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UNMANNED AIRCRAFT / DRONE OPERATION SAFETY GUIDELINES

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Introduction



- The Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority (SCAA) recognizes the growth and increasing use of unmanned aircraft (UA), or commonly known as ‘drones’ for recreational purposes, monitoring of the environment and wildlife, agriculture, inspections and has huge commercial potential.
- UA vary in size, weight, performance and the most sophisticated models have the ability to access remote areas to carry out aerial surveys, deliver humanitarian aids and other essential supplies.
- However, it is critical that their operation do not present any risk to aircraft, helicopters and their passengers, including the general public, who are protected under national laws and international laws emanating from the Chicago Convention.
- This Safety Guidelines provides information on how unmanned aircraft / drones can be operated in a safe manner within the territory of Seychelles, while mitigating any potential risk to civil aviation, the public and wildlife, within controlled airspace and restricted areas.

Unmanned Aircraft /Drones



- An unmanned aircraft (UA) is an aircraft that can be flown or used without having a person physically on board to operate it. An unmanned aircraft includes radio-controlled aircraft, drones and remote-controlled kites. Unmanned aircraft are commonly referred to as 'drones'.
- In Seychelles, the operation of drones is becoming more and more popular as a recreational activity within the local community and with visitors coming on holiday.
- Most people would have flown or seen a drone being flown within their whereabouts but they are perhaps not aware that it presents a serious hazard to aviation, the general public and are subjected to the laws of Seychelles through enacted legislation and regulations promulgated by Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority (SCAA).

Unmanned Aircraft / Drones



- It is important that operating a drone does not compromise aviation and public safety. In order to ensure that you operate your drone in a safe manner, we urge that you familiarize yourself with this Safety Guidelines published under the authority of SCAA.
- Drone operators should also be aware that flying a drone in Seychelles may be in violation of other national regulations, including telecommunications, maritime, environment protection, trespassing and internal security.
- The operation of drones should always be carried out in a safe and responsible manner. Before conducting any outdoor activity using your drone, you should refer and strictly abide to the following basic flying principles categorized under the following Dos and Don'ts.

The Dos

- Always read the product user manual of your drone to familiarize yourself with its operating principles, performance and safety limitations.
- Check the condition of your drone and its remote controller before use.



The Dos

- Keep your drone within line of sight at all times. As a general guide, your drone should not be operated higher than surrounding buildings, infrastructures or trees within your immediate vicinity.



The Dos

- Land your drone immediately if an aeroplane or helicopter is spotted operating in the vicinity of your drone.



The Don'ts

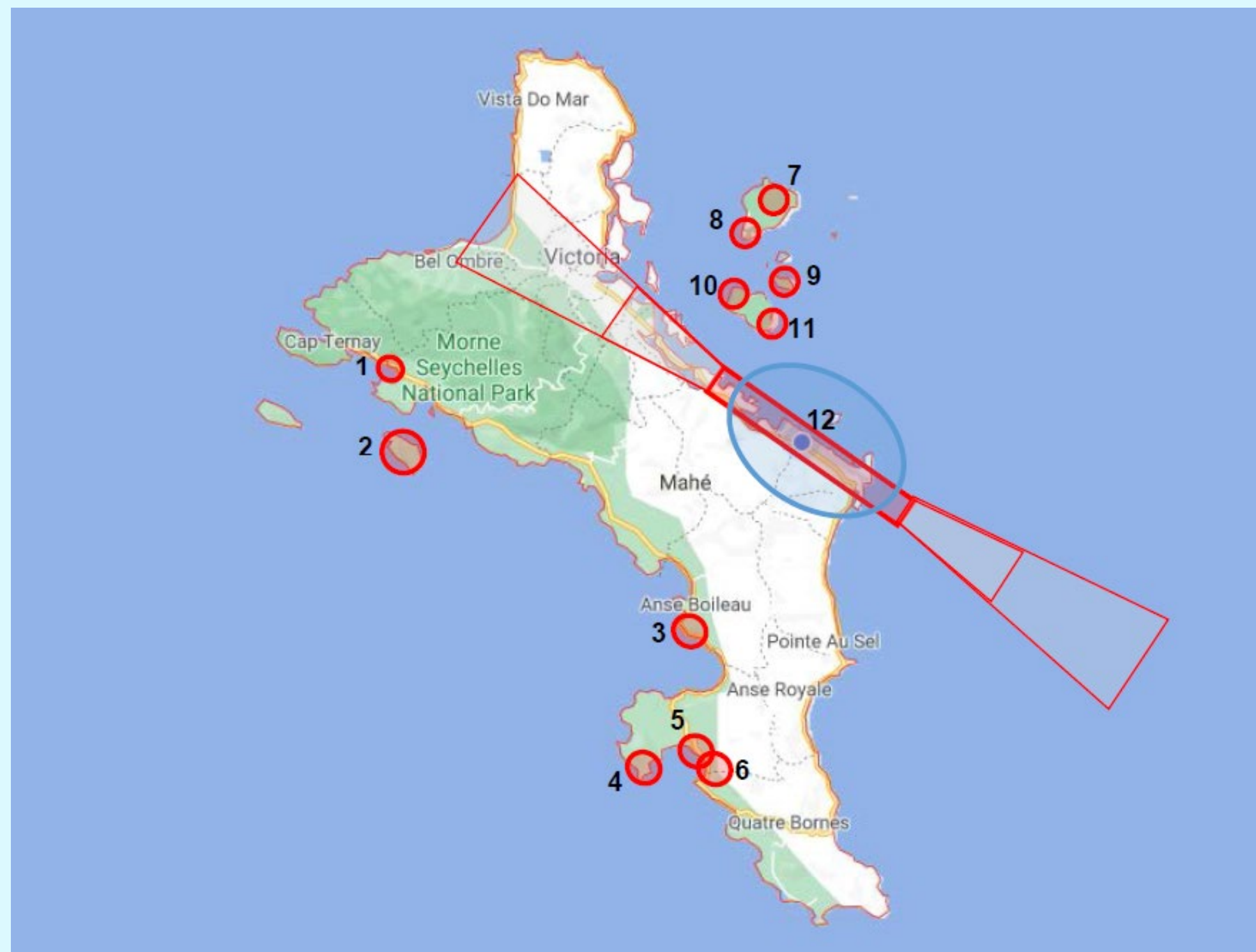


- Do not fly your drone in the vicinity of Seychelles International Airport unless you have been given approval to do so by SCAA. Always follow the terms and conditions of such an approval.



The Don'ts

- Do not fly your drone in the approach and departure paths of Seychelles International Airport or in the immediate vicinity of active heliports demarcated in red circles.



- 1 – Constance Ephelia Resort
- 2 – Ile Therese
- 3 – Maia Resort
- 4 – Cap Lazare
- 5 – Kempinski Seychelles resort
- 6 – Valmer Resort
- 7 – Saint-Anne Antenna
- 8 – Saint-Anne Resort
- 9 – Long Island
- 10 – Cerf Island Resort
- 11 – Cerf Island Private Helipad
- 12 – Seychelles International Airport

The Don'ts



- Do not fly your drone in the vicinity of Praslin Airport unless you have been given approval to do so by SCAA. Always follow the terms and conditions of such an approval.



The Don'ts



- Do not fly your drone in the approach and departure paths of Praslin Airport or in the immediate vicinity of active heliports demarcated in red circles.



- 1 – Praslin Airport
- 2 – Lemuria Resort
- 3 – Raffles
- 4 – Chateau De Feuilles

The Don'ts

- Do not fly your drone in the immediate vicinity of the La Digue island heliport demarcated in red circle.



1 – La digue Helipad

The Don'ts



- Do not fly your drone over towns, congested areas, groups of people in public areas or public events unless you have authorization to do so from the appropriate local authorities, including SCAA.



The Don'ts



- Do not fly your drone over private properties, industrial areas or to take photographs of any kind which may constitute a breach of privacy, where this is considered an offence under the laws of Seychelles.



The Don'ts



- Do not fly your drone near telecommunication infrastructure, power lines, fuel storage facilities, over security sensitive areas, such as the State House, prisons and military infrastructure including restricted airspace as published by SCAA.



The Don'ts

- Do not carry hazardous substances on your drone.
- Do not drop any item or discharge any substance from your drone that could cause harm to a person on the ground.



The Don'ts



- Do not operate your drone if you are under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Do not fly your drone in an area where there is an emergency response effort, unless you have permission from the appropriate local authorities, including SCAA.



The Don'ts



- Do not operate your drone at night as the risk of colliding with nearby objects and buildings could cause damage to property and serious injuries to persons residing in the immediate vicinity.



Registration of drones



- Civil Aviation Regulations 2017 requires all drones having a minimum weight of 200 grams or more to be registered with Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority prior to their operation within the territory of Seychelles.
- All drone operators are therefore required to register their drones on the [SCAA Drones Database](#) and submit to SCAA for processing. A confirmation of the registration will be initiated by SCAA once the process has been completed.
- After successful registration, you can submit a drone flight authorization request through your drones account to SCAA for necessary approval when making a request to operate within controlled airspace or in restricted areas.