

## WARSAW DECLARATION 2020 – *draft 27 Feb*

### *Strengthen quality, predictability, speed and flexibility in support of national and local urban search and rescue capacities*

The International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) gathered in Warsaw, Poland, from 4 to 9 October 2020 for its **third Global Meeting** where **XY** policy and technical experts from **XY** Member States and **XY** organizations met to endorse the **INSARAG Strategic Plan 2020-2025** and to commemorate **30 years of life-saving assistance** based on globally recognized quality standards for preparedness and response in search and rescue operations.

INSARAG expresses its gratitude to the **Government of Poland** for hosting the third INSARAG Global Meeting in Warsaw.

At the Global Meeting 2020, the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group:

1. *Encourages* the Member States of the United Nations to continue to fully support the implementation of the **United Nations General Assembly resolution 57/150** on ‘*Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance*’ (16 Dec 2002), and *calls* for further adherence of INSARAG activities towards the implementation of the **Sustainable Development Goals** as well as global targets, guiding principles and priorities for action under the **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030**.
2. *Reaffirms* the full support for **disaster-affected countries in executing their sovereign role** to initiate, coordinate and organize international humanitarian assistance on their territories within the framework of the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence, and, when needed, to facilitate the access and operations of international USAR teams.
3. *Endorses* the **INSARAG Guidelines 2020** as a comprehensive and detailed set of documents that outlines INSARAG’s **preparedness and response methodology and quality standards** building on lessons learned since INSARAG’s inception, and *encourages* Member States to adopt and **adapt** the Guidelines in their national disaster preparedness and response plans.
4. *Reiterates* its strong recommendation to all Member States with USAR teams that are mandated to deploy internationally, to ensure that their teams adhere to the **internationally agreed standards** through their participation in the INSARAG External Classification (**IEC**) and Reclassification (**IER**) process, recognizing the vital importance for common operational standards and practices to ensure **interoperability** across **all levels** of USAR preparedness and response.
5. *Encourages* Member States, supported by the INSARAG Regional Groups, to enhance **efficiency of response coordination** by **localizing** and adapting the INSARAG coordination methodology and concepts to **country contexts**.
6. *Promotes* **agility and flexibility** of rescue teams in response to operations across other disaster relief activities, given the increasing intensity and frequency of disasters arising from natural hazards, and *calls upon* the INSARAG network to continue the development of **flexible response** operations in accordance with the INSARAG’s commitment to agreed quality standards and coordination.
7. *Acknowledges* the determination of INSARAG members to **develop and strengthen relevant partnerships** with national, regional and international networks and institutions and to welcome **new Member States and organizations** into its activities and *encourages* all Member States to contribute their share to ensure sustainable participation, ownership and governance of the INSARAG network at all levels in order to stimulate concerted action.
8. *Calls upon* INSARAG members to set clear responsibilities, guidance and support tools for **Regional Chairs and Troikas** to facilitate regional activities as well as to strengthen the arrangements for coherent information flow and clear decision making in the network to provide for even greater transparency and inclusiveness.

9. *Expresses* satisfaction with the outcome of the third INSARAG Global Meeting and affirms the intent to hold the **next INSARAG Global Meeting in 2025.**

The INSARAG Steering Group, on behalf of their regional network members, adopts the Warsaw Declaration 2020.

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Mr. Amb. Manuel Bessler, INSARAG Global Chair

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Name TBC, OCHA Senior Representative

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Mr. Sebastian Rhodes Stampa, INSARAG Secretary

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Lt. Col. Andrzej Bartkowiak, INSARAG Regional Chair Africa-Europe-Middle East

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Sr. Eduardo José González Angulo, INSARAG Regional Chair Americas

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Mr. Eric Yap, INSARAG Regional Chair Asia-Pacific