

## How the search operation could unfold

1 Planes search the area for debris



2 Plane guides boat to the debris



Possible plane debris

3 The debris spotted by the satellite may no longer be afloat as the area is prone to high wind, strong swells and high waves

4 If no debris is found a submarine will be sent out to search for the 'ping' emitted by the aircraft's black box. However the black box battery life is one month



Submarine

5 If the submarine fails to find the black box an AUV (automated underwater vehicle) will be sent out to sweep the seabed, taking pictures that will be analysed for anomalies



Black box/  
crash site

Floating debris could have been carried around 100 miles away from its position in the satellite photographs, because ocean currents can be stronger than wave-induced currents. The antarctic circumpolar current flows clockwise from west to east around Antarctica

