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Cooperation Agreement

Concluded between the following contracting parties:

**The Ministry of the Interior - General Directorate
of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic**

and

The Air Accidents Investigation Institute

Cooperation Agreement
(hereinafter “Agreement”)

Article 1
Contracting Parties

1. **The Czech Republic - The Ministry of the Interior**, Nad Štolou 936/3, 170 34 Prague 7, represented by Col. Drahoslav Ryba, M.Sc., Director-General of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic, with its seat at Kloknerova 26, PO Box 69, 148 01 Prague 414 (hereinafter “MI-GD FRS CZ”) as one contracting party

and

2. **The Air Accidents Investigation Institute**, Beranových 130, 199 00 Prague 99, Identification Number: 70990948, represented by Pavel Štrůbl, M.Sc., Director (hereinafter “AAII”) as the other contracting party

(hereinafter “Contracting Parties”)

Article 2
The Basis for the Conclusion of the Agreement

The Cooperation Agreement:

1. It has been concluded in accordance with the provisions of Section 6 (b) and Section 7 (2) (a) of Act No. 239/2000 Coll., on the Integrated Rescue System and amendments to certain Acts, as subsequently amended, and in accordance with the provisions of Section 1 (4) of Act No. 238/2000 Coll., on the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic and amendments to certain Acts, as subsequently amended, for the purpose of ensuring the fulfilment of the obligations of the AAII in accordance with the provisions of Sections 55 to 55e of Act No. 49/1997 Coll., on civil aviation and on the amendment of and supplementation to Act No. 455/1991 Coll., on the Trade Licensing Act (Trade Licensing Act), as subsequently amended, (hereinafter “Civil Aviation Act”), and in accordance with the relevant provisions of Act No. 141/1961 Coll., on the Code of Criminal Procedure (Criminal Procedure Code).
2. It has been concluded in accordance with and for the implementation of Article 12 of Regulation (EU) No. 996/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 October 2010 on the investigation and prevention of accidents and incidents in civil aviation and repealing Directive 94/56/EC (hereinafter “Regulation”).
3. It was established in connection with the STČ-04/IZS (Types of Activities Collection-04/Integrated Rescue System) - The types of activities of Integrated Rescue System units at joint emergency operations during extraordinary events caused by an aviation accident. These types of activities were approved at the 29th meeting of the Civil Emergency Planning Committee on 20 September 2005 via Resolution No. 229.

Article 3

Subject of the Agreement

The Contracting Parties have concluded this Agreement in accordance with and for the implementation of the provisions stipulated in Article 2 of the Agreement in order to ensure cooperation during rescue and cleanup work during an aviation accident or during a serious incident during aviation operations.

Article 4

Scope of Activities and Tasks of the Contracting Parties

A. MI-GD FRS CZ

Particularly the following:

1. It will inform the AAI of an aviation accident via the Operations and Information Centre of the MI-GD FRS CZ (hereinafter "OIC MI-GD FRS CZ")
2. Until the arrival of AAI inspectors, it will mediate the consultation of how to proceed and will organize rescue and cleanup work at the site of an aviation accident with emphasis on the preservation of evidence.
3. Based on the requests of AAI inspectors, if the forces and means of the AAI during the handling of wreckage are insufficient, it will mediate the provision of the forces and means of the Fire Recue Service of the Czech Republic during rescue and cleanup work.
4. It will provide contact information for the relevant Operations and Information Centre of the Integrated Rescue System (hereinafter "OIC IRS") and regularly update this information. The contact information is Annexe No. 1 to this Agreement.

B. AAI

Within the scope of activities stipulated by legal regulations¹, particularly the following:

1. It will ensure the reception of information about an aviation accident from the OIC MI-GD FRS CZ.
2. It will cooperate, to the extent necessary in order to accomplish tasks according to the extent of an aviation accident, with search and rescue authorities in accordance with this Agreement concluded for these purposes².
3. It will provide the OIC IRS with information, if available, on people and dangerous goods on board that is necessary for the search for people or for carrying out rescue and cleanup work at the site of an aviation accident.
4. It will determine the extent and manner of investigation at the site of an aviation accident; the AAI does not have the competence to assess or judge guilt or responsibility, and this even when ascertaining the status, determining causes, and coming to conclusions³.

C. The Contracting Parties have also agreed upon the following

1. Within 12 months of the effective date of this Agreement, they will modify, in accordance with legal regulations and the Regulation, the details stipulated in the STČ-04/IZS (Types of Activities Collection-04/Integrated Rescue System) - The types of activities of Integrated Rescue System units at joint emergency operations during extraordinary events caused by an aviation accident.

¹ Particularly Section 55a (1), (5) and (7) of the Civil Aviation Act.

² Cooperation Agreement on the provision of aviation search and rescue services

³ Article 2 (4), Article 5 (5) and Article 17 (3) of the Regulation.

Article 5
Contact Persons for Resolving Any Disputes

1. For the purposes of exchanging information and the creation of conditions for resolving any disputes during the meeting of obligations, each Contracting Party will establish their contact person. The contact persons and their contact information are part of Annexe No. 3.
2. Contact persons are not entitled to interfere in any way with the performance of tasks of the AAI and authorities active in criminal procedure in specific matters.

Article 6
Final Provisions

1. The Contracting Parties will inform each other, without delay, in writing (or by fax or e-mail) about changes to Annexes 1 to 3 and they will hand over the updated annexes to the other Contracting Party. The updating of Annexes 1 to 3 does not require the conclusion of a sub-agreement to the Agreement.
1. The Contracting Parties will comply with the principles of maintaining confidentiality, and without approval, they will not provide the information they obtained from the other Contracting Party to third parties (entities).
2. The Agreement becomes valid and comes into the effect the day that it is signed by both Contracting Parties.
3. Any changes or supplements to this Agreement must be carried out based on the approval of both Contracting Parties in writing and in numbered sub-agreements.
4. This Agreement has been concluded for a definite period of time and this until the approval of the updating of the STČ-04/IZS (Types of Activities Collection-04/Integrated Rescue System) - The types of activities of Integrated Rescue System units at joint emergency operations during extraordinary events caused by an aviation accident, by the Civil Emergency Planning Committee, however, only up until 30 June 2014.
5. The laws of the Czech Republic govern matters not specified in this Agreement.
6. This Agreement has been made out in four original copies and each Contracting Party will receive two copies.
7. The following are an integral part of this Agreement:
 - Annexe No. 1 - OIC IRS Contact Information*
 - Annexe No. 2 - AAI Contact Information*
 - Annexe No. 3 - Contact Persons for Resolving Any Disputes*

In Prague on

Illegible signature
Col. Drahošlav Ryba, M.Sc.,
Director-General
Fire Recue Service of the Czech Republic

Illegible signature
Pavel Štrůbl, M.Sc.,
Director
Air Accidents Investigation Institute