

The International Search and Rescue Advisory Group

INSARAG Priorities for 2017-18

(To be shared at the INSARAG Regional meetings 2018)



This note aims to briefly set out INSARAG's ongoing work and priorities for 2017-18, taking reference to **the INSARAG Strategy 2017-2020 and GA 57/150 of 16 December 2002** and OCHA's new operating environment.

These include but are not limited to **the common standards** for national international response, as highlighted in the WHS 2016 on the collaborative work with WHO (World Health Organization) in quality standards for international response, the empowerment of INSARAG classified teams through the INSARAG External Reclassifications and the continued strengthening and implementation of the National accreditation and capacity building processes led by member countries.

Key priorities

Through the goals as set out in the global strategy 2017-2020 and in line with our vision and role INSARAG seeks to continue:

1. **Quality Assurance** - Enhancing the quality by promoting INSARAG Quality assurance standards in the suite of INSARAG products and strengthening coordination through ensuring the operational effectiveness and coordination at all levels;
2. **Engaging the Network** - Promoting the sharing of best practices and training, through operating and upholding common standards for the national accreditation process, IEC/Rs and through regular consultations in team leaders and regional meetings and exercises.
3. **Leveraging new tools** – such as new innovations and technologies, including online tools such as KoBO among others and use of new technology in field operations

Thereby fulfilling the INSARAG Strategy 2017-2020 objectives 1.1 of adopting common methodology for preparedness and response, advocating for 1.2 national and regional ownership of preparedness efforts as well as 1.3 actively encouraging innovative approaches to building national capacities.

Ongoing activities

At an operational level, INSARAG's ongoing focus remains on continuing to engage with the network through:

- Effectively planning and overseeing **IEC/R** regional exercises and meetings and consulting with **new teams for future classifications, strongly supported by the network**;
- **Wider community outreach** through revised INSARAG PR and communications strategy, which seeks to better utilise existing and new resources, such as social media platforms;
- Technical Working Groups working on **strengthening the technical guidelines and methodology** for quality coordination and response;
- **Mapping out a Quality Standards Matrix** that comparatively sets out the requirements of classified teams and national as well as for First responders.