



# **CIVIL AVIATION SAFETY AUTHORITY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA**

## **PNG Civil Aviation Rule Part 176**

### **Search and Rescue Services Standards**

Applicable 21 March 2025

## DESCRIPTION

Part 176 prescribes –

- rules governing the establishment and operational requirements of organisations providing search and rescue services on behalf of Papua New Guinea.

## BULLETIN

This Part will come into force on 11 November 2018.

<b>Amendment</b>	<b>Effective Date</b>
Amendment 1	13 November 2018
Amendment 2	02 November 2021
Amendment 3	03 April 2023
Amendment 4	04 November 2024
Amendment 5	21 March 2025

### *Summary of amendments:*

#### **Amendment 5:**

(Docket 25/15/CAR176/47)

*Amendment 5 aligns Part 176 with ICAO Annex 12 Amendment 18 and 19.*

- (a) CAR Part 176 Cover page – Rule Title
- (b) Description Page

Part 176 prescribes the:

- rules governing the establishment and operational requirements of organisations providing search and rescue services on behalf of Papua New Guinea
- (c) 176.5 – Applicability
- (d) 176.7 – Classification of Search and Rescue Services
- (e) 176.9 – Compliance/Regulatory Requirements
- (f) 176.11 – Reserved
- (g) 176.13 – Reserved
- (h) 176.15 – Reserved
- (i) Subpart B – Reserved
- (j) 176.51 – Reserved
- (k) 176.52 – Reserved
- (l) 176.53 – Reserved
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- (w) 176.71 – Reserved
- (x) 176.73 – Reserved
- (y) 176.75 – Reserved
- (z) 176.101 – Reserved
- (aa) 176.105 – Reserved
- (bb) 176.107 – Reserved
- (cc) Subpart D – Reserved
- (dd) Subpart E – Reserved
- (ee) Reserved

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## Subpart A—General

### 176.1 Purpose

This Part prescribes—

- (1) rules governing the establishment and operational requirements for organisations providing search and rescue services for Papua New Guinea.

### 176.2 Definitions

In this Part-

**Alerting post** means any facility intended to serve as an intermediary between a person reporting an emergency and a rescue coordination centre or rescue subcentre.

**Alert phase** means a situation wherein apprehension exists as to the safety of an aircraft and its occupants.

**Distress phase** means a situation wherein there is a reasonable certainty that an aircraft and its occupants are threatened by grave and imminent danger and require immediate assistance.

**Ditching** means the forced landing of an aircraft on water.

**Emergency phase** is a generic term meaning, as the case may be, uncertainty phase, alert phase or distress phase.

**Joint rescue coordination centre (JRCC)** means a rescue coordination centre responsible for both aeronautical and maritime search and rescue operations.

**Rescue** means an operation to retrieve persons in distress, provide for their initial medical or other needs, and deliver them to a place of safety.

**Rescue coordination centre (RCC)** means a unit responsible for promoting efficient organisation of search and rescue services and for coordinating the conduct of search and rescue operations within a search and rescue region.

**Rescue subcentre (RSC)** means a unit subordinate to a rescue coordination centre, established to complement the latter according to particular provisions of the responsible authorities.

**Search** means an operation normally coordinated by a rescue coordination centre or rescue subcentre using available personnel and facilities to locate persons in distress.

**Search and rescue aircraft** means an aircraft provided with specialised equipment suitable for the efficient conduct of search and rescue missions.

**Search and rescue facility** means any mobile resource, including designated search and rescue units, used to conduct search and rescue operations.

**Search and rescue service** means the performance of distress monitoring, communication, coordination and search and rescue functions, initial medical assistance or medical evacuation, through the use of public and private resources, including cooperating aircraft, vessels and other craft and installations.

**Search and rescue region (SRR)** means an area of defined dimensions, associated with a rescue coordination centre, within which search and rescue services are provided.

**Search and rescue unit** means a mobile resource composed of trained personnel and provided with equipment suitable for the expeditious conduct of search and rescue operations.

**Uncertainty phase** means a situation wherein uncertainty exists as to the safety of an aircraft and its occupants.

**176.5 Applicability**

- (a) Any person or entity delegated by the Civil Aviation Minister, in accordance with section 8B under the Act to provide search and rescue services must adhere to this Part.
- (b) This person or entity will be known as delegated organization.
- (c) An instrument of delegation or Directive by the Minister is valid from the date of issue until such time the Minister nullifies the Instrument of Delegation or Directive

**176.7 Classification of Search and Rescue Services**

The classification of search and rescue services refers to the type of service:

- (1) Coordination – Search and rescue
- (2) Search
- (3) Rescue
- (4) Or a combination of (1),(2),(3)

**176.9 Operational Requirements**

A delegated organization must meet the minimum safety requirements to participate in the Civil Aviation system, if the Director is satisfied that—

- (1) The delegated organization meets the standards for the type of Search and Rescue service in AC – 176-01.

**176.11 Reserved**

**176.13 Reserved**

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**Subpart B — Reserved**

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### **Subpart C — Reserved**

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### **Subpart D — Reserved**

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### **Subpart E — Reserved**

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**176.211** Reserved

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## **Appendix A: Reserved**