

UNITED NATION/SOUTH AFRICA COSPAS – SARSAT TRAINING COURSE

SOMERSET WEST, CAPE TOWN

20 -24 NOVEMBER 2006

PRESENTATION

Presenter : **Mr. Tieho Ntobo**

Title : **Chief Air Traffic Services**

Country : **Lesotho**

Lesotho is a small country encompassed by the Republic of South Africa. Rugged and sparsely populated Drakensburg dominates the eastern two thirds of Lesotho and maluti ranges. The country itself is mountainous leading to some remote areas. The Republic of South Africa has been delegated to manage Lesotho's upper airspace.

For the usage of COSPAS – SARSAT in cases of emergencies and/or crashes in those areas, Lesotho as Rescue Sub-Centre (RSC), will benefit in coordination and operations with South Africa as it is the mother Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC) in Johannesburg.

Bilateral agreement has been signed between Lesotho and the Republic of South Africa in 2005 on Search and Rescue.

Existing structure of SAR organization in Lesotho includes services combined with ATS MIA (Moshoeshoe International Airport) control tower:

- a) The Lesotho Defense Force Air Wing
- b) The Lesotho Mounted Police Services
- c) Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- d) Ministry of Home Affairs
- e) Ministry of Health
- f) Ministry of Local Government
- g) Ministry of Public Works and Transport
- h) Disaster Management Authority
- i) Mission Aviation Fellowship and
- j) Lesotho Outward Bound Centre.

For the Search and Rescue Regions (SRR) map – refer to Republic of South Africa.

Lesotho is now using frequency 121.5 MHz and in emergencies and planning to put in place 406 MHz to comply with COSPAS – SARSAT requirements before 2009.

Legislation is being considered to be included in the SAR Manual and National Legislation.

CONTACT DETAILS

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Having been trained on the usage of COSPAS – SARSAT, the country will be in a position to utilize the services and be effective in Satellite aided Search and Rescue.

Thank you.