

MEETING OF THE INSARAG
Regional Group Africa/Europe/Middle East
CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY
Krakow, Poland, 1st and 2nd November 2014



FIELD COORDINATION SUPPORT SECTION (FCSS)
Emergency Services Branch (ESB)

Wednesday, 01 November 2014 (Day 1):

Opening Remarks

The annual meeting of INSARAG Africa/Europe/Middle East Regional Group Meeting 2014 was held in Krakow, Poland, on the 1st and 2nd November 2014, hosted by the Government of Poland. The State Fire Service of Poland and the Field Coordination Support Section (FCSS-INSARAG Secretariat), Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Geneva, jointly organized this meeting.

The following persons made the opening statements:

- Maj. Gen. Wiesław Leśniakiewicz – Chief Commandant of the State Fire Service
- Ambassador Toni Frisch, the INSARAG Global Chairman
- Mr. Jesper Holmer Lund – Head of FCSS, UN-OCHA

Maj. Gen. Wiesław Leśniakiewicz welcomed participants to Krakow, a very important city in the history of Poland. He reminded participants of the active role that Poland has played within INSARAG, culminating in the role of Regional Chair and the hosting of this meeting. He also emphasized the value of regional practical exercise and the role in INSARAG networking as well as the need to find a way to create a fund in OCHA fueled by donor countries which could be used to finance or co-finance organization of such events annually or participation in such event for countries which are in INSARAG.

Ambassador Frisch, on behalf of OCHA and the participants, expressed appreciation and thanked the Government and the State Fire Service of Poland for organizing and hosting this meeting. He welcomed the appointment of Mr. Jesper Holmer Lund to the position of head of FCSS and looked forward to the continuing growth and development of INSARAG, the priorities being reflected by the agenda of this meeting.

Mr Jesper Holmer Lund thanked the hosts for their welcome and Ambassador Frisch for his kind words. He reminded participants of the challenges facing INSARAG and the global response community as well as the priorities and focus in the run up to the INSARAG global meeting in 2015.

Participants Introduction and Adoption of Agenda

A total of 60 participants, from 29 countries and organizations attended the meeting (**see Annex A**).

The meeting adopted the agenda unanimously (**see Annex B**).

The following presentations were made:

1. Review of Action Points from the INSARAG Africa/Europe/Middle East Meeting in 2014 and Global Updates.

Mr. Winston Chang (INSARAG Secretariat) and Lt. Col. Mariusz Feltynowski (INSARAG AEME Regional Chair) updated the participants on the events that have taken place in the AEME region and globally,

since the 2013 AEME regional meeting in Germany. Participants were reminded of the three key points from this meeting, namely:

- Sub-Regional Group strengthened and contributing to regional objectives
- AEME will take Ownership in the INSARAG Guidelines Review process
- On-going USAR Capacity Building initiatives in the AEME region – with OCHA Regional Office and Bilateral cooperation amongst Member States

Participants were briefed on the key outcomes of the global INSARAG activities, including the Steering Group, Team Leaders and Regional meetings, the finalisation of the Governance Review and the work of the Guidelines Review Group (GRG). The meeting also welcomed and was updated on the work of the Middle East sub-regional group and their upcoming work plan.

The participants were informed about the upcoming key events scheduled for the rest of 2014 and for 2015, in particular the preparations for the global meeting in October. The participants were also strongly encouraged to contribute relevant articles and any contribution to the INSARAG Secretariat to support this event.

2. INSARAG External Classification/Reclassification (IEC/R) Update and Discussion

The INSARAG Secretariat updated the meeting on the IEC/R developments in 2014 and planned activities for 2015 and expressed appreciation for the support from IEC member countries for contributing suitable classifiers. Four teams, two from France, one from Romania and one from Ukraine, gained classified status and three teams successfully reclassified (Poland, Iceland, China). The Region also successfully hosted an IEC/R Mentors & Team Leaders Training event in Abu Dhabi.

The INSARAG Secretariat welcomed IEC teams to nominate suitable classifiers to participate as classifiers in 2015 and to contribute to the 'reserve pool' of classifiers. Following current best practice, teams preparing for classification (or reclassification) are strongly encouraged to participate in upcoming IEC/R exercises as observers.

The Secretariat confirmed that teams within the queue for classification who are determined to not be ready, would be placed to the back of the queue. The INSARAG Chair reflected on the overall success of the classification process but also on the workload that administration of the process creates for FCSS and classified teams. He asked participants to consider the issue and provide recommendations as to the frequency of reclassifications towards the Steering Group meeting in February.

Ambassador Frisch, the INSARAG Chairman presented the IEC/R certificates to two teams from France who were successfully classified as Heavy USAR and to the Romanian team who classified as Medium USAR in 2014. ICE SAR was also presented with their certificate following their successful reclassification, also in 2014.

Colleagues from Poland, Ukraine and Romania then provided specific feedback and lessons learned from recent classification events.

(The meeting adjourned for lunch)

The meeting reconvened with presentations from ICE-SAR and Abu Dhabi providing specific feedback and lessons learned from their classification events.

ACTION POINT: Participants should consider the issue of the frequency of repeat reclassifications and provide recommendations to the Steering Group meeting in February 2015 (AEME Member Countries, Classified Teams) through the INSARAG Secretariat by end of December 2014.

ACTION POINT: Nominations to support the work of the IEC/R Classifiers in 2015/6 should be forwarded to the INSARAG Secretariat (Classified Teams, AEME Member Countries).

3. Capacity Building Initiatives in the AEME Region

The INSARAG Chairman opened the discussions on capacity building initiatives within the AEME Region. He reminded the meeting of the vital importance of capacity building as stated in both the GA Resolution 57/150 and in the Hyogo Declaration of 2010.

There followed a presentation from the French representative on their national capacity building initiatives and their progress towards INSARAG classification. This was followed by two presentations, from the Polish and Armenian representatives, concerning a USAR capacity building project in Armenia and a presentation from Germany concerning a capacity building project in Tunisia. There followed a short discussion on the different requirements of the sub-regions regarding capacity building.

ACTION POINT: Participants should refer to the ‘lessons learned’ that are contained in each of the presentations (available from the Secretariat) when planning capacity building projects. Regarding the capacity building project in Tunisia observers from both ends are always welcome. (Action: Secretariat, AEME Member Countries, Classified Teams).

4. INSARAG Guidelines Review – Progress Report

Mr. David Sochor gave the meeting an update on the progress of the Guidelines Review Group (GRG) and the work of developing the revised INSARAG Guidelines in 2015. He advised at the meeting that Volume I is now in draft form and that its content concerns the policies of INSARAG and gives an overview of the organisation. Volume II of the revised Guidelines is focused on the definition of the minimal standards and procedures for response and is split into three manuals. One manual covers capacity building, another deals with operations and the third provides information on the IEC/R process.

There followed a discussion on the revised guidelines. It was confirmed that an addition in Volume I would be the inclusion of humanitarian principles that support the INSARAG code of conduct that will be included in Volume II. It was made clear to the meeting that the intention of the consultation period was to debate the contents prior to the ISG in February 2015, where all three volumes of the Guidelines will be endorsed.

ACTION POINT: All Participants were requested to review Volume I of the revised Guidelines and submit comments and queries to the INSARAG Secretariat and to the GRG before Friday 31st October 2014.

ACTON POINT: All Participants were further requested to submit additional feedback for Volumes II and III (available through www.insarag.org) from their technical experts after their review and comment, feeding back to the INSARAG Secretariat and to the GRG(AEME Member Countries, Classified Teams) before Friday 31st October 2014.

5. Regional Consultations on the INSARAG Guidelines 2015 Volume I Draft

The following comments and questions were made in relation to the appropriate sections of Volume I of the revised Guidelines:

1.5.3: The section on the INSARAG Secretariat does not mention their relationship or role with donor countries or organisations.

1.5.4: The ‘troika’ system is not explained and the role or title of the vice chair needs to be clarified. There is no mention of Sub-Regional Groups such as the DACHL or GCC+1.

1.6: There is insufficient detail on the expectations of USAR teams within the INSARAG system. The wording regarding membership of the Working Groups is misleading, i.e. it is not open to all.

3.3.4: The USAR Team capabilities includes reporting hazmat to the OSOCC, surely this should be the LEMA? Is this a requirement or a minimum standard? USAR Team should report the HAZMAT threat to the OSOCC, who in turn would coordinate with LEMA and, if necessary, with OCHA's Environmental Emergency experts to properly address the hazard.

3.3.7: This section does not mention the potential of setting up a sub-OSOCC if the geography or situation demands its use.

4.3.2: Is written in a way that it sounds that paying for a mentor is mandatory, where many teams offer this at cost or even free.

In addition, there was one question that was not referenced to a section, as follows:

What arrangements are in place for cooperation with other response mechanisms and cooperation with the relevant regional and international organizations (e.g. CEDERA, FEMA, EUCP, International Civil Defense Organization (ICDO) and where will these arrangements be put into this policy document?

Mr Sochor confirmed that these points and any others reported to the Secretariat before the end of October will be considered during the GRG meeting in November.

(The Day 1 meetings concluded at 1730h. The host country invited participants to a cultural visit followed by the Official Dinner).

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Thursday, 02 November 2014 (Day 2):

Maj. Gen. Wiesław Leśniakiewicz on behalf of the Polish Fire Service and Winston Chang, on behalf of the Secretariat, welcomed Ambassador Manual Bessler (Chair of the GRG) and the representative from Kenya to the meeting. Ambassador Bessler addressed the meeting, briefing on the current situation in Gaza from where he had just returned. He also appealed to all the participants to ensure that their organisations carefully read through the three volumes of revised Guidelines and respond with comments and queries to the INSARAG Secretariat.

6. Strategies and Priorities for the AEME 2014/5

The meeting divided into two groups to discuss the strategies and priorities for the AEME Region and to formulate work plans for the coming year(s). The two groups discussed a) Capacity Building in the AEME Region and b) Operations and Preparedness. Both groups enjoyed an active discussion session and the main points are listed below:

a) Capacity Building in the AEME Region

- Encourage roll-out of the First Responders course
- More capacity building world-wide and capacity building for Light Teams
- Share information on priority countries – share with UN-OCHA RO's
- Share information on 'lessons learned' from capacity building projects
- Encourage a 'strategic' group or plan concerning capacity building across INSARG
- Debate the use of regional sub-groups/antenna for capacity building projects/funding

b) Operations and Preparedness

- Encourage flexibility and collaboration within the IEC/R system
- Encourage the Secretariat to maximize content and activity on the website
- Agenda a debate at the ISG about the creation of a regional funding pool to support exercises and simulations
- Encourage INSARAG to adopt a longer term planning strategy, allowing members to integrate their own long-term and budgetary plans

- Strengthen the regional and sub-regional groups to better support simulation and IEC/R exercises, maximizing opportunities and improving collaboration and coordination

ACTION POINT: Participants should refer to the Strategy and Work Plan (Annex C) for the AEME region when planning exercises, capacity building projects or other work within the INSARAG community (Secretariat, Regional Troika, AEME Member Countries, Classified Teams).

7. Update from Participants

a) The representative from Turkey provided the meeting with an update on the planned exercise due to take place in Istanbul from the 17th to the 21st November 2014. International response will include the setting up of RDC and OSOCC, complimenting an UNDAC team in the field. Operational involvement within the exercise for INSARAG organisations is still under discussion with AFAD. The Secretariat will meet AFAD and consult with the UN Resident Coordinators office on a way forward for the exercise with regards to international assistance in sudden onset disasters based on a request from an affected country and in accordance to the INSARAG guidelines. More information will be made available in the first week of November.

b) The representative from Switzerland spoke about a planned SimEx from the 18th May to the 22nd May 2015. This is due to take place in the Geneva region and the hosts invited participants to visit and observe the exercise.

c) The representative from Kenya gave a presentation about the Kenyan Defence Forces and the development of the Disaster Response Unit.

ACTION POINT: Participants should consider attending and supporting these events (Regional Troika, AEME Member Countries, Classified Teams).

8. Global Meeting Updates and Consultations – AEME Plans and Inputs to IGM

The representative from Abu Dhabi, Lt.Col. Mohamed Al-Ansari, gave a presentation that introduced participants to the Global Meeting that will be held in Abu Dhabi from the 17th to the 20th October 2015. This will be the 25th Anniversary meeting of INSARAG and will be used as a launch platform for a number of innovations and projects as well as the official launch of the revised Guidelines.

The Global Meeting will also be the place at which INSARAG will say farewell to the current Chair, Ambassador Toni Frisch, and will welcome the incoming Chair, Ambassador Manual Bessler.

Germany suggested a platform to showcase the importance of volunteers in community response.

ACTION POINT: Participants are invited to support the Global Meeting by planning and committing to showcase their USAR Teams and best practices within the exhibition space that will accompany the meeting and by providing content for INSARAG's 25th Anniversary commemorative book (Secretariat, AEME Member Countries, Classified Teams).

9. World Humanitarian Summit 2016

Participants were informed about this international event, which will take place in Istanbul in 2016 and welcomed their inputs through on line consultations at <http://www.worldhumanitariansummit.org/>.

ACTION POINT: Participants are encouraged to raise awareness of this event within their own organisations, encourage staff to participate in the online consultations and to organize consultation on INSARAG's role in humanitarian effectiveness (Secretariat, AEME Member Countries, Classified Teams).

10. EU Training and Exercise Framework and IER for ICE SAR in Exercise MODEX

Mr. Geert Gijs made a presentation regarding the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism and in particular the support from the Commission for the IER process. He explained about the financial benefits of undertaking IER exercises under the umbrella of the EU Modex programme as well as the benefits of carrying out an IER outside your home country.

ACTION POINT: Participants within the EUCP Mechanism are invited to consider planning to undertake their IER exercises within the EUCP Modex programme (Secretariat, Classified Teams).

(The Secretary of State in Ministry of Interior, Mr. Stanisław Rakoczy, then addressed the meeting. He expressed his support for INSARAG and wished participants safe travel to their home countries).

11. INSARAG Working Groups Update

Mr. Sean Moore gave a presentation and update on the work of the Training Working Group. The TWG completed work on the IEC/R Handbook and continue to provide feedback into Volumes II and III of the revised manuals. TWG are also developing a training plan for the USAR Cell within the OSOCC and finalizing the First Responder training package and making it available to the INSARAG community.

Abu Dhabi offered to support either First Responder courses, once the final package is adopted by the ISG, or Train the Trainer courses to allow this First Responder Course to be delivered by teams.

The Secretariat presented an update from the Medical Working Group, on behalf of the incoming Chair who could not attend the meeting. The MWG continues to work in collaboration with the WHO FMT initiative and is also providing input into the Guidelines Review process.

There is a proposal to task the TWG with preparation of training packages to be used for Regional TTX, IEC/IER, OSOCC and INSARAG/UNDAC Familiarization and other relevant Training Courses. Such trainings include: Such training packages may include: exercise scenarios and baseline information, lists of injects, describing not only the situation, but also expected (desirable) students actions, maps with the relevant exercise legends, and simulated news broadcasting videos, etc.

ACTION POINT: Participants are reminded to plan the incorporation of the completed First Responders Package into their capacity building programmes from October 2015 onwards (Secretariat, AEME Member Countries, Classified Teams).

(The meeting adjourned for lunch)

12. Chairman's Summary

The Secretariat reminded the participants of the main points of the meeting and confirmed that both the Chairman's Summary and the meeting presentations will be available through the Virtual OSOCC for download.

13. Nomination of the next Chair and Vice-Chair for INSARAG Africa Europe Middle East in 2014

The Global Chair congratulated the incoming Chair, **Abu Dhabi** and the incoming Vice Chair, **The Netherlands** and welcomed them to the leadership of the AEME Regional Group. Poland will become the second Vice Chair with Germany stepping down from the troika.

14. Closing Address

The INSARAG Chairman, Secretariat and members of the INSARAG Africa Europe Middle East Regional Group expressed their deepest appreciation and thanks to the Government of Poland and, the State Fire Service of Poland, for hosting and supporting the meeting.

(The meeting concluded)

-----End of Chairman's Summary Report -----

Annex A:

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ANNEX B:

Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, 30 September

- All day Arrival and Registration of INSARAG Africa, Europe, Middle-East (AEME) Regional Group Meeting participants
- 20.00 – 21:00 Welcome Cocktail Reception
Host Country, INSARAG Regional Chair

Wednesday, 1 October

- 9:00 – 9:30 **Official Opening**
Host Country and INSARAG AEME Regional Chair (Secretary of State in Ministry of Interior Stanisław Rakoczy, Maj. Gen. Wiesław Leśniakiewicz – Chief Commandant of the State Fire Service, and Lt. Col. Mariusz Feltynowski), INSARAG Global Chair Ambassador Toni Frisch and Chief of FCSS Jesper Lund
- 9:30 – 9:45 Group photo
- 9:45 – 10:15 Tea/Coffee Break and Group Photo - *Host Country*
- 10:15 – 10:45 **Introduction of Participants and Adoption of the Agenda**
INSARAG Secretariat
- 10:45 – 11:30 **Review of Action Points from the INSARAG Africa/ Europe/ Middle-East Regional Group Meeting 2013 and Global Updates !!!!**
INSARAG Secretariat
- 11:30 – 12:30 **INSARAG External Classification (IEC/R) Updates and Discussions**
Panel: INSARAG Regional Chair, FCSS, and selected IEC/R classified countries
- FCSS - update of IEC/IER exercises
- Ukraine: IEC TL, Mentor and Ukraine Focal Point
- Romania
- 12:30 – 13:30 Lunch Break
- 13:30 – 14:30 **Capacity Building Initiatives in AEME Region**
OCHA, INSARAG Chair and Selected Regional Member States
- Kenya
- France
- Poland and Armenia
- Germany
- 14:30 – 15:00 **INSARAG Guidelines Review: Progress Report**
- 15:00 – 15:30 Tea/Coffee Break-*Host Country*
- 15:30 – 16:30 **Regional Consultations on the INSARAG Guidelines 2015 Drafts/**

INSARAG Regional Chair, Guidelines Review Group (GRG), INSARAG Secretariat

16:30 End of Day 1
16:45 Departure and transfer for Official Dinner hosted by Poland

Thursday, 2 October

8:45 - 9:15 Summary of GRG Consultations (GRG Chair and FCSS)
9:15 - 10:00 **Discussion: Strategies and Priorities for AEME 2014/15**
- Introduction - Global Chair
- Breakout into two groups
10:00 - 10:15 Presentation of results/outcomes of regional strategies
10:15 - 10:45 Tea/Coffee Break
Host Country
10:45 - 11:15 **Global Meeting Updates and Consultations – AEME Plans and Inputs to IGM**
Mohamed Al-Ansari- Regional Chair in 2015, INSARAG Secretariat
11:15 – 11:30 **World Humanitarian Summit 2016 – Consultations**
OCHA and INSARAG FCSS
11:30 – 12:15 **EU Training and Exercise Framework and IER for ICE SAR in Exercise MODEX**
Panel: EU Representative and Member countries: Iceland
12:15 – 12:45 **INSARAG Working Groups Update**
TWG/MWG Working Group Chairs / Representatives
12:45 - 14:00 Lunch
14:00- 14:45 - **Development of the Chairman’s Summary**
- **AEME Regional Work plan 2015-16** (FCSS, Turkey - Regional Exercises)
- **Announcements of International Events by Member States**
- **Nomination of the Next INSARAG Regional Troika for INSARAG AEME in 2015**
INSARAG Regional Chair, INSARAG Secretariat
14:45-15:00 **Closing Address**
INSARAG Global Chair, INSARAG Regional Chair, INSARAG Secretariat
15:00 Tea/Coffee Break

Departure of Participants

Annex C:

Strategy and Work Plan 2015

AEME Regional Implementation Plan Discussions



GOAL 1: Promote and support the building of more effective national USAR capacities and national response preparedness

Objective	Africa Europe Middle East Region Implementation Plan – Discussions
Objective 1: Advocate for the use of the INSARAG operational and organizational guidelines for capacity building as reference for national capacity building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Identify capacity building organisations both within the AEME region and worldwide and establish lines of communication with each organisation. ✓ Encourage countries/organisations not yet in within the INSARAG family to register and also to join the Virtual OSOCC (VO). ✓ Communicate the benefits of self-assessment of existing capacity using INSARAG methodology. ✓ Publicise planned exercises (NATO/EUCP/UN-OCHA) across the AEME region and invite observers and managers from organisations involved in capacity building. ✓ Publicise the INSARAG methodology as widely as possible. ✓ Run a workshop or familiarization training once every year for countries/organisations new to the INSARAG methodology. ✓ Request the Secretariat to link the VO site and the INSARAG.org site. ✓ Encourage the INSARAG Secretariat to complete the rollout of the First Responder's Training Package and to make it available as a tool for regional capacity building projects. ✓ National teams are strongly urged to conduct a self-assessment referencing the capacity building chapter in the INSARAG guidelines. ✓ Consider the development of capacity building resources for Light USAR teams.
Objective 2: Advocate for national ownership of capacity building efforts, and coordination of donor involvement, in line with national priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Identify countries/organisations planning capacity building projects and offer advice/assistance based on the INSARAG methodology. ✓ Identify donor partners and consider non-traditional donors such as commercial organisations who would benefit from improved local rescue and

response capacity.

Objective 3: Share experiences and lessons learnt amongst countries and organizations on establishment of USAR capacity

- ✓ Develop capacity-building sub-groups across this region based on the following languages; French /Russian/English/Arabic/German/Spanish.
- ✓ Task these sub-groups to develop standardised training documents and to share them within their language groups.
- ✓ Task sub-groups to develop a common technical vocabulary in each of the languages.
- ✓ Continue to share and improve information sharing about capacity building projects using as many media streams as possible.
- ✓ Utilise the planned Swiss Development Corporation (SDC) collaborative website that is planned to launch in 2014.
- ✓ Add French and Arabic versions of INSARAG.org through support of Member States in the AEME region.

Objective 4: Strengthen response preparedness of priority countries for potential international USAR response operations

- ✓ Work with OCHA Regional Officers (RO's) to identify priority countries based on risk analysis and publicise this information widely.
- ✓ Increase awareness and advocate the concept of host nation support.
- ✓ Widely publicise and invite more participation in EQ response exercises held within the AEME region.
- ✓ Develop INSARAG 'response preparedness guidance' for countries utilizing the INSARAG and UNDAC methodologies.
- ✓ Strengthen response preparedness guidance using other relevant documents e.g. EUCP Host Nation Support Guidance.

Objective 5: Strengthen the collaboration coordination with all relevant partners including governmental and non-governmental organizations, the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

- ✓ Encourage existing region members to write articles about successful capacity building and co-operation projects and publish them on INSARAG.org and in the wider disaster management media.
 - ✓ Consider the development of Regional Antenna (Middle East/Tunisia-Africa) with a focus on the coordination of capacity building.
 - ✓ Encourage the INSARAG Secretariat to develop a more strategic capacity building resource such as a specific Working Group.
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GOAL 2: Increase the efficiency of international USAR preparedness and response efforts to emergencies that overwhelm national capacities.

Objective	Africa Europe Middle East Region Implementation Plan – Discussions
<p>Objective 1: Ensure high quality USAR assistance is provided in a timely, efficient and coordinated manner to affected Governments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Encourage pre-planning and coordination by assisting countries during the pre-deployment phase, identifying teams and equipment that may be required to be deployed. ✓ Improve the awareness of governments in disaster prone countries on the suite of emergency tools like INSARAG to ensure quick decision making on requests for international assistance when national resources are overwhelmed. ✓ Encourage the harmonizing of laws concerning receiving of assistance on a regional level. ✓ Encourage flexibility and collaboration within the IEC/R system, which still provides quality assurance of USAR teams but with reduced financial and managerial impact.
<p>Objective 2: Ensure INSARAG's methodology is updated, fit for purpose and takes on board lessons learnt</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Continue and expand the practice of 'after-action' debriefs to include exercises, making the lessons learned widely available. ✓ Better define in detail the relationship between INSARAG teams and the UN Cluster system, including possible INSARAG support to relevant clusters on the collection, analysis, storage and transfer of assessment information. ✓ Encourage the INSARAG Secretariat to maximise content on the website, informing of USAR activities as well as 'best practice'.
<p>Objective 3: Ensure sustainability and cost-effectiveness of key INSARAG activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Increase the use of electronic means to transfer knowledge as a means of reducing costs. For instance, increase the use of digital media, including video conferences, social media and the INSARAG webpage. ✓ Encourage the ISG to develop a more long-term planning strategy, allowing member organisations to integrate their own long-term and budgetary planning with that of INSARAG. ✓ Consider the creation of sub-regional hubs to pool materials, training facilities and simulation exercises by teams in a region, for instance that initiated by the Arab States and Jordan. ✓ Agenda a discussion about the creation of a common funding pool within the ISG. The funding pool would support certain elements of simulation

and IEC/R exercises.

Objective 4: Maximize the full potential value USAR teams bring to the disaster cycle, i.e. invoking beyond the rubble.

- ✓ Encourage INSARAG to press ahead urgently in the development of other roles beyond the USAR capacity as resources and governmental support allows.
- ✓ Publicise examples such as the Philippines deployment to serve as examples showing the flexibility of USAR teams.
- ✓ Encourage the internal development of more cost effective methods of assessing and reassessing USAR teams within the IEC/R system.

Objective 5: Ensure that INSARAG's role is recognized and valued in the international humanitarian and risk reduction agenda, including in the post-HFA framework

- ✓ All INSARAG members need to know what the other networks are and what they do. This could be included in relevant INSARAG Guidance documents.
 - ✓ Use every opportunity to link INSARAG with the wider disaster risk reduction programmes.
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