



(IGM Warsaw Declaration – ENDORSED during the third INSARAG Global Meeting on 06 October 2021)

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 on 06 October 2021 for its **third Global Meeting, hosted virtually by Poland**. Over 330 policy and technical experts from more than 100 Member States and organizations met to present updates on the implementation of the **INSARAG Strategic Plan 2021-2026** 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 the Republic of Poland** for hosting the third INSARAG Global Meeting. INSARAG commends its members for their continuous support to national COVID-19 response efforts and for adapting to challenges in order to continue to serve those in need.

In light of the progress INSARAG has made in the past 30 years to create and cultivate a coordinated global and professional USAR network, that aims to ensure rapid search-and-rescue preparedness and response in support of affected people and governments, the third INSARAG Global Meeting hereby resolves the following:

1. *Invites* all Member States of the United Nations to continue to fully support the implementation of the provisions of **UN General Assembly Resolution 57/150** of 16 December 2002 on ‘*Strengthening the **Effectiveness and Coordination** of International Urban Search and Rescue Assistance*’ and the activities of INSARAG, including the priorities and objectives as set out in the **INSARAG Strategic Plan 2021-2026**.
2. *Expresses* full support to **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 to facilitate the access and operations of international USAR teams where requested or accepted.
3. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and adapt the **INSARAG Guidelines 2020 to their national disaster preparedness and response plans and to translate them into local languages for wider dissemination**. The Guidelines outline INSARAG’s preparedness and response methodology and quality standards building on lessons learned since INSARAG’s inception.
4. *Invites* all Member States possessing USAR teams with international deployment mandates to ensure that their teams adhere to the internationally agreed standards by participating in the **INSARAG External Classification (IEC) and Reclassification (IER)**, while recognizing the importance of **quality assurance** and practices to ensure **interoperability** and complementarity to national response efforts.



5. *Encourages* Member States, supported by the INSARAG Regional Groups, to enhance the **efficiency of their response coordination** through the adaptation of the INSARAG coordination methodology and concepts to **local contexts and the establishment of a National Accreditation Process (NAP)**. In this regard, it *reaffirms* the relevance of the promulgation of the National Accreditation Process (NAP) to strengthen the **localization** agenda and improve the capacities of national response teams.
6. *Encourages* the **flexibility** of rescue teams in response to operations across other disaster relief activities, given the increasing intensity and frequency of extreme-weather related events due to climate change, and *urges* 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. *Commends* the efforts of the INSARAG members to support their respective governments and local organizations in combatting the COVID-19 pandemic and *expresses its appreciation for* the **COVID-19 USAR Operational Guidance Note** be implemented regionally.
8. *Acknowledges* the determination of INSARAG members to **bolster partnerships, including private sector networks**, and to **closely work** with national, regional and international networks and institutions and to welcome **new Member States and organizations to the Network**.
9. *Encourages* Member States to continue to leverage platforms such as the annual **Humanitarian Networks and Partnerships Week (HNPW)** and the **International Earthquake Response Exercises (EREs)** to bring together national and international responders and networks, the UN and Regional organizations in order to train together and strengthen the effectiveness of their collective response to major disasters.
10. *Recognizes* the role of INSARAG member countries, organizations and teams in supporting and guiding **Regional Chairs and Troikas** to facilitate regional activities as well as to encourage information exchange.

Brigadier General Andrzej Bartkowiak, *Republic of Poland, INSARAG Regional Co-Chair Africa-Europe-Middle East*

Ambassador Manuel Bessler, *INSARAG Global Chair*

Dr. Mmaphaka Tau, *Republic of South Africa, INSARAG Regional Co-Chair of Africa-Europe-Middle East*



Brigadier General Carlos Manuel Yáñez Lazo, *Republic of Peru, INSARAG Regional Chair of the Americas*

Air Marshal Henri Alfiandi, *Republic of Indonesia, INSARAG Regional Chair of Asia-Pacific*

Ms. Wafaa Saeed, *Acting Director of the Coordination Division, OCHA*

Mr. Sebastian Rhodes Stampa, *INSARAG Secretary and Chief of the Emergency Response Section, OCHA*

06 October 2021