
- **The objective here is for participants to understand various ways they may become aware of a SAR case and that this is the first component of the five SAR stages**
- 



# Awareness

- So...what is Awareness?
- IAMSAR VOL. II Section 3.2.1 (a) defines “Awareness” as...
- “Knowledge by any person or agency in the SAR system that an emergency situation exists
- or may exist”.
- It’s the first stage of the five SAR stages.

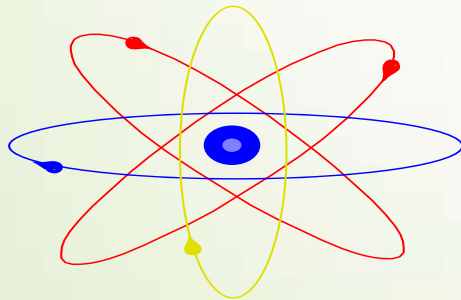
# Methods of Awareness



**VISUAL**









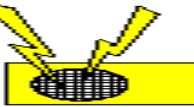

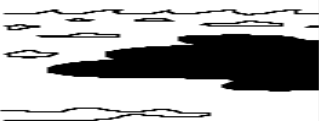




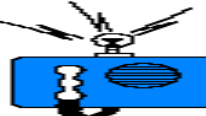


**AURAL(SOUND)**



**ELECTRONIC**

# Distress Signals

## IAMSAR VOL. II APPENDIX A

 <p>RED STAR SHELLS</p>	 <p>FOG HORN CONTINUOUS SOUNDING</p>	 <p>FLAMES ON A VESSEL</p>	 <p>GUN FIRED AT INTERVALS OF 1 MIN.</p>
 <p>ORANGE BACKGROUND BLACK BALL AND SQUARE</p>	 <p>SOS</p>	 <p>"MAYDAY" BY RADIO</p>	 <p>PARACHUTE RED FLARE</p>
 <p>DYE MARKER (ANY COLOR)</p>	 <p>CODE FLAGS NOVEMBER CHARLIE</p>	 <p>SQUARE FLAG AND BALL</p>	 <p>WAVE ARMS</p>
 <p>RADIO-TELEGRAPH ALARM</p>	 <p>RADIO-TELEPHONE ALARM</p>	 <p>POSITION INDICATING RADIO BEACON</p>	 <p>SMOKE</p>

# Visual & Aural Distress Signals

**Red Star Shells**



**FLAMES**



**FLARES**



# Visual & Aural Distress Signals (cont.)

- Continuous Fog Signal



- Gun Fired (1-Minute Intervals)

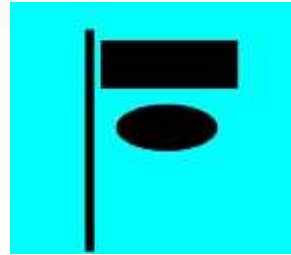


- Dye Marker (Any Color)



# Visual & Aural Distress Signals (cont.)

- Square Flag and Ball



- Orange Smoke



- Spoken "MAYDAY"
- (distress; imminent danger)





# Electronic Distress Signals

➔ INMARSAT



➔ Digital Selective Calling (DSC)



# Electronic Distress Signals (cont.)

➔ **Personal Locator Beacon (PLB)**



➔ **Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT)**




➔ **Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon  
(406 EPIRB)**





# Cellular Telephones & Emergency numbers

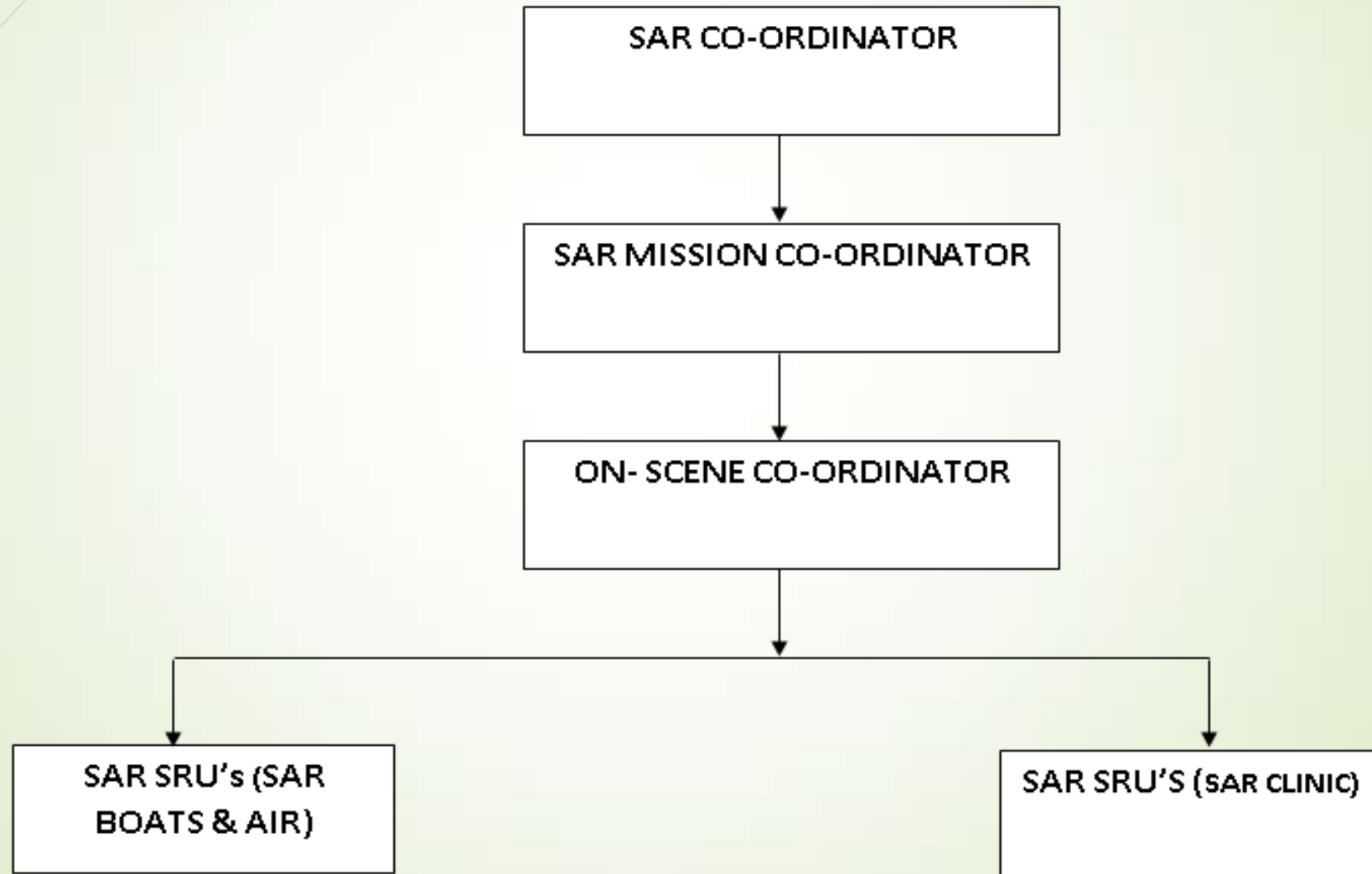
- **This is not the recommended or preferred method for distress communications (although suitable as a supplement).**



# Cellular Telephones & Emergency numbers (cont.)

- **When in receipt of a distress call through an emergency number , ensure;**
- **You capture all critical information first: “BIG 4”**
  - 1. Location**
  - 2. Number of persons onboard (POB)**
  - 3. Nature of distress**
  - 4. Description of vessel**

# RMRCC LAGOS SAR CHAIN OF COMMAND





# Functions of SAR Mission Coordinator (SMC)

- **SMC manages a SAR operation to its conclusion**
- **SMC obtains and analyses information**
- **Develop accurate and workable SAR action Plan.**
- **SMC designates OSC for SAR operation.**
- **Dispatches and coordinates SRU's.**
- **Manages press and family of the victims**



# The OSC's role in a rescue operation

- **communications with the casualty, the SMC, and SAR facilities on scene**
- **coordination of SAR facilities on scene**
- **receiving, modifying and implementing search, rescue and support action plans**
- **monitoring safety**
- **reporting and record-keeping**

**Questions?**





Thank You!

