SEARCH AND RESCUE AWARENESS STAGE, FUNCTIONS AND HOW SAR WORKS

Presentation by Engr. Ibrahim Shettima Arfo

RM RCCC 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

- Red Star Shells
- Fog Horn Continuous Sounding
- Flames on a Vessel
- Gun Fired at Intervals of 1 Min.
- Orange Background, Black Ball, and Square
- SOS
- "Mayday" by Radio
- Parachute Red Flare
- Dye Marker (Any Color)
- Code Flags November Charlie
- Square Flag and Ball
- Wave Arms
- Radio Telegraph Alarm
- Radio Telephone Alarm
- Position Indicating Radio Beacon
- Smoke
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

- SAR CO-ORDINATOR
  - SAR MISSION CO-ORDINATOR
    - ON-SCENE CO-ORDINATOR
      - SAR SRU’s (SAR BOATS & AIR)
      - SAR SRU’S (SAR CLINIC)
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!