



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA  
**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE**

Vojkova cesta 55, 1000 Ljubljana

In accordance with Article 38 of the Regulation on the Ministry of Defence Planning (No. 024-34/2011-21 of 13th September 2012) I hereby issue the

# **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE FOR 2016**

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The structure of the report reflects the key working areas of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) which follow the programme structure of the budget. In addition to military defence and protection against natural and other disasters, a special chapter in the report summarizes the activities which took place in the administrative field, which performs steering, managerial, common, supporting and other administrative assignments for the entire Ministry. This section also includes crisis management. Finally, at the end of the report, the resource plans, the key implementation plans of the MoD and their progress and completion, and the implementation of the risk register are presented.

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## MINISTER'S STATEMENT



*Andreja Katič, Minister of Defence*

Dear Readers,

I am convinced that when reviewing the work of the Ministry of Defence in 2016, it is most important to note that the defence system and the system of protection against natural and other disasters always responded in a timely and efficient manner, despite their financial and resource constraints. This is primarily thanks to the employees of the system, who perform their tasks with commitment and dedication.

The Government, representing the President of the Republic of Slovenia, who is the supreme commander of the armed forces, and the National Assembly, representing the Slovenian public, are both aware of the fact that profound changes are required in the field of defence. Striving to achieve these changes has always been an integral part of our work.

Thus, one of the major challenges of the past year was the Strategic Defence Review. Its purpose was to demonstrate and highlight the most important challenges of the defence system and to develop realistic measures to improve or eliminate the identified deviations. In fact, the results obtained from the Strategic Defence Review serve as a good basis to guide the further development of the defence system, so that it will be able to operate effectively in accordance with its mission. It should be noted that the quality of leadership, the planning and direction of career paths, positive selection in promotions, organizational changes, the development of military discipline, the quality of education and training, and care of equipment and technical goods are important areas in which positive changes can be made even without financial input.

However, it is of utmost importance that, after many years of a "downward trend" in defence spending as a percentage of GDP, this trend has been stopped. In nominal terms, the 2016 defence budget increased by 12% (the NATO average is 3.8%). Slightly less than 40 million additional funding was earmarked for the functioning of the Slovenian Armed Forces to control the migrant situation and cover all the arrears to international organizations. After several years,

Slovenia has no outstanding debt obligations to international organizations, which is good for its reputation in the international arena. Part of the money was spent on the maintenance of equipment and technical goods of the Slovenian Armed Forces.

I consider it an achievement that the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, on the basis of the arguments that I presented to my fellow Ministers, adopted the decision to consider, in the future, the possibility of a gradual nominal growth in the defence budget at a level of EUR 20 to 30 million annually, in accordance with the adopted programme priorities and the fiscal framework of the preparation of the general government budgets. This would gradually bring us closer to the adjusted value of the commitment given to NATO on the level of defence spending, with an intermediate target of 1.2% of GDP in the next decade.

Among the most important purchases is definitely uniforms and personal equipment, which ensures the personal safety of the members of the Slovenian Armed Forces in Slovenia and on international operations and missions. We successfully completed the upgrade of Cougar helicopters at a total value of EUR 25 million, which was the largest recent equipment project. The most important capability of the motorized battalion battle group was developed, and the group's combat readiness was verified and approved by NATO methodology.

We pursued the goal of efficient real estate management in 2016 by conducting 10 public auctions, in which 41 apartments, 17 garages, a warehouse, 3 guardhouses and 3 building plots were sold. With these sales we acquired financial assets amounting to approximately EUR 3 million. Considering the sale of real estate in previous years, we are satisfied with this result, since it also brought reduced costs for the restoration and maintenance of dilapidated housing and other real estate in unpromising locations. Proceeds from the sales will be devoted to the restoration and maintenance of real estate in promising locations, among other things.

In addition to establishing new financial foundations, we are aware of the necessity for more relevant normative-legal basic documents in terms of ensuring the effective functioning of the defence system. Much energy was invested in the renovation of two key laws in the field of defence. We prepared a new Defence Act and a new Service in the Slovenian Armed Forces Act, which represent the basis for renewing the systemic legislation in the field of defence, the purpose of which is to facilitate the operation and further development of the defence system, especially the Slovenian Armed Forces, in the long term. With the simultaneous preparation of the two Acts we are striving to achieve clearer normative regulation in the field of defence, so that individual issues are comprehensively regulated by one Act and not by both. The Acts are expected to be jointly adopted in the first half of 2017. At the beginning of 2016, the Medium-Term Defence Programme of the Republic of Slovenia for 2016-2020 was adopted. It defines the key guidelines for the operation and development of the defence system in the medium term, and provides for funding in accordance with the Resolution on the General Long-Term Development and Equipping Programme of the Slovenian Armed Forces up to 2025 and the financial capacity of the country. Shortly before the end of 2016, we submitted for public discussion the Critical Infrastructure Act which was prepared by a special interdepartmental working group led by the Ministry of Defence.

The Ministry concluded a special government project entitled "A System of Crisis Management in the Republic of Slovenia", which identifies the structure of crisis management, precisely defines the responsibilities and powers of the crisis management entities, improves coordination and communication in times of crisis, and provides for a more efficient role of the Secretariat of the National Security Council. We prepared proposals for solutions which will be submitted for further consideration by the competent authorities.

The defence planning and capacity assessment received from NATO, and the findings of the Strategic Defense Review, formally showed all the weaknesses of the defence system and the retarded development of Slovenia's defence capabilities. Despite the demanding challenges it can be said that the operations and the professional attitude of the Slovenian Armed Forces' members showed that the SAF is responsive and efficient, and can be relied on by both the politicians and the citizens. It is prepared to strengthen security in border areas, and is able to maintain a high proportion of presence in international operations and missions, and deploy its members to new missions within a short time.

The fact is that, over the next few years, the Slovenian Armed Forces will not be able to make up for the previous period of reduction of their budget, despite the increased financial resources; moreover, its modernization will only be gradual. However, it is true that an important step forward was made in the provision of financial resources for the Slovenian defence forces. And although the increase in financial resources is significantly smaller than what we required and expected, it is still a real increase. Therefore, it is now the responsibility of those employed in the field of defence to use the allocated resources as efficiently as possible. Both Slovenian politicians and the public expect us to show that we can be better.

The main objectives in the field of defence in 2017 are thus:

- Preparedness of the planned capabilities, and their responsiveness and contribution to the safety and protection of the country and its citizens;
- Fulfillment of the adopted international obligations of the Republic of Slovenia in the field of defence, and a contribution to a proportionate share in the common security and defence;
- Renewal of the strategic guidance and planning bases, which relate to the functions and development of the defence system; and
- Implementation of the priority measures of the Strategic Defence Review 2016.

I have confidence in my colleagues because, in the past two years, we have shown that the Slovenian Armed Forces and the system of protection against natural and other disasters are always ready to help our citizens in distress. Thanks and acknowledgment therefore go to commanders at all levels and of course to all members of the Slovenian Armed Forces, the Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief, and the Civil Protection, who selflessly perform their duties and strengthen joint preparedness.

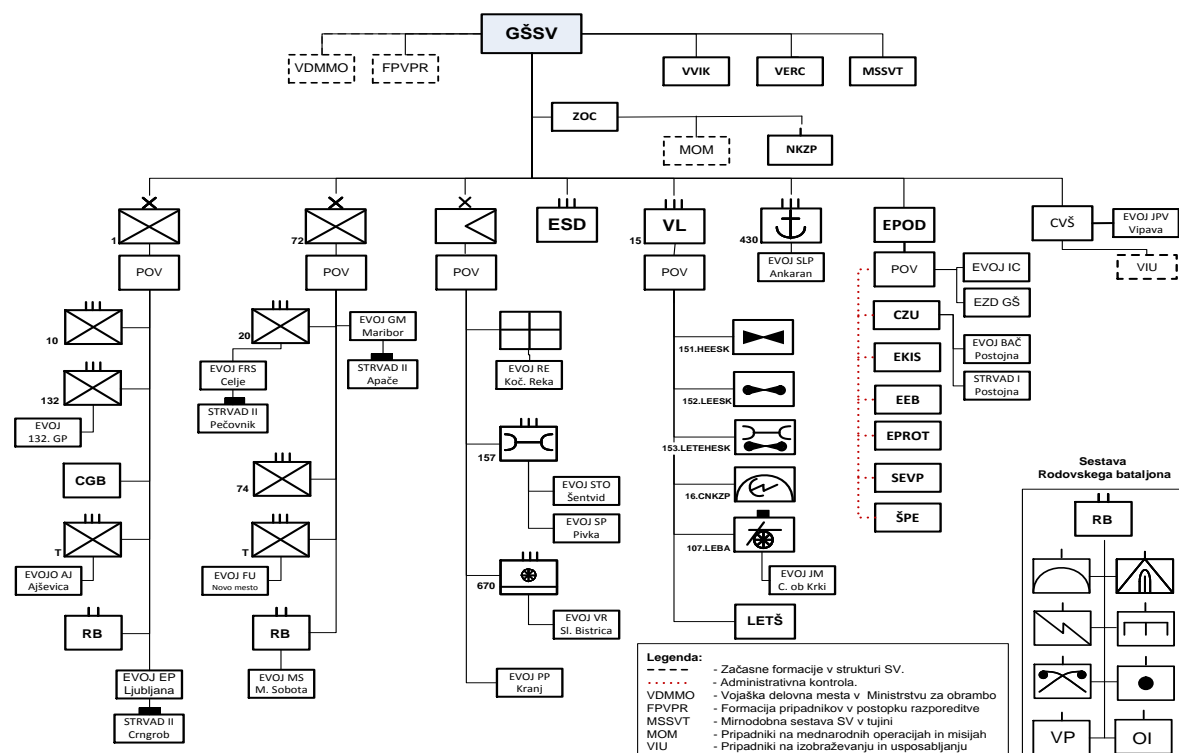
Andreja Katič,  
Minister of Defence

## MILITARY DEFENCE

### 1 STRUCTURE AND SIZE OF THE SAF

On the basis of the medium-term planning documents, the size of the Slovenian Armed Forces (SAF) is set at 8,754 members; specifically, at 7,254 members in the active component and 1,500 members in the contract reserve component. The number of SAF members in 2016 was 7,812; that is, 6,920 members in the active component and 892 members in the contract reserve component.

*Organizational Structure of the SAF*





## 2 SAF MILITARY TRAINING AND EXERCISES

Individual members and SAF commands and units have been trained and are qualified according to the Mission Essential Task List (METL) and the adopted standards for operation and the attainment of operational capabilities in 2016.



*Main SAF Exercise – Immediate Response 2016*

### 2.1 Overview of Important Training Courses for SAF Members and Units

The process of military training of individuals and SAF commands and units is the fundamental process by which they are qualified to perform their duties in accordance with their missions. In 2016, training was oriented towards the accomplishment of missions in International Operations and Missions (IOM), and the attainment of the planned operational capabilities of SAF commands and units.

Training of individuals was based on the acquisition and preservation of knowledge and individual military skills. The process of military education and training of individuals was linked to the process of collective military training or training of SAF commands and units. Training of individuals was systematic, which means that it was based on the principle of gradualism, enabling the continuous training of individuals, specifically:

- Individual training in fundamental skills;
- Individual training in basic skills;
- Individual training in specialist skills or topics; and
- Training of commanders and individuals in the most important duties.

Training of personnel in individual military skills was planned and implemented on the basis of their unit's mission, the Mission Essential Task List, the unit's collective tasks, and the conducted training needs analysis.

In 2016, SAF members received additional training in Basic Life Support (BLS) using an automated external defibrillator, so that all SAF members would be qualified to offer such support.

The training of SAF commands and units was a planned and controlled graduated training, passing from the training of individuals to the most demanding forms and content of collective training and execution of exercises. It was harmonized with the Mission Essential Task List, the unit's mission, and the unit's operational cycle. Training was conducted in line with the times when SAF commands and units were at various stages of operational readiness.

The main emphasis in the process of military training of the SAF commands and units, that is, collective training and exercises, was placed on the implementation of the following activities:

- Training for IOM (ISAF, KFOR, UNIFIL, Bosnia and Herzegovina, NLO Skopje, UNTSO, Mali) and readiness tasks within NATO and the EU (Iraq, Sophia);
- Bilateral and collective training and exercises – 86% of the planned international military training in the RS, international military training abroad, international military exercises in the RS, and international military exercises abroad were implemented in accordance with the training and exercise plan of the RS Defence System;
- Training in support of the Readiness Action Plan (RAP);
- Training to achieve the required operational capabilities;
- Main SAF Exercise – Immediate Response 16;
- Adriatic Strike 16 exercise;
- Joint training of SAF commands and units together with the 173rd IBCT of the United States Armed Forces;
- Skok (Leap) 16 exercise to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Premik (Movement) 91 exercise.



*Overcoming water obstacles*



*Joint training of SAF commands and units, and the United States Armed Forces*

## **2.2 Training of Aviation Units**

The training objectives were primarily oriented towards the individual training of members and the collective training of the 15th Wing units.

Individual training for the 15th Wing members was focused on:

- The implementation of individual military skills training;
- The training of members at work;
- Military fitness training and hikes;
- Handling of weapons test;
- Firing infantry weapons (firing in the framework of the firing weeks);
- Achieving the required training level of specialist skills, with the intent of maintaining the appropriate level of training for the licensed personnel.

The training objectives of the 15th Wing's commands and units were primarily oriented towards the organization and implementation of the international exercise Adriatic Strike 2016 which tested the training level of the 15th Wing commands and units for the implementation of tasks on the 15th Wing's Mission Essential Task List for 2016.

In addition to the Adriatic Strike exercise we carried out six live fire exercises within the Slovenian Air Ground Operations School (AGOS) and the airspace surveillance and control exercises Tango Scramble and Skunk, with an emphasis on the wargaming of situations where a civilian aircraft presents an air threat.

The most important exercises and training included task-based training to determine the readiness of air defence (Tactical Evaluation - TACEVAL); participation in the international electronic warfare exercise Ramstein Guard 06; participation in the bilateral Open the Base – Goshawk Thunder 2016 exercise together with the United States Armed Forces; participation of the PC-9M aircraft in the Ample Strike 16 exercise in the Czech Republic; and participation of the AS 532 Cougar helicopters in the Black Blade 16 exercise in the Kingdom of Belgium.



*SAF helicopter exercise*

### **2.3 Important Training Courses of the Naval Unit**

In collaboration with the Research and Simulation Unit of the Joint Training Centre, the computer-assisted staff exercise Poseidon 16 was prepared and conducted in April 2016. Its purpose was to train members of the Command Centre to plan, implement and manage naval interception operations, and to train the commanders of the multi-purpose boat Triglav 11 and the high-speed patrol boat to participate in international operations, with an emphasis on the implementation of maritime operations.

Members of the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Platoon conducted the tactical training Merjasec (Wild Boar) 2016 which took place in May 2016 at the Slovenska Teritorialna obramba (Slovenian Territorial Defence) Military Post in Šentvid near Ljubljana.

In May 2016, members of the EOD Platoon participated in the tactical exercise Integration 16 which tested the operation of the EOD Section in detecting and destroying unexploded nuclear, radiological, chemical and biological ordnance. The Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Defence Battalion held the exercise

In June 2016, the crew of the multi-purpose boat Triglav 11 participated in the international naval exercise Adria CAX 16 and Livex 16, organized by the Italian Navy in Brindisi and Ancona.

In August 2016, five members of the EOD Platoon participated in the international exercise Bison Counter 2016 in Sweden.

In September 2016, members of the diving unit attended the international maritime exercise Olives Noires 16, in France.

In October 2016, two members of the EOD Platoon participated in the international exercise Detonator 16, in Lithuania. In October 2016, members of the crew of the multi-purpose boat Triglav 11 attended the international naval exercise Adrian Pool 16, in Montenegro.



*Participation of the multi-purpose boat Triglav 11 in the international naval exercise*

## **2.4 Training of the Contract Reserve Component**

The SAF carried out a call-up and training of members of the contract reserve component, the Military Medical Unit, and the 45th Tracked Combat Vehicle Centre.



*Training of the contract reserve component*

## **2.5 Student Camp**

The Military Camp, which the SAF organized for the 17th year in a row, took place in early July 2016. It was aimed at training university and secondary school students in basic military skills, teaching them about the SAF and the profession of soldiers, and developing their patriotic values. Some faculties (the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security) recognize camp attendance as completed mandatory practical training.

Forty-seven adult male and female university and secondary school students attended the military camp in 2016 which was carried out at the Mačkovec firing range and training area close to the Boštjan Kekec Military Post in Bohinjska Bela.

The camp participants and their instructors, candidates at the Officer Candidate School, showed great knowledge and enthusiasm. They trained in:

- The movement of soldiers on the battlefield;
- Overcoming tactical paths;
- Overcoming water obstacles; and
- Survival in the wild.



*Participant of the MoD and Youth military camp*



*Mandatory training of scholarship holders*

The MoD and Youth military camp, designed for those under the age of 18, was attended by 57 secondary school students. Professional practice or mandatory training in the SAF was successfully completed by 12 MoD scholarship holders and two non-scholarship holders, in accordance with the scholarship contract.



### 3 DEVELOPMENT AND BUILDING OF SAF CAPABILITY

In accordance with the Resolution on the General Long-Term Development and Equipping Programme of the Slovenian Armed Forces up to 2025 (ReSDPRO SV 2025) from 2010 and the NATO Defence Planning Process, the Medium-Term Defence Programme of the RS for the period 2016-2020 (SOPR 2016-2020) was prepared and endorsed by the Government. The Medium-Term Defence Programme is a planning document which defines the objectives and key guidelines for the development and operation of the defence system of the Republic of Slovenia in the medium-term period 2016-2020.

This medium-term document defines the target organizational structure of the SAF (2020), and the development of priority capabilities and their equipping with new weapons and military equipment. Projected defence spending was prepared, including a planned reduction in expenditure on staff and a gradual increase in the proportion of operational (operational functioning and maintenance) and investment costs (acquisition and construction), which are expected to increase in 2019. The SAF's objective in the field of human resources is to maintain its strength at 9,100 members; specifically, at 7,600 members in the active component and 1,500 members in the contract reserve component.

The current Medium-Term Defence Programme of the Republic of Slovenia and the Resolution on the General Long-Term Development and Equipping Programme of the Slovenian Armed Forces up to 2025 are still in line with the current capability targets of 2013. With these targets, the Republic of Slovenia assumed, on the basis of the principle of fair burden-sharing, and proceeding from NATO's strategic concept and the political guidelines, obligations in the development of certain capabilities and in the contribution of the RS to collective security.

The imminent adoption of the new NATO capability targets of 2017 for the Republic of Slovenia, however, will also bring about the need to update the Resolution on General Long-Term Development and Equipping Programme. The focus will be on maintaining the achieved level and on eliminating shortcomings in the quality of the already developed capabilities as well as on their upgrade (two Medium Battalion Battle Groups, CBRN Defence). It will be necessary to form and develop two Medium Battalion Battle Groups (formerly one Motorized Battalion Battle Group and one Medium Battalion Battle Group), which will be capable of operating in all potential Alliance operations.

The trend of several years of cuts in the defence budget, and thus the funds for the operation and development of the SAF, has had a significant impact on the retardation of development of the SAF's capabilities and the reduced capability of Slovenia in the field of defence. With this constant reduction in the SAF's financial plan from 2010 to 2016, and given the resources planned in the Medium-Term Defence Programme of the RS and a slow, gradual increase in the SAF's financial plan in the period 2016-2020, it is clear that Slovenia will not achieve the development of SAF capabilities and commitments to the Alliance planned in the Medium-Term Defence Programme of the RS for the period 2016-2020, or the ambitious forecast of development stated in the Resolution on the General Long-Term Development and Equipping Programme of the SAF up to 2025. Significantly more financial resources will have to be provided to implement the capability targets for 2017.

The decrease in resources has a negative impact on the operation of the SAF and its most important capabilities. Consequently, this has brought about an increase in the national defence risks in ensuring the planned RS defence system capabilities; interoperability difficulties due to the technological lag; a decrease in the RS's ability for operations both at home and abroad; and a reduction in the credibility of the RS within the Alliance. Such risks can not be entirely avoided, since the cumulative consequences of several years of decline in resources are

increasingly obvious. Due to the changed geopolitical and security situation in the world, and the principle of fair burden-sharing, we can expect additional requirements of the Alliance, which were reflected in the new capability targets for 2017.

In line with the capability development priorities, the SAF is focusing on the development of combat capabilities; specifically, two Medium Battalion Battle Groups. This, however, represents a major technical and technological challenge which must be substantially supported by the elements of technical services and high technical culture.

In the event of a substantial deterioration in the international security situation, the Doctrine of the Military Strategic Reserve of the Republic of Slovenia (2012) enables the supplementation and increase in the SAF's capabilities for the purposes of providing military defence.

## **4 MAINTAINING A LEVEL OF READINESS**

In 2016, the SAF ensured its readiness in a challenging situation which, for several years, was reflected in reduced financial resources and personnel for the SAF, as well as in the economy measures implemented in the areas of modernization, the maintenance of material resources and infrastructure, and the provision of ammunition, explosive ordnance, and personal equipment of SAF members.

In 2016 the downward trend of aging and wear of weapons and equipment, the aging of the armed forces, and the inadequate structural relationships between officers, non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and soldiers continued. The economy measures have had a negative impact on the planned establishment and maintenance of capabilities, as well as on training in accordance with current professional military standards. The interrupted update has led the SAF to a technological lag in comparison to modern armed forces, and hindered the SAF's interoperability in the Alliance.

Nevertheless, in 2016, the SAF still maintained the required level of readiness and was able to perform most peacetime tasks at home and abroad, though with an increased risk in relation to previous years (modernization standstill, aging and reduced availability of weapons and equipment). The reasons for this were insufficient manpower in commands and units, lack of weapons and military equipment, their wear and obsolescence, and the inadequate provision of relevant operational availability.

The knowledge, skills and processes of the Slovenian Armed Forces are complementary to the Alliance and allow the SAF to operate successfully in international operations and missions. The SAF ensures the readiness of forces to intervene under the EU and NATO, the planned level of preparedness to respond to natural and other disasters, to participate in protection and rescue activities, and to support other state bodies and organizations in ensuring the safety and welfare of the citizens of the RS. In 2016, the SAF provided its forces and resources, as well as logistic support, to Civil Protection (CP) for the purposes of migrant care, and to the Police in the protection of the state border.

The SAF has a limited ability to achieve its mission and the tasks assigned to it both within and outside the national territory to the extent required across the full spectrum of combat operations. The current human and material resources and the level of sustainability hinder its operation in the most demanding combat situations, so its performance is linked to a higher risk with regard to the effective implementation of the assigned tasks.



## 5 KEY PROJECTS OF THE SAF MODERNIZATION

The equipping of the SAF was conducted in accordance with the equipping plans and the allocated financial resources. In 2016, the following important projects were carried out:

- The purchase of two sets of the Belin unmanned aircraft systems (two times three aircraft, with their associated equipment);
- The purchase of equipment for explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) capabilities (demining sets, explosives detector, remote ignition device);
- The purchase of equipment for the efficiency of the JTAC/TACP Forward Air Control teams (radio amplifier, laser distance meter, tablet computers, active head combinations);
- The purchase of one ambulance for the emergency medical service;
- The purchase of twelve multi-purpose, and one passenger, vehicles;
- The purchase of two backhoe loaders for the SAF engineer units;
- The purchase of 1,200 sets of new battle dress uniform;
- The purchase of 1,000 protective tactical vests;
- The purchase of 40 automatic rifles and 10 machine guns;
- The purchase of 356 active earmuffs for the protection of hearing;
- The purchase of the planned quantities of ammunition and training resources for the preservation of stocks and for training purposes.

*Major systems and equipment purchased in 2016*



*Belin unmanned aircraft systems*



*Backhoe loader*



*Emergency ambulance*

In 2016, the SAF completed the introduction, and issued orders on the introduction, into operational use of the following products and systems:

- AG Comtac XI active earmuff;
- AN/PRC-117G Multiband Manpack Radio;
- NATO infantry obstacle course in Vipava;
- RGW 90 man-portable anti-armour weapon trainer;
- Firearms training simulator at the Peter Petrič Military Post in Kranj – laser mode;
- School training tool, development model of the unmanned aerial vehicle;

- SAF emergency ambulance;
- Caterpillar 428F2 backhoe loader;
- Mobile computer centre;
- TETRA communications system at the Cerklje ob Krki Airfield;
- Man-portable short range radar system.

*Systems and equipment introduced into the SAF's operational use*



*Firearms training simulator in Kranj*



*Man-portable short range radar system*

In the framework of the US military assistance programmes, two biometric readers, 42 hand-held Motorola radios, three repeaters, engineer equipment for the Special Operations Unit, and spare parts for the 4x4 HMMWV Light Wheeled Armoured Vehicle and 6x6 MRAP vehicles, were supplied.

In 2016, twenty-five introduction processes for weapons, military equipment and systems were carried out, of which eleven were scheduled for 2016, five were carried over from 2015, and nine were new. The introduction of the remaining weapons, military equipment and UAV systems will continue and end in 2017, in accordance with the plan of introduction.

In 2016, the SAF began to introduce into operational use EOD equipment, joint terminal attack control (JTAC) equipment, Special Operations Unit weapons, a biometric scanner, personal protective equipment for crowd control, and the airspace Command and Control MASE system (Multi Airborne Early Warning Ground Integration Segment Site Emulator). The 6x6 MRAP vehicle of the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Platoon, the firearms training simulator – combat mode at the Peter Petrič Military Post in Kranj, and the systems for the operation of the Cerklje ob Krki Airfield (illumination, navigation, radio navigation, meteorological and information systems) are in the process of being introduced into operational use.

In 2016, the revitalization of the Cerklje ob Krki Military Airfield was also carried out as planned.

Due to the significant reduction in funding in recent years, the SAF failed to modernize the tactical military communications and information systems (CIS), except for a mobile computer centre, which was introduced into the CIS modules. The Command and Control (C2) CIS project is being introduced into the SAF's operational use in the technical group in accordance with the plan. The replacement of the central disk system and the establishment of an information system at the Joint Operations Centre were completed. We updated the minimum amount of terminal equipment, and continued to replace the Windows XP operating system with

Windows 7 and Office 2010, in accordance with the available number of licences. We carried out the most urgent modernization works and replacements of equipment on the network and server infrastructure, and updated a small number of applications.

For other important projects whose implementation is planned for the future, coordinated with the Medium-Term Defence Programme (i.e. a 4x4 Light Wheeled Armoured Vehicle, hand-held anti-armour weapons for multiple use, the Special Operations Unit equipment, night observation devices, the thermal imaging system), the necessary investment documentation was prepared for the launching of purchase projects in 2017 and 2018.

## 6 SAF OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE SYSTEM OF PROTECTION AGAINST NATURAL AND OTHER DISASTERS

In 2016, the SAF actively supported the operation of the system of protection against natural and other disasters, and participated in it with its protection, rescue and relief capabilities, with an emphasis on helicopter mountain rescue, helicopter emergency medical assistance, and fighting wildfires. The SAF utilizes its capabilities or units based on their level of readiness and the extent of different disasters, and ensures the implementation of the concept of the gradual augmentation of protection, rescue and relief capabilities, through the formation of specialist capacities and capabilities intended to perform simple work, in compliance with the VIHRA 13 Plan and the requirements of the Civil Protection Commander. In addition, last year, the SAF, in compliance with the Resolution of the Government of the RS, participated in the provision of logistic support to state bodies during migrant care.

### 6.1 Helicopter Rescue and Relief

In the military area of Jože Pučnik Ljubljana Airport, two SAF helicopters are on 15-minute standby for mountain rescue every day during daylight hours. In addition to rescues in the mountains and in hard-to-access areas, the duty crews also perform emergency helicopter transport within the framework of helicopter emergency medical assistance. The table below shows detailed information on helicopter rescue and relief.

*Overview of the Participation of the SAF Helicopters in Rescue and Relief in 2015 and 2016*

<b>Number of Rescue Operations/Casualties and Total Flying Hours</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>Change Index</b>
Mountain Rescue	132	197	149
Helicopter Emergency Medical Assistance	94	166	177
Wildfires and Natural Disasters	3	28	933
<b>Total Number of Rescue Operations</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>171</b>
Total Number of Helicopter Flying Hours	279	550	197
Total Number of Casualties	254	345	157

The duty crews of the 151st Rotary Wing Squadron carried out 391 rescue operations, of which 197 were mountain rescue operations and 166 were operations for the provision of emergency medical helicopter assistance, as well as contributing to the extinguishing of forest fires in the areas of Nova Gorica, Northern Primorska and Bohinjska Bela. The crews transported 345 injured or sick people, 800 emergency responders, and 45 tons of first aid equipment, in a total of 279 flying hours. Approximately 960,000 litres of water were dumped on the fire sites to extinguish forest fires.

Based on the agreement on cooperation between the MoD and the Institute of the RS for the Transplantation of Organs and Tissues, Slovenija Transplant, the duty crew of the 152nd Fixed Wing Squadron carried out eleven transportations of vital organs and medicines with the Falcon aircraft.

### *Participation of the SAF helicopters and aeroplanes in rescue and relief*



*Helicopter emergency medical assistance*



*Organ transport with the Falcon aircraft*



*Mountain rescue of the injured*



*Assistance in the extinguishing of forest fires*

## **6.2 Forms of Assistance and Operation of the SAF in the System of Protection against Natural and Other Disasters**

The SAF provided logistic support to Civil Protection for assignments to give support to national bodies during migrant care. Included in the logistic support were as many as 2,335 SAF members, who, in the first quarter of 2016, in accordance with the demonstrated needs of Civil Protection, arranged accommodation centres, prepared and distributed hot meals and drinks, prepared premises and cargo for loading, and carried out different transport assignments. Later, primary Civil Protection support was associated with the provision of capabilities of the Military Medical Unit, namely pest control and disinfection of the premises maintained by the Civil Protection in the event of possible activation. The mileage was 101,552 kilometres. Military cooking teams prepared and distributed over 29,000 hot meals.



*Participation of the SAF in providing support to state authorities during migrant care*



## 7 SAF CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE, SECURITY AND STABILITY

In 2016, Slovenia continued its participation in international Operations and Missions (IOM), taking into account the national interests, available resources and capabilities, adopted international commitments and the increasingly unpredictable dynamics of IOM. SAF participation in IOM was conducted on the basis of Government resolutions, directions and other field documents of the Ministry of Defence (MoD), Operations Plans (OPLAN) and SAF command and control documents. In terms of Slovenia's participation in IOM, the priority area of operations remains the Western Balkans (KFOR, EUFOR Althea, NATO integration and counselling structures), and participation in the NATO counselling mission in Afghanistan (RSM), the EU operation in the southern part of the Mediterranean Sea (EUNAVFOR MED in Sophia), the EU mission in Sahel in Africa (EUTM MALI), and UN missions in the Middle East (UNIFIL, UNTSO). In September 2016, the SAF began to engage in the military part of the Global Counter-Terrorism Coalition against Daesh (ISIL). In 2016, we also provided capabilities for the NATO rapid response force.

When planning the participation of SAF forces, and preparing and deploying SAF contingents in IOM, great emphasis is attached to lessons learned.

*Average Number of SAF Members in International Operations and Missions in 2016*

Operation	International Force	Area of Operations	Operational Leadership	Rotation (Months)	Number of Members in 2016
UNTSO	UN	Middle East	UN	12	3
UNIFIL	UN	Lebanon	UN	6	15
Joint Enterprise	KFOR	Kosovo	NATO	6	308 until April 2016, 243 from April 2016
	NHQ Sarajevo, NLO Skopje, MLO Belgrade	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Serbia	NATO	6 / 12	7
	RSM	Afghanistan	NATO	6	7
ALTHEA	EUFOR	BiH	EU	6	9
EUTM	EUTM	Mali	EU	6	5
EUNAVFOR MED/Sophia	EUFOR	Southern part of the Mediterranean Sea	EU	6	4*
OIR	Global Counter-Terrorism Coalition against Daesh	Iraqi Kurdistan, USA	Coalition	4 / 12	7

\* Until the return of the multi-purpose boat Triglav 11 from the EUNAVFOR MED/Sophia in mid-March 2016, 49 members participated in the operation.

## 7.1. NATO Operations

### KFOR (Kosovo)

In accordance with the fundamental strategic interests of the RS pertaining to areas such as foreign affairs and security, among others, the majority of the SAF members participating in IOM in 2016 performed their duties in the Western Balkans. There, the focus was on the operation of the Allied KFOR Forces in Kosovo, in which an average of 308 (until April 2016) and 243 (from April 2016) SAF members and four civilian functional experts took part. Under the KFOR mandate, Slovenian members' activities were aimed at maintaining a secure and stable environment and freedom of movement; protecting KFOR facilities and facilities of special importance; patrolling and monitoring the security and general conditions in the area of operations; providing helicopter transport, rapid response forces and tactical reserves; and carrying out staff duties. Members of the Slovenian contingent provided support to the development of Kosovo security forces through the NATO group for integration and counselling. The contingent operated mostly in the area of central Kosovo, although part of the operational activities of the SAF units were carried out in the north of the country. At the international level, the MoD continuously defended Slovenia's position that it is necessary to prudently and gradually address the issues of the further reduction of the extent and the changes in the structure of the KFOR forces, taking into account the security situation on the ground and all other relevant factors and conditions.

In 2016, the SAF implemented certain organizational changes in the composition of the Slovenian contingent. Since April 2016, the SAF has been operating in KFOR with one enhanced motorized company (formerly two smaller companies) and with a larger Liaison and Monitoring Team (LMT). In October 2016, the SAF helicopter completed its operation in KFOR. Since November 2016, a contingent with 243 members has been operating in KFOR.



### RSM (Afghanistan)

After the end of the ISAF operation, the RS has, since 1st of January 2015, been participating in a new NATO counselling mission, the Resolute Support Mission, in Afghanistan. In 2016, two SAF contingents, each consisting of seven members, were deployed to the mission. The focus of the SAF members' operation was on the mentoring and training of the Afghanistan National Defence and Security Forces (ANDSF) in the composition of the advisory team of the 207th Corps, and on an operation within the regional command for counselling and training, the Regional Command West. In this way, the SAF contributed to the provision of the ANDSF's sustainability and the enhancement of its capabilities, and consequently to the strengthening of the Afghan Government for the independent and substantial provision of security and stability in the country.





### NATO Response Force (eNRF)

The SAF's participation in the NRF in the five-year period from 2013 to 2018 was defined in the resolution of the Government of the RS, adopted in May 2013. NATO changed the concept of operating in the NRF, and the Government of the RS adopted a new decision in September 2016, which defines the SAF's participation in the rotations of the enhanced NATO Response Force (eNRF) during two three-year rotations from 2017 up to and including 2022. On this basis, the MoD or the SAF plans to cooperate, within the framework of the eNRF, with those capabilities which provide the highest added value to the process of the SAF's transformation, and in those areas which are of the greatest importance in ensuring the SAF's preparedness and future development. In addition, the SAF monitors and participates in the implementation of the Readiness Action Plan (RAP), adopted at the NATO Wales Summit in September 2014, and in further long-term changes in its posture and the strengthening of collective defence, adopted at the Warsaw Summit in 2016. In 2016, the RS participated in the eNRF with a helicopter for medical evacuation and a radiological laboratory, as well as two officers, at the NATO Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE).

### NATO's Peacetime Operation Air Policing in Slovenian Airspace

The signing and ratification of the amended bilateral agreement between the governments of Slovenia and Hungary in 2014, on military cooperation in the fields of aviation and air defence from 1996, enabled the inclusion of Hungary (beside Italy) in the above-mentioned NATO operation in 2016. In addition to long-range radars for air policing, Slovenia also contributes two helicopters for search and rescue (S&R).

### NATO HQ in Sarajevo and NATO Liaison Offices in Belgrade and Skopje

The presence of seven SAF members was maintained in the NATO HQ in Sarajevo and one member in each of the NATO liaison offices in Belgrade and Skopje. Their mission is the performance of tasks that are important in terms of carrying out defence and military reforms and partnership programmes in host countries, and in terms of their progress towards Euro-Atlantic structures. In June 2016, Slovenia took over the leadership of the NATO liaison office in Skopje from Bulgaria, which is an important sign of confidence of the Alliance, and a great responsibility for Slovenia.

## **7.2 UN Operations and Missions**

### UNIFIL, UNTSO (Middle East)

The Middle East is one of the priority areas of cooperation of Slovenia in IOM. Therefore, the MoD endeavored to maintain an appropriate level of contribution of the SAF to the UN missions UNIFIL (15 members) and UNTSO (3 members), which support the maintenance of peace in the region.

The UNIFIL mission continues to control the termination of hostilities, support the Lebanese armed forces to establish control over southern Lebanon, control the withdrawal of the Israeli army from the territory of Lebanon, and help the Lebanese authorities to establish control at the borders of the country.

The UNTSO mission continues to monitor compliance with ceasefire agreements between Israel and its Arab neighbours (Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria).



### 7.3 EU Operations

#### EUTM Mali (Mali)

Within the framework of the EU's activities in Africa in 2016, following the terrorist attack in November 2015 in Paris, and on France's request under Item 7 Article 42 of the Treaty on the European Union, the SAF increased its participation in this operation. Since May 2016, it has therefore been participating in the training mission for the Malian armed forces (EUTM Mali) with the presence of five SAF members (formerly three). By training the Malian armed forces, the SAF contributes to the establishment of Malian defence capabilities and to the stabilization of the security situation in the country and the wider Sahel region.



#### EUFOR ALTHEA (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

The SAF continued its participation in the EUFOR ALTHEA Operation with nine members and one deployable team for training and mentoring the BiH armed forces, which are deployed to the area of operations for short periods of time and for the execution of specific tasks. Slovenia thus continued its military contribution to the strengthening of peace and security in BiH, and to the joint efforts for the establishment of properly trained, professional and efficient armed forces

of that country. The activities of the Slovenian contingent were primarily focused on the performance of staff and logistics support tasks, and on the gathering of information regarding the situation on the ground, and the training and mentoring of members of the BiH armed forces.

#### EUNAVFOR MED/Sophia(southern part of the central Mediterranean Sea)

In July 2015, the SAF became actively involved in the EUNAVFOR MED Operation Sophia, the main mission of which is to carry out systematic activities for the identification, seizure or confiscation and removal of vessels and other assets used by or suspected of being used by smugglers or human traffickers. It thus contributed to the wider efforts of the EU in disrupting the trafficking model and trade networks in the southern part of the central Mediterranean Sea. The operation is currently in Phase 2A to which two new support tasks have been added: contributing to the UN arms embargo on the high seas off the coast of Libya, and training the Libyan coastguard and navy.

In October 2015, the SAF's multi-purpose boat Triglav 11, which is the SAF's main operational capability, was deployed to the Operation for four months. At the request of the Operation Commander and following the decision of the Government of the RS, Triglav 11 extended its participation by an additional six weeks. By the end of its participation in March 2016, the crew of Triglav 11 had carried out nine search and rescue (SAR) operations at sea and rescued 425 illegal immigrants, and was indirectly involved in the rescue of 1,072 illegal immigrants, the destruction of nine boats and one wooden ship, and the confiscation of eight outboard engines.



## **7.4 Other Operations**

### OIR (Iraq, USA)

At the beginning of February 2016, the Government of the RS adopted the decision to enhance the cooperation of the RS in the Global Counter-Terrorism Coalition against Daesh (ISIL). This decision defined the contribution of the Republic of Slovenia in the fight against international terrorism, in the form of donating weapons and equipment, and participating in the Coalition with the presence of SAF members. The operation of the Global Counter-Terrorism Coalition against Daesh, of which Slovenia is also a part, takes place in the context of the Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR).

The SAF has been participating in the military part of the Coalition within the established OIR operation since September 2016 with seven members: a SAF officer as planner at the United States Central Command (US CENTCOM) in Tampa, and six SAF members participating in training teams at the Kurdistan Training Coordination Centre (KTCC) in Erbil in Iraqi Kurdistan. Members of the Slovenian contingent, together with the members of other participating countries at the KTCC, train members of the armed forces of Iraqi Kurdistan (Peshmerga) in basic military knowledge and skills.

# PROTECTION AGAINST NATURAL AND OTHER DISASTERS

## 1 PREVENTIVE ACTIVITIES

### 1.1 Preventive activities

The ACPDR, which carries out administrative and professional functions in protection against natural and other disasters, implements the tasks under the framework of the Protection against Natural and Other Disasters Act, the Fire Protection Act, the Protection against Drowning Act, and other implementing regulations. Prevention is a highly interdisciplinary activity which requires good inter-ministerial coordination and cooperation with other stakeholders.

In 2016, the following tasks were carried out in specific areas:

Directing and coordinating measures to prevent and improve the level of preparedness for natural and other disasters in cooperation with other Ministries:

- Preparation of the proposal for the Decree amending the Decree implementing the Decision on the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, which brings changes to the preparation of risk management capability assessments;
- Activities for the award of the UN certificate Disaster-Resistant City and Municipality for Murska Sobota and Kobarid.

Provision of guidelines and opinions on threat level consideration with regard to natural and other disasters and protective measures in spatial planning, and activities affecting space and spatial developments in national, inter-municipal and municipal spatial planning documents:

- Preparation of 280 guidelines and 237 opinions;
- Participation in spatial planning conferences.

Implementation of general fire prevention tasks:

- Issuing 156 authorizations for the inspection and testing of fire extinguishers, hydrant networks, and installed active fire protection systems, as well as implementing fire safety and fire protection measures;
- Implementing a proficiency examination in fire protection for 67 candidates;
- Declaring wildfire hazards;
- Preparing a draft regulation setting out the inspection and testing of installed active fire protection systems;
- Preparing the starting point for system solutions in the preparation of the risk assessments of buildings;
- Inter-ministerial coordination for the preparation of the fire safety concept and studies.

Participation in the preparation and implementation of regulations in the field of protection against drowning:

- Examination of the training level for water rescue for 291 candidates.

Activities related to raising public awareness in the implementation of preventive measures, and to the implementation of personal and collective protection:

- Implementation of the project October – the Fire Safety Month under the motto "Let us act preventively". This project included numerous activities: consultation, preparation of leaflets and posters for citizens, promotion of the 112 number, various media announcements for all age groups, participation in and visiting other events, and the annual, twentieth, Natural and other disasters competition for children;
- Implementation of activities related to the warning of chimney fires and carbon monoxide poisoning;
- Preparation and implementation of activities to raise public awareness of the protection against drowning through the media (television, web) and participation in the Blue Flag project.

## **1.2 The Normative Working Programme of the Government of the RS – the ACPDR**

In 2016, the Resolution on the National Programme of Protection against Natural and Other Disasters for the Period 2016-2022 (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 75/16) was adopted. The Resolution sets out the aims, policy and strategy of protection against natural and other disasters in the country.

Moreover, three implementing regulations were adopted, namely the Decree on Protection, Rescue and Relief Operations by Aircraft (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 21/16), the Decree on the Content and Elaboration of Protection and Rescue Plans (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 78/16), and the Decree on the Organization, Equipment and Training of Protection, Rescue and Relief Forces (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 27/16).

## **2 PREPAREDNESS OF THE SYSTEM OF PROTECTION AGAINST NATURAL AND OTHER DISASTERS AND THE PROTECTION, RESCUE AND RELIEF FORCES**

### **2.1 Planning**

The National Disaster Risk Assessment was supplemented by climate change considerations, which was the condition for the fulfillment of the ex-ante conditionality for the drawing of funds from the European structural and investment funds in the period 2014-2020.

The ACPDR prepared three national risk assessments: the Risk Assessment for the Occurrence of Communicable Diseases in Humans; the Risk Assessment for Nuclear or Radiological Accidents; and the Flood Risk Assessment.

It also prepared two national disaster response plans: the Plan for the Occurrence of Communicable Diseases in Humans, and the Plan in the Event of a Large Wildfire (proposal). In addition, it produced recommendations on the organization and functioning of the information centres.

### **2.2 Operational Planning and Preparedness**

The operational preparedness of the system of protection against natural and other disasters is provided through the continuous operation of notification centres and public rescue services, and through the preparedness of other rescue services, commissions, units and the civil protection (CP) headquarters. Organized, trained, and equipped members of rescue services, commissions, units and the CP headquarters ensure an appropriate and coordinated response to natural and other disasters. The ACPDR maintained its level of preparedness of response to natural and other disasters.

The Programme for the Formation of National Material Reserves for Protection, Rescue and Relief, which provides for the materiel and equipment from state reserves to help the affected people and the population at risk after natural and other disasters, as well as personal and collective equipment for the operation of the protection, rescue and relief (PRR) forces, was prepared for the period 2016-2022 and implemented in 2016 in accordance with the available resources. Public procurement procedures were carried out for the purchase of protective suits, staff tents, firefighting sets, CP boots, personal equipment for members of the Unit for the Search and Rescue of Missing Persons (protective clothing, protective boots, gloves, helmets), personal equipment for members of the Technical Diving Unit (caving suits, protective helmets, diving suits, heating sets), equipment for the Medical Care Unit (the Kendrick Extrication Device, splints, drugs and medical supplies), an all-terrain signals vehicle, rucksacks and spare first aid kits, a portable winch, a reinforced concrete saw, an endoscopic camera, a positive pressure ventilator, and plastic pallets.

Regular replacement, supplementation and maintenance of the equipment and national reserves assets ensure the preparedness and responsiveness of the system in the event of accidents involving hazardous substances.

The ACPDR provides a comprehensive and responsive logistics system of the National Logistics Centre to support the national CP units, and of 13 regional logistics centres to support the protection, rescue and relief forces at the regional level.

### **2.3 Protection, Rescue and Relief Forces**

The protection, rescue and relief forces were activated, and carried out 15,825 emergency response operations. As many as 20,774 structures of the protection, rescue and relief forces were activated, which is a total of 133,002 members of different units, services and structures.





*Work of a rescue dog and its handler*

*Overview of the Number of Emergency Response Operations of PRR Forces in 2016*

Type of Unit	Number of Activated PRR Structures	Number of Participants
Rescue Dog Units	120	611
Mountain Rescue Service	662	4,125
Cave Rescue Service	21	79
Voluntary Territorial Fire Brigades	12,232	95,256
Professional Firefighting Units	7,666	32,629
Voluntary Industrial Fire Brigades	38	129
Underwater Rescue Service	35	173
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,774</b>	<b>133,002</b>

Note: Data on the PRR forces participating in emergency response are based on the reports which are completed and included in the system for reporting on emergency response operations and disasters by 31st January 2017.

Based on the Decree on Civil Protection Service (Official Gazette of the RS, nos. 1/08, 99/08 and 45/14) , the ACPDR, as the founder, organizes Civil Protection units, services and bodies to perform protection, rescue and relief tasks at the national and regional levels, and prepares plans for the conclusion of contracts of service in the Civil Protection with CP members and candidates, in accordance with the decision stipulating priority manning with contract Civil Protection members (No. 833-16/2011-16-DGZR of 4th October 2016).



*Demonstration of a rescue operation by the Cave Rescue Service*

Contracts were primarily concluded for the manning of CP units, services and bodies organized by the ACPDR at the national and regional levels: units for search and rescue in urban environments; support services – catering department; field hospital; technical rescue teams with special machinery and equipment; support services – medical care teams; rapid response unit HQ; IT support unit; and psychological assistance units. In 2016, 11 new contracts and 60

annexes to contracts were concluded, 1 contract was terminated, and 9 contracts expired and were not renewed. A total of 116 contracts for employment in the CP were concluded.

#### *Contract Civil Protection Members*

<b>Unit</b>	<b>Number of Contracts</b>
National Rapid Response Unit – Technical Diving Unit	9
National Rapid Response Unit – IT Support Group	2
National Rapid Response Unit – Transport Unit	4
National Rapid Response Unit – Command	1
National Rapid Response Unit – CBR Decontamination	2
National Rapid Response Unit – Unit for Search and Rescue in Urban Environments	21
National Rapid Response Unit – Support Service – Medical Care Team	6
Support Service – Psychological Assistance Team	4
Field Hospital	5
Support Service – Catering Department	2
Notification Centre – Notification Centre Manning Team	23
Technical Rescue Team with Special Machinery and Equipment	10
Service for the Support and Conduct of Special Protection, Rescue and Relief Tasks during Environmental and other Disasters at Sea	14
Logistics Centre	13

Note: Number of contract members in individual Civil Protection units, services and bodies on 1st January 2017.

At the end of the year, the Civil Protection records listed a total of 55,782 protection, rescue and relief forces members, of which 33,489 were members of duty units and 22,293 were volunteers. The protection, rescue and relief forces at the national level included approximately 840 professional members, 1,200 voluntary members and 1,520 members of duty units.

## **2.4 Protection From Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)**

Protection from UXO is organized as a single measure throughout Slovenia, and comprises the detection, identification, disposal, transportation, storage and destruction of UXO, and the training of members of the National Unit for Protection from UXO.

In 2016, the National Unit for Protection from UXO carried out 456 emergency responses (on average 1.3 a day), in which members and volunteers of Civil Protection disposed of 1,749 pieces of various UXO (on average 4.8 pieces a day), or 6,948.65 kg (on average 19 kg a day). Three regular periodic destructions of UXO were carried out at the protection and rescue training range Poligon 208, during which 1,300 pieces of UXO with the total weight of 4,915.31 kg were destroyed.

Due to the fact that UXO, in terms of temporal distance from the moment it is dropped, and in terms of chemical and other changes, is increasingly dangerous, members of the National Unit for Protection from UXO destroy all those assets whose transport and temporary storage are not acceptable on the site. Last year, 30 destructions were carried out at the site of the find, namely 409 pieces of UXO with the total weight of 2,213.38 kg.

In addition to the emergency response operations and periodic destructions, six inspections of land were carried out by prior instruction of the owner or investor on suspicion of the presence



of UXO, and thirty-eight presentations of the field of UXO and the hazards arising therefrom. Presentations were carried out in schools, at public events, and at the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief in Ig.

Nine articles were published in the media to raise the public awareness of the dangers of UXO and of the correct procedures in the case of finds.

In 2016, a total of EUR 349,820 was spent for the implementation of operational measures in the field of protection from UXO. As many as 35 members of the National Unit for Protection against UXO carried out measures for protection against Unexploded Ordnance.

## **2.5 Provision of Conditions for the Operation of Protection, Rescue and Relief Forces**

The operational part of the system of protection against natural and other disasters is primarily based on voluntary rescue services and other structures organized by associations and NGOs. The subsidy provided by the ACPDR represents over 75% of the total funds required for the operation of individual units. Such operation includes the ongoing training and practice of unit members; members' medical examinations and insurance policies; payment of salaries and reimbursements for the loss of income to employers during the call-up of members; purchase and maintenance of their collective and personal protection and rescue equipment; and material costs of emergency response operations.

### *Co-Funding of Rescue Services, Associations and Other Organizations*

Co-funding of the activities of services, associations, units, companies, institutes and other organizations active in the field of protection, rescue and relief was carried out on the basis of the designed criteria, and provided funds, through contracts or annexes to the current contracts for the co-financing of the protection, rescue and relief activities, amounting to EUR 7,266,065. These funds ensured the operational preparedness of professional rescue services, fire brigades of general importance, associations and other organizations, and rescue services and structures which operate on a voluntary basis.

Annexes to contracts were concluded with the Firefighting Association of Slovenia; Mountain Rescue Association of Slovenia; Cave Rescue Service of the Speleological Association of Slovenia; Slovenian Kennel Club; Slovenian Diving Federation; Slovenian Red Cross; Slovenian Catholic Girl Guides and Boy Scouts Association; Scout Association of Slovenia; National Institute of Biology; Institute of Occupational Safety; Faculty of Medicine – Institute of Microbiology and Immunology; Faculty of Medicine – Forensic Identification Unit; Veterinary Faculty – Institute of Microbiology and Parasitology; Jožef Stefan Institute; Velenje Coal Mine; TKI Hrastnik (a chemical products factory); National Laboratory of Health, Environment and Food; Institute of Occupational Safety Ljubljana; Slovenian Professional Firefighters Association; Association of Societies and Clubs of Rescue Dog Handlers of Slovenia; Association of Radio Amateurs of Slovenia; CB Radio Club Soča; Adria TOW d.o.o. (towing services and assistance to ships and vessels); Prosub d.o.o.; sole trader Mitja Petrič s.p.; and the following flying clubs: Josip Križaj Ajdovščina; Postojna; Tolmin; Zagorje ob Savi; Coastal Flying Centre Portorož; Slovenj Gradec Airport; and Kras Flying Centre Divača.

### *Programme of Co-Funding Firefighting Units of General Importance*

Protection, rescue and relief tasks of general importance, which include rescue after traffic, industrial and other accidents involving dangerous substances, rescue after accidents in longer motorway and other road and railway tunnels, technical rescue tasks after traffic accidents and accidents in standing and flowing waters, and other protection, rescue and relief tasks of general importance, are carried out by 45 firefighting units of general importance (FUGI). For the smooth conduct of activities of general importance, data on the influence factors in operational areas (new roads and tunnels) as well as dual activation areas of FUGI, were updated and complemented, taking into account double-overlap areas. Furthermore, plans for 2016 and reports on the utilization of funds from 2015 were evaluated, and 53 annexes to contracts were prepared.

The programme of the co-funding of FUGI was fully implemented, and amounted to EUR 2,800,000. Of that amount, EUR 152,044 was allocated to the amortization of eight special

firefighting vehicles for tunnel rescue. The remainder of the funds were divided between units, in line with the criteria for the allocation of funds.

In line with an in-depth analysis of the time coverage of the activities of general importance, which was made on the basis of data from the information system for the reporting on disasters and emergency response operations (SPIN) for the period between 2010 and 2014, as well as graphical simulations of driving times from the FUGI headquarters to the nearest FUGI (taking into account the actual driving conditions, such as speed limits, etc.), seven additional firefighting units were introduced for purposes of improving time coverage. An amendment of the Decree on the Organization, Equipment and Training of Protection, Rescue and Relief Forces was carried out.

In the field of rescue in road traffic accidents, the pressing issue of cooperation of the FUGI and territorial firefighting units was arranged. The ACPDR prepared the eligibility criteria for the territorial firefighting units which can be established through the local plans for the activation of firefighting units for the simultaneous activation in the event of a traffic accident. The ACPDR reviewed and edited all municipal activation plans according to the criteria.

#### Emergency Rescue in Long Road and Motorway Tunnels

On the basis of contracts for the performance of operational duties in the event of road tunnel accidents, concluded between the Motorway Company of the Republic of Slovenia (MCRS), the MoD, and individual firefighting units (Jesenice Fire and Rescue Service (GARS Jesenice), Domžale Fire Safety Centre (CPV Domžale) and Celje Professional Firefighting Unit (PGE Celje)), a total of EUR 65,500 was paid for the co-financing of the maintenance and restoration of personal protective equipment, insurance and transport costs for tunnel firefighters.

In cooperation with the Firefighting Association of Slovenia, the final part of a planned purchase of collective equipment for firefighters providing support in tunnel operations was made in the amount of EUR 20,000. This final purchase concluded the total purchase of additional equipment for firefighters providing support in tunnel operations in accordance with the criteria for their organization and equipping.

#### Co-Funding of Firefighting Protection and Rescue Equipment

In 2016, the ACPDR continued with the modernization of protection and rescue equipment of firefighting units in voluntary fire brigades, and thus with the provision of harmonious development of these units. A total of 638 applicants responded to the tender notice, published in the Official Gazette of the RS, No. 18/16 of 4th March 2016. A total of 608 co-funding contracts, in the amount of EUR 1,700,000, were concluded for the purposes of modernization of protection and rescue equipment.

Type of Equipment	Requested	Approved	Of these, coming from less developed firefighting units	Amount of funds (in EUR)
Protective fire suit	1,240	1,226	299	195,885.52
Suit A	124	122	50	9,754.60
Suit B	106	104	53	3,905.50
Fire safety helmet	1,330	1,305	294	50,395.90
Firefighter boots	1,477	1,442	374	39,638.00
Firefighter gloves	1,795	1,739	410	23,701.70
Self-contained breathing apparatus	132	122	35	36,435.94
Blower	14	10	5	1,386.90
Collapsible backpack firefighting pump	47	47	12	1,997.57

Fire safety belt	766	761	200	8,837.33
Firefighter fatigue uniform type A	158	148	49	6,918.82
Firefighter fatigue uniform type B	3,959	3,928	1,242	131,130.10
Motor fire pump	10	10	4	23,174.68
Submersible pump	34	23	7	7,524.03
Generator	17	12	6	15,694.08
<b>Vehicles total</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>1,143,619.30</b>
Complete vehicle	37	33	10	471,592.59
Chassis	40	34	18	375,801.57
Upgrade	48	39	19	296,225.17

#### Co-funding of Important Anniversaries of Voluntary Fire Brigades

Based on the Criteria for the co-funding of important anniversaries of Voluntary Fire Brigades (ACPDR document, No. 8451-1/2015-1-DGZR of 26th March 2015), the ACPDR allocated dedicated funding in the amount of EUR 85,500 for high jubilees (110, 120, 130 and 140 years) to 42 voluntary fire brigades.

#### Co-funding the Harmonized Development of Territorial Firefighting Units

Based on the Criteria for co-funding the harmonized development of territorial firefighting units (ACPDR document, No. 8451-1/2015-2-DGZR of 26th March 2015), the ACPDR allocated dedicated funding in the amount of EUR 57,500 to assist 29 eligible firefighting units.

## **2.6 National Material Reserves for the Event of Natural and other Disasters**

In the previous period (2009-2015), Slovenia began to establish national material reserves (NMR), primarily for large-scale disasters, wildfires, floods, major hailstorms, communicable diseases, etc. The preparation of the Programme of Establishing NMR for Protection, Rescue and Relief in the period 2016-2022 ensures the planning of materiel and equipment from national reserves to help the affected population and the population at risk after natural and other disasters, as well as personal and collective equipment for the activities of the protection, rescue and relief forces.

Technical documents for the supplementation of NMR and the equipping of protection, rescue and relief forces were prepared, in accordance with the plan and in the amount of the funds provided. As much as 98.14% of the planned purchase of NMR and equipment for PRR forces was realized.

Public procurement procedures were carried out for the purchase of protective suits, staff tents, firefighting sets, CP boots, personal equipment for members of the Unit for the Search and Rescue of Missing Persons (protective clothing, protective boots, gloves, helmets), personal equipment for members of the Technical Diving Unit (caving suits, protective helmets, diving suits, heating sets), equipment for the Medical Care Unit (the Kendrick Extrication Device, splints, drugs and medical supplies), an all-terrain signals vehicle, rucksacks and spare first aid kits, a portable winch, a reinforced concrete saw, an endoscopic camera, a positive pressure ventilator, and plastic pallets. In addition, maintenance of the equipment in the national reserves and units was provided.

The resources and equipment of the PRR units and other forces were supplemented in order to provide and maintain an adequate level of equipping and operational preparedness of units for their response to natural and other disasters in Slovenia and abroad.

## **2.7 Delivery of Fire Fund Assets and Vehicles to Voluntary Fire Brigades**

In 2016, based on the Physical Assets of the State and Local Government Act, and to ensure the necessary preparedness for natural and other disasters, the ACPDR transferred, free of charge, the following assets to the transferees: a boat, a personal vehicle, thirty tent parts used in dealing with migrant issues, two chainsaws, an off-road trailer, and a boat trailer. In cooperation with the Logistics Directorate and the Firefighting Association of Slovenia, ten free transfers of goods vehicles and five Husqvarna engines were made to voluntary fire brigades.

After discussion, the Committee unanimously adopted a decision that the ACPDR, to ensure preparedness for natural and other disasters, transfers, on the basis of a contract and free of charge, the ownership of materiel and equipment purchased through the Fire Fund, to the final recipient, through the Firefighting Association of Slovenia, after the expiry of the statutory depreciation period, while the remainder of the book value equals zero (Rules on the Method and Rates of Depreciation of Intangible Fixed Assets and Tangible Fixed Assets, Official Gazette of the RS, No. 45/05, with amendments). Final recipients are required to manage and care well for the equipment received for use, to maintain it at own expense, and to record any maintenance activity in the Vulkan operational records. This decision supersedes the Committee Decision No. 79/5-2.

## **2.8 Fire Tax**

The eligible use of Fire Tax funds is laid down in Article 58 of the Fire Protection Act (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 3/07 – official consolidated text).

In 2016, based on the Decree on the Fire Tax, which was introduced by the Fire protection Act, a total of EUR 8,051,424 was collected. These funds are distributed on the basis of the RS Government's decision, which stipulates that at least 70% of the funds collected is to be allocated to the performance of fire protection tasks in local communities for the purposes set out in the Fire Protection Act, while 30% of the funds is to be allocated to the performance of tasks of general importance. The use of Fire Fund assets at the local level is planned by the municipal committee for the distribution of fire fund assets, based on the medium-term fire tax programmes for the co-financing of fire protection tasks, and on the annual plans for the protection against natural and other disasters. The use of Fire Fund assets at the national level is planned by the Committee appointed by the Government of the RS. The use of Fire Tax funds is planned by the Committee in accordance with the national programme of protection against natural and other disasters, and the annual plan of protection against natural and other disasters. Such an approach enables a comprehensive approach to the uniform allocation of funds earmarked for the training, equipping and education of all firefighting units in Slovenia. In addition, the purchase of special fire protection and other equipment, and co-financing the purchase of special firefighting vehicles led to a more uniform equipment of firefighting units.

Last year, the financial plan of the MoD or the ACPDR included a total of EUR 8,051,424, of which EUR 5,635,998 or 70% of the Fire Tax will be allocated to the local communities, on the basis of the RS Government's decision. Local communities must send a report on the use of the Fire Tax funds until the end of March.

The remaining Fire Fund assets in the amount of EUR 2,415,426, or 30%, were planned on the basis of the adopted and approved plan for the use of Fire Fund assets for the tasks of general importance. The majority of tasks which the Committee identified under the national programme for protection against natural and other disasters, and under the annual programme of protection against natural and other disasters (purchases of pagers and radio stations, breathing apparatuses, thermal cameras) were implemented. Moreover, maintenance and

servicing of various firefighting equipment for the firefighting school was carried out. The public procurement procedure for the purchase of a firefighting multi-purpose vehicle for the firefighting school and a mobile chainsaw simulator was completed. Also, the co-financing of the purchase of firefighting vehicles for the extinguishing of fires and high altitude rescue (vehicle ladders) was concluded. The funds were given to the Postojna municipality, which was eligible for purchase. In accordance with the plan, the education and training of firefighters was financed, and medical examinations of firefighters and the Vulkan information system were co-financed. Four mobile pumps and two decontamination stations were purchased from the funds for the national reserves equipment.

In 2016, in the field of research and development (R & D) of fire protection, contractors were able to apply to a public tender, announced by the MoD, with their proposals of tasks. Due to the administrative obstacles, procedures for the publication of public procurements for specific tasks or projects were delayed, so that the implementation of selected R & D projects was transferred to 2017.

#### Public Procurement for the Purchase of Planned Equipment

In 2016, equipment of high value was purchased from the Fire Fund assets:

- 1,092 pagers;
- 27 command pagers;
- 176 manual radio stations;
- 86 mobile radio stations;
- 260 self-contained breathing apparatuses (SCBA) (for 2016 and 2017) will be paid in 2017;
- 62 thermal cameras (for 2016 and 2017);
- 4 mobile pumps;
- 2 decontamination stations;
- 1 mobile chainsaw simulator; and
- 1 firefighting multi-purpose vehicle for the firefighting school.

## **2.9 Research and Development into Protection against Natural and Other Disasters**

In the field of protection against natural and other disasters, three R & D tasks were completed: Upgrade of Protection against Disasters on the Dams with Approximate Determination of the Consequences of their Collapse – VODPREG 2; Upgrade of the System for Determining the Seismic Threat and Responsiveness for the Needs of Civil Protection and Disaster Relief in Slovenia – POTROG 2; and Upgrade of the System for Notification and Warning in the Event of Landslides – MASPREM 2. The MoD participated in the tender for the Development of a comprehensive model of disaster response management at all levels of management in the field of protection, rescue and relief in the Republic of Slovenia – ICS. The implementation of project results from the previous period was carried out, and individual projects were presented to the local communities, firefighters, professional institutions, ministries and other users. The bases and proposals for two new projects to tender in 2017 were prepared. These two projects are the Upgrade of the System for Determining the Seismic Threat and Responsiveness for the Needs of Civil Protection and Disaster Relief in Slovenia – POTROG 3; and the Validation, Maintenance and Improvement of the MASPREM System – the Upgrade of the Early Warning System for the Risk of Landslides – MASPREM 3. The tendering procedure for the acquisition of tools to monitor emergencies on the drinking water supply systems for the response of the "drinking water" system of protection against natural and other disasters was unsuccessful, so all tendering procedures were terminated.

No R & D projects were carried out in the field of fire protection in 2016. Proposals were collected and tendering procedures for 2017 were conducted.

## **2.10. Monitoring, Notification and Warning**

Operations and communications tasks regarding monitoring, notification and warning are carried out continually 24 hours a day and 365 days a year by the National Notification Centre (NNC) and 13 Regional Notification Centres (RNC) responding to the emergency call number 112. The operation of the RNCs ensures the availability of emergency medical assistance, rapid activation of rescue workers, mostly firefighters, and the appropriate response of various rescue services during natural and other disasters for all citizens.

In 2016, according to the latest unaudited figures, the 13 RNCs received 481,230 emergency calls, which is more than 1,300 calls per day. At the same time, the operators conducted 225,268 return calls. With 47,740 calls, August was the month with the highest number of calls, while other months averaged approximately 39,000 calls. The RNCs also received 572 emergency calls in the form of text messages. The most often activated were the firefighters, almost 20,000 times, mountain rescuers, over 650 times, units for protection against UXO, 463 times, and rescue dog units, 138 times. Together with other units, there were 21,306 activations.

People usually called during the day, between 8am and 8pm. The largest regional notification centre, both in terms of territory and the number of inhabitants, the Ljubljana RNC, received the majority of calls, that is 119,647, followed by the Maribor RNC with 59,404 calls, the Celje RNC with 49,765 calls, and the Kranj RNC with 42,942 calls.

The operators answered 90% of the calls in 6.03 seconds. In 90% of all cases, the calls lasted less than 76.46 seconds, which is a good minute. The majority of them, however, lasted around 12 seconds. In 2016, the majority of calls, as many as 3,475, occurred on 29th August. This is about a third of the number of calls of the busiest 2nd February 2014, the time of the extreme weather disaster which included an ice storm, when 9,538 calls were received. The average response time in that year was 6.5 seconds, and the number of calls made to the 112 number was 581,314, with an average of 1,600 calls per day.

The majority of calls made to the 112 emergency call number results in the activation of rescue units and emergency response operations. The main reason for the calls remained the same in 2016; people called the number over 107,648 times because they needed emergency medical assistance. In such events, the operator in the RNC transferred the call to the nearest medical assistance centre. Information on the number of emergency medical assistance calls followed by an emergency response operation is kept at the emergency medical assistance centres, which also decide on the level of the emergency and the type of the emergency response operation required.

The ACPDR keeps the data on the interventions of all other rescue services. Most interventions were carried out by firefighters; more than 12,000 by the firefighters of voluntary fire brigades and slightly more than 7,600 by professional firefighters. The mountain rescue service was activated over 650 times, the units for protection against UXO 463 times, the rescue dog units 138 times, the underwater rescue service 38 times, and the cave rescue service 21 times.

The Maribor RNC faced an extreme event on 29th August 2016 when as many as 1,056 calls were received between 4pm and 5pm, of which the employees were only able to process 167. As a result, as many as 455 different callers attempted to establish a connection up to thirteen times. Such an extreme was not even faced two years ago, during the most large-scale event. For this reason, a concept will be designed in 2017 to connect all RNCs in the way of mutual assistance in the event of major natural and other disasters.

The number of all the telephone conversations conducted by operators following a call received to the 112 emergency call number amounted to slightly more than 700,000 (including the incoming and outgoing calls which the operators conducted with the intent of activating and informing units, services and individuals, as well as return calls to callers of the 112 emergency call number).

## **2.11 Communication and Information Systems (CIS)**

In 2016, the MoD continued updating the computer software for the operation of the system of protection against natural and other disasters. Among other things, it replaced 30 technologically outdated desktop computers with screens at the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief, and arranged a computer room at the Centre's training unit in Pekre.

Two servers and a disk array were purchased for the applications in the protection and rescue network. Six new servers for the Geographic Information System (GIS) were installed in the RNCs. The technologically outdated and worn-out radio dispatch consoles ZETRON were replaced with new ones at the Novo mesto, Trbovlje and Slovenj Gradec RNCs. Two worn-out recording devices were replaced at the Ptuj and Slovenj Gradec RNC. The National Logistics Centre Roje was connected to the optical network.

A contract for the lease of network services or services of the Virtual Private Network (VPN) through the MPLS network was concluded, as well as leasing two access points to connect with partner networks via the internet, and a contract for the maintenance of the ePSAP interface that allows the reception of eCalls.

To ensure communication with aircraft during the performance of protection, rescue and relief tasks, 15 mobile radio stations were purchased and installed in the RNCs. In addition, two manual radio stations were purchased for communication of the heads of emergency response operations and aircrafts.

With the introduction of the new eCall and AML technologies in the RNCs for the accurate determination of a caller's location, conditions were provided for the shortening of response times and a faster arrival of rescue teams.

The ACPDR is participating in the i-HeERO project as a full member. The i-HeERO project is intended for the development of an automated call from a damaged vehicle, the eCall, which Slovenia ensured at the end of 2015. By continuing the project, the eCall is being used in goods vehicles and single-track vehicles transporting dangerous substances, and the next generation of eCall is being developed.

The MoD participated with the Ministry of Health in the tender for a study on the radio signal coverage of Slovenia, and in the subsequent preparation and implementation of the public procurement procedure for the purchase and installation of DMR repeaters to create a single digital radio network for the RS authorities – the DMR system.

## **2.12 The Migrant Issue**

In 2016, the ACPDR continued to address the migrant situation until the closure of the Balkan migrant route on 5th March 2016. It did so by transporting materiel and equipment from the National Logistics Centre Roje to the vicinity of the reception and accommodation centres (tents, emergency beds and blankets), by providing logistic support to the Ministry of the Interior and the Police during the setting-up of the reception and accommodation centres (providing

electricity, water, toilets and washrooms in the facilities), and by setting-up tents and equipping them with beds and bedding. All the activities were conducted in cooperation with the representatives of the local communities, societies and organizations included in the protection and rescue system. The reception and accommodation centres were set up in six regions. All employees of the ACPDR regional offices were included in the activities, establishing capabilities for the organization of the accommodation and reception centres, and ensuring their operation and management. The ACPDR's capability to provide logistic support to the PRR forces was guaranteed at all times via the National Logistics Centre and the Regional Logistics Centres. The ACPDR prepared instructions for the work in accommodation centres, coordinated the work of humanitarian and non-governmental organizations, led and coordinated the work of public work providers, and provided support to the CP Commander by organizing work in the RS CP Headquarters support group. The scope of work and activities was adapted to the number of migrants. From March, in compliance with the Resolution of the RS Government, a state of readiness was maintained in the reception and accommodation centres in Dobova, Šentilj, Lendava and Vrhnika.



## 3 DISASTER RESPONSE AND DAMAGE ASSESSMENT

### 3.1 Disaster Response

In 2016, 15,826 different events occurred in Slovenia: natural and other disasters; road traffic accidents; fires and explosions; pollution; accidents involving dangerous substances; nuclear and other events; findings of unexploded ordnance; supply disruptions; damage to facilities; and events requiring technical and other assistance. The PRR forces, in addition to other services, responded to these events.

#### *Events in 2016*

Event	Number of Events
Natural disasters	1,186
Other disasters	1,686
Road traffic accidents	2,687
Fires and explosions	4,404
Pollution, accidents involving dangerous substances	640
Nuclear and other events	17
Findings of UXO, supply disruptions and damage to facilities	826
Technical and other assistance	4,379
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,825</b>

Note: Data on the events in 2016 are based on reports completed by 31st January 2017.

A closer look at the events reveals that the accidents resulted in 20,137 emergency response operations, with the participation of 126,787 members of various PRR forces. The majority of emergency response operations took place in August (2,325), followed by April (2,152) and July (1,884). The majority of emergency response operations were carried out by voluntary territorial fire brigades (11,253), professional firefighting units (7,617), the National Unit for Protection from UXO (463), and the Mountain Rescue Association of Slovenia (567). Through their timely and effective action, and assistance to those affected, the PRR forces undoubtedly contributed to the mitigation of damage and other consequences caused by these events.

#### *Natural Disasters and Emergency Response Operations in 2016*

Events	Number of Emergency Response Operations	Number of Participants	Number of Injured People
High tides	11	22	0
Floods	896	6,333	0
Avalanches	103	754	0
Deep snow	444	3,037	0
Hail	68	466	0
Strong winds	359	2,643	0
Lightning strikes	19	145	0
Disruptions of traffic due to natural phenomena	2	9	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,902</b>	<b>13,409</b>	<b>0</b>

Note: Data on emergency response operations in 2016 are based on reports completed in the system for reporting on emergency response operations and disasters (SPIN) by 31st January 2017.

After the emergency response operation following the large wildfire on the edge of the Karst Plateau, between Črnotiče and Dol pri Hrastovljah over 7th-10th August 2016 had been analyzed, a report was prepared, and the emergency response costs were collected. Across all three days of firefighting, 1,327 firefighters and 394 firefighting vehicles were activated from two professional firefighting units, 112 voluntary fire brigades, and 11 firefighting associations from the Coastal-Karst region, the Northern Primorska region, the Notranjska region, the first Ljubljana region, and the second Ljubljana region. Voluntary firefighters completed 13,453 volunteer hours. Three SAF helicopters and the military aircraft Pilatus also helped to extinguish the fire. The costs of the emergency response amounted to EUR 208,771 and were partly (EUR 145,876) settled from the budget reserves.

### **3.2 Damage Assessment**

Damage assessment after natural and other disasters in agriculture and on specific objects and things was carried out by qualified appraisers according to the prescribed methodology and in parallel with the regular maintenance of the AJDA application. The appraisers concluded contracts for work in field conditions.

The ACPDR was responsible for the appropriate qualification of appraisers and a unified damage assessment system. In April 2016, agricultural products were affected by severe frosts. Frost is one of the insurable natural disasters for which the state subsidizes the insurance premium. To assess the damage to crops, a calculated damage assessment was carried out. The AJDA application was upgraded with new price lists for agricultural products and imported applications for subsidies from the Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Agricultural Markets and Rural Development. Four training courses on damage assessment were carried out for members of the municipal and regional damage assessment commissions. The members were introduced to innovations in the AJDA damage assessment application. A training course for the 5v (watercourse) form entry was carried out for the Slovenian Water Agency. The training sessions were carried out at the AJDA application provider's head office, the Urban Institute of Ljubljana.

In 2016, a Decision on Damage Assessment was issued for four major natural disasters:

- Assessment of damage to crops, vineyards, orchards and other plantations of trees yielding repeat products, and to fittings of certain producers, due to the effects of cold and snow in the period from 25th to 30th April 2016 in the affected areas of Slovenia. The estimated damage to fittings amounted to EUR 469,195. The estimated damage to crops, vineyards, orchards and other plantations of trees yielding repeat products amounted to EUR 43,496,547.
- Final assessment of direct damage to property resulting from the consequences of storm winds and floods occurring between 25th and 27th June 2016. The assessment of damage to property in 24 municipalities covering six regions (Koroška, Notranjska, Podravska, Posavska, Prekmurska and Zahodnoštajerska) totaled EUR 13,299,839. The total amount of direct damage included damage to property (EUR 2,546,818), damage to national roads (EUR 38,611), damage to forest roads (EUR 112,516), and damage to watercourses (EUR 10,601,893).
- The assessment of damage to property resulting from the consequences of the storm of 29th August 2016, which covered five regions (Koroška, Central Slovenia, Vzhodnoštajerska, Zahodnoštajerska and Zasavska), totaled EUR 24,892,885, and caused damage to 16 municipalities. The total amount of direct damage included damage to property (EUR 10,785,048), damage to forest roads (EUR 229,423), damage to watercourses (EUR 13,514,955), and damage to national roads (EUR 363,458).

- At the end of October, a Decision on the Assessment of Damage to Forests was issued due to the damage caused by the spruce bark beetle. By the end of 2016, the assessment of damage had not yet been completed.

The assessment of damage to property resulting from the consequences of the storm of 29th August 2016, which covered five regions (Koroška, Central Slovenia, Vzhodnoštajerska, Zahodnoštajerska and Zasavska), totaled EUR 24,892,885, and caused damage to 16 municipalities. The total amount of direct damage included damage to property (EUR 10,785,048), damage to forest roads (EUR 229,423), damage to watercourses (EUR 13,514,955), and damage to national roads (EUR 363,458).

### **3.3 EU Solidarity Fund**

Based on Article 4 of the Commission Implementing Decision No. C (2015) 2063 final of 23rd March 2015 on the financial contribution from the EU Solidarity Fund, the Government of the RS received funding to offset the effects of the winter disaster. Based on the Resolution of the Government of the RS No. 54400-1/2015/4 of 29th January 2015, and the Directions for the Implementation of procedures for the use of resources from the EU Solidarity Fund in the RS, received to offset the effects of the winter disaster of February 2014, No. 3031/2014-119, issued by the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology between 30th January and 30th April 2014, funds were provided for the reimbursement of expenses incurred by the provision of temporary accommodation and the financing of rescue services to assist the population affected by floods, deep snow and ice storms between 30th January and 30th April 2014. The EU funds had to be used within 18 months of the date of transfer by the European Commission.

Of the total amount of assistance (EUR 18,388,478), the ACPDR received EUR 4.3 million for the reimbursement of emergency response expenses to municipalities. The recognized costs included the costs of emergency response units and services, expenses required for the establishment of infrastructure and the protection of facilities, expenses required for the protective measure of evacuation, and all expenses related to the emergency purchase of equipment. The ACPDR reimbursed the 43 municipalities by the amount of EUR 2,251,337 in 2015, and EUR 537,770 in 2016; in total, EUR 2,789,107. Due to the lack of applications and the lack of evidence from the municipalities, the Government of the RS, together with the MoD and the ACPDR, reallocated the surplus funds in the amount of EUR 1,510,892 to the Ministry of Infrastructure, the Slovenian Infrastructure Agency.

## 4 EDUCATION AND TRAINING

In line with the annual education and training plan, education and training took place at the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief in Ig and the Centre's training units in Pekre, Sežana and Logatec. Training was provided to members of various PRR forces and public employees in the field of protection and rescue. Following the Decision of the RS Government of 22nd February 2016, a branch of the asylum centre was established at the Logatec training unit.

A total of 30,759 participants attended the various forms of education, training and other activities (22,499 people at the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief in Ig; 6,138 people at the Centre's training unit in Pekre; 622 at the Logatec training unit; 1,713 at the Sežana training unit; and 1,910 at other locations outside the Training Centre).



*Firefighter training*

*Training in 2016 according to Target Groups*

Target Groups	Number of Participants
<b>Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief in Ig</b>	
Training Programmes for CP Members	392
Fire Service and Qualification Programmes	1,773
Programmes for Public Employees on Protection against Natural and Other Disasters	408
Programmes for Foreign Participants	196
Programmes of Societies – Firefighters	5,072
Joint Programmes for Several Target Groups (rescue by helicopter, leadership – group dynamics, public relations in the event of disasters)	2,435
Programmes of Societies – Dog Handlers	4,619
Programmes of Societies – Divers, Cave Rescuers, Mountain Rescue Services, Underwater Rescue Services	1,433
Programmes of Societies – Others (Red Cross, Slovenian Fire Protection Association, Scout Association of Slovenia)	558
Other ACPDR Training and Activities	1,553
Other MoD, SAF and IRSPANOD Training and Activities	1,607
Training of External Users	2,453
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,499</b>

<b><i>Pekre Training Unit</i></b>	
Programmes of Societies – Firefighters	2,617
Programmes on Protection against Natural and Other Disasters	845
Other Training and Activities of the MoD and External Users	2,676
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,138</b>

<b><i>Logatec Training Unit</i></b>	
Programmes of Societies – Firefighters	389
Programmes on Protection against Natural and Other Disasters	128
Other Training and Activities of the MoD and External Users	105
<b>Total</b>	<b>622</b>

<b><i>Sežana Training Unit</i></b>	
Fire Service and Qualification Programmes	612
Programmes on Protection against Natural and Other Disasters	362
Other Training and Activities of the MoD and External Users	739
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,713</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,759</b>

#### **4.1 Development of Education and Training Programmes**

Five training programmes were updated and adopted:

- Supplementary Wildfire Training Programme for Firefighters (MoD, No. 604-36/2015-13-DGZR of 1st July 2016);
- Basic Training Programme for Voluntary Firefighters (MoD, No. 604-39/2016-8-DGZR of 3rd October 2016);
- Supplementary Training Programme to Perform the Tasks of Protection, Rescue and Relief using Aircraft (MoD, No. 604-44/2016-7-DGZR of 18th November 2016);
- Basic Training Programme for Public Employees at ACPDR Notification Centres (MoD, No. 604-46/2016-4-DGZR of 12th December 2016);
- Supplementary Training Programme for Public Employees at ACPDR Notification Centres (MoD, No. 604-47/2016-3-DGZR of 12th December 2016).

A new Programme of the Further Training of Candidates for the Proficiency Examination for Commanders and Operational Heads of Firefighting Units (MoD, No. 604-27/2016-6-DGZR of 16th March 2016) was developed and adopted. The Supplementary Hot Fire Training Programme for Firefighters (MoD, No. 04-35/2015-10-DGZR of 18th February 2016) was amended.

#### **4.2 Implementation of Education and Training Courses**

The training of the 23rd generation of candidates for the profession of firefighter was organized between 4th January 2016 and 16th June 2016. It lasted 24 weeks or 961 hours altogether, of which 401 hours were intended for theory and 560 hours for practical training. The 23rd generation comprised 33 candidates, who successfully completed their training.

In accordance with the provision of Article 14a of the Rules on the Special Exams of Professional Firefighters (Official Gazette of the RS, Nos. 31/00, 108/11 and 35/14), the

commission for the proficiency examination of professional firefighters compared the contents of the final exam and the proficiency examination.

*In 2016, the Employees of the Firefighting School also Conducted Training Courses according to the following Programmes:*

<b>Type of Training</b>	<b>Number of Courses</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>
Basic and Supplementary Training Programme to Perform the Tasks of Protection, Rescue and Relief using Aircraft, Modules A, A/1, B, C, and C/1 (Cave Rescue Services, Mountain Rescue Services, Cynological Association, Helicopter Emergency Medical Aid Unit, Firefighting Association of Slovenia)	57	1,179
Basic and Supplementary Training Programme for Firefighters for the Use of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus	4	42
Training Programme for Firefighting and Rescue in Single-Tube and Double-Tube Tunnels	7	179
Hot Fire Training Programme, Modules A, B and C	8	150
Supplementary Hot Fire Training Programme for Firefighters – Module A and B Hot Fire Instructor Training	2	29
Training Programme for High and Low Altitude Rescue in Urban Environments	2	21
Training Programme for the Use of Hydraulic and Rescue Tools	1	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>1,618</b>

*In 2016, the Employees of the Firefighting School also Carried Out Practical Exercises*

<b>Type of Practical Training – Exercise</b>	<b>Number of Courses</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>
Practical rescue exercise for the event of accidents involving dangerous substances - Lek, d.d.	1	24
Practical technical rescue exercise for members of the national unit for search and rescue in urban environments – MUSAR (Medium Urban Search and Rescue)	1	24
Instructor training for working with the timber tension simulator	1	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>64</b>

From 18th to 22nd April 2016, training was carried out for the Italian, Slovenian and Croatian rescue workers on the subject of long-term support to buildings after earthquakes (24 participants), according to the Matilda Project.



*Matilda Exercise*

In May 2016, an expert seminar was carried out on the fire intervention and functioning of electrical appliances and photovoltaic systems. The seminar was attended by 65 firefighters from the FUGI units.

In 2016, the Firefighting School was actively involved in major repairs and purchases of firefighting equipment and technology: the purchase of a multi-purpose fire engine; the purchase of a simulator for creating timber tension; the purchase of thermal cameras; the purchase of fixed assets and of small and consumable goods used in training; the rental of scrap vehicles for technical rescue (180 vehicles); and the servicing of equipment.

Training at the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief was carried out based on the number of applications. All the planned training courses with a sufficient number of applications were carried out, with the exception of some that were rescheduled to the following year for various reasons. In addition, the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief participated in the implementation of other common tasks in the context of the ACPDR, in the EU Internal Security Project – the protection of critical infrastructure, and in various other activities.

The ACPDR continued its coordination with the DPPI SEE secretariat – the activities of the working group member for the Disaster Management Training Project (DMTP), specifically in the production of a training schedule for Slovenia, and the organization and implementation of international courses in the context of the DPPI:

- Basic Training for Dogs and Dog Handlers;
- Cave Rescue Training; and
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) – in cooperation with the Republic of Croatia.

Organization, implementation and management of internal courses. Assistance in the organization and implementation of international courses within the framework of the Civil Protection Mechanism:

- MBC 4, Cycle 13: 9-15 April;
- MBC 1, Cycle 14: 18-24 June; and
- MBC 2, Cycle 14: 3-9 September.

*International Training in 2016*

Initiative, Mechanism	Training, Courses	Number of Courses	Number of Participants
Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE)	Basic Training for Dogs and Dog Handlers	1	17
Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE)	Basic Cave Rescue Training, September – carried out in Romania, in cooperation with the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations of Romania	1	19
Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE)	Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Course, in cooperation with the Republic of Croatia, National Protection and Rescue Directorate	1	16
EU Civil Protection Mechanism	Modules Basic Course (MBC), April	1	21
EU Civil Protection Mechanism	Modules Basic Course (MBC), June	1	21
EU Civil Protection Mechanism	Modules Basic Course (MBC), September	1	21
<b>International Training Total</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>115</b>

A proficiency examination for heads of professional firefighting units was organized and carried out for the first time. The examination was passed by 20 candidates. A training course according to the new Hot Fire Training Programme – Module C – was also carried out for the first time.

In 2016, in compliance with the Decision of the Government of the RS, an interdepartmental working group was established to produce a basic document for the planning, training and implementation of psychosocial support after disasters. Representatives of several Ministries were appointed to the working group: the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport; the Ministry of Infrastructure; the Ministry of the Interior; the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities; the Ministry of Justice; the Ministry of Health; and the Ministry of Defence.

In the context of the ACPDR, the European project Development and Implementation of the System of Psychosocial Support to First Responders and Disaster-Affected Populations was carried out. The project was co-financed by the EU from the Internal Security Fund. Training was carried out for various providers of psychosocial support, and for the management of psychosocial support given to first responders and disaster-affected populations. A manual, "Psychosocial Support after Disasters and Other Crisis Events", was published.

*Overview of the Training Courses Organized and Carried out in 2016*

Name of Training Course	Number of Courses	Number of Participants
Introductory and basic training for CP commanders, their deputies and members of CP headquarters	4	108
Introductory and basic training for CP commissioners	5	99
Basic training for international rescue operations	3	101
Basic training of the heads of emergency response	1	30



Name of Training Course	Number of Courses	Number of Participants
Supplementary training for CP commanders, their deputies and members of CP headquarters – Management of PRR Activities in the Event of an Earthquake	1	32
Supplementary training – Leadership and Group Dynamics	3	50
Supplementary training – Public Relations in the Event of Disasters, Part 1	2	18
Supplementary training – Public Relations in the Event of Disasters, Part 2	2	16
Supplementary training – Public Relations in the Event of Disasters, Part 3	2	12
Supplementary training for SAF members on protection, rescue and relief	1	16
Basic training for members of services and units performing civil protection and disaster relief tasks during floods and other water disasters (Programme E)	4	70
Practical examination of the training level for rescue and administration of first aid during water rescue according to the programme of basic training for members of services and units performing civil protection and disaster relief tasks during floods and other water disasters (Programme E)	1	2
Basic diver training programme for technical diving – Module 1	2	18
Basic diver training programme for technical diving – Module 2	1	6
Supplementary training programme for rescue divers involved in the protection and rescue system	1	13
Basic training programme for the performance of protection and rescue tasks using aircraft, Module A	9	222
Supplementary training programme for the performance of protection and rescue tasks using aircraft, Module A	14	319
Supplementary training programme for the performance of protection and rescue tasks using aircraft, Module A/1	5	106
Basic training programme for the performance of protection and rescue tasks using aircraft, Module C	6	90
Supplementary training programme for the performance of protection and rescue tasks using aircraft, Module C	12	215
Basic training programme for the performance of protection and rescue tasks using aircraft, Module C/1	1	12
Introductory training programme for psychosocial support	1	53
Basic training programme for coping with stress (two versions)	2	72
Supplementary training programme for psychosocial support, Module 1 – for confidants	1	36
Supplementary training programme for psychosocial support, Module 1 – advanced	1	64
Supplementary training programme for psychosocial support, Module 3 – supervision	3	63
Training for radio station users and custodians of the ZARE and ZARE+ communications systems	4	103

Name of Training Course	Number of Courses	Number of Participants
Introductory and basic training for geophone operators within the CP technical rescue units	1	14
Introductory and basic training for support service members – communications teams	1	6
Introductory and basic training for support service members – transport teams	1	3
Introductory and basic training for support service members – supply teams	1	27
Introductory and basic training for CP contract members	1	25
Protection and rescue applications – SPIN and PLK	5	84
Protection and rescue application – 3D GIS	5	60
Basic training for the public employees of notification centres	1	13
Supplementary training in the preparation and implementation of exercises in the field of protection against natural and other disasters	4	79
<b>Total</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>2,257</b>

The Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief provides logistic support to training by providing board and lodging to training participants, material and technical resources for the implementation of all activities, routine maintenance of facilities and equipment, and the purchase of assets, equipment and food. The Training Centre also carries out financial and administrative tasks. Activities take place at the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief in Ig and at the Centre's training units in Sežana, Logatec and Pekre.

The Centre constantly provides quality service and credibility, and searches for the best ratios between the available options, solutions and professional challenges. Awareness of the importance of knowledge is also a commitment to the comprehensive training in the available resources, which makes it possible to respond, at any time, to the requests of the ACPDR and other service users, as well as responding to new challenges posed by the market in the global economy.

#### 4.3 Assessment of Training Level and Exercises

The planned one-day national exercise for the comprehensive assessment of disaster preparedness in major cities, the Murska Sobota 2016 exercise, was not carried out due to the management's decision that Bogataj's Protection and Rescue Days, and hence the national exercise, would be carried out in 2017.

The one-day practical exercise *Železniška nesreča* (Railway accident) Maribor 2016 was organized at the national level and carried out on Sunday, 9th October. The exercise assessed the readiness for a major railway accident in practice. It was carried out under the scenario that there was a collision of two trains at the Drava Bridge. The freight train was carrying dangerous substances, while there were more than 50 passengers on the passenger train, many of whom were injured, trapped inside the train cars, or fell into the river. The exercise involved more than 450 members of services, units, societies and organizations participating in emergency response operations in the event of railway accidents, according to the protection and rescue plans.

The following exercises were planned and carried out at the regional level:

- The one-day theoretical and practical exercise "Earthquake Breginj 2016" was carried out on 28th May 2016. It was conducted in the context of honouring the 40th anniversary of the earthquake in Breginjski kot. The exercise was carried out based on the assumption that there was a strong earthquake shock which buried dozens of people under rubble. The morning theoretical part included the regional CP

headquarters and CP headquarters from Bovec, Tolmin and Kobarid. In the afternoon, between 12pm and 6pm, the practical part of the exercise was held, demonstrating a search for missing people, rescue from rubble, and the implementation of other tasks and measures after earthquakes, up to the provision of basic living conditions. The exercise involved CP members from the Friuli-Venezia Giulia region and members of services, units, societies and organizations participating in emergency response operations in the event of major earthquakes, according to the protection and rescue plans.

- A one-day theoretical and practical exercise for the verification of response readiness in the event of a mass disaster on the Slovenske Konjice-Arja vas motorway section. The motorway accident exercise "Lopata 2016" was carried out on 2nd October 2016. Members of all services, units, societies and organizations included in disaster response in the event of an accident on this motorway section were engaged in the exercise.
- A one-day exercise of PRR forces in the event of fire on board a passenger ship. The exercise was conducted on 16th October 2016 at the passenger terminal of the Port of Koper, on the assumption that there was a fire on board a passenger ship which asked for assistance in extinguishing the fire. The exercise included public protection, rescue and relief services, companies, and municipal and regional CP units and services.
- A two-day theoretical and practical exercise for the assessment of the management, operational performance, and cooperation of regional PRR forces in the event of an earthquake. The exercise "Ruševina (Ruin) Gorenjska 2016" was carried out on 28th and 29th October 2016 in the Gorenjska region. It involved over 1,500 members of various rescue units, services and organizations included in disaster response in the event of an earthquake. Members of rescue units from Austrian Carinthia also participated in the exercise.

#### Regional and National Examination of the Civil Protection and Red Cross First Aid Teams

Regional examinations of the training level of first aid teams are aimed at restoring practical knowledge, maintaining skills and competence, operating in different situations, promoting the desire for a better quality of first aid, and introducing and presenting first aid activities to the widest possible range of people. Eleven regional examinations of the training level of CP and RC first aid teams were carried out (the regions of Celje and Trbovlje, and Nova Gorica and Koper conducted joint examinations). The examinations were attended by 129 first aid teams:

- 62 Red Cross teams;
- 44 Civil Protection teams of local communities, companies, institutes and organizations;
- 17 teams from firefighting organizations;
- 1 Cave Rescue Service team;
- 1 Police team; and
- 4 teams from neighbouring countries (Croatia and Hungary).

The national examination of the training level of first aid teams, which took place in Slovenj Gradec on 1st October 2016, was attended by teams which were ranked among the best in the previous regional training level examinations for first aid teams, together with the best runner-up team in the regional examinations. Fourteen first aid teams qualified for the national examination: six RC teams, six CP teams, and two teams from firefighting organizations. The national examination tested the performance and training level of CP and RC first aid teams in the provision of first aid in the event of natural and other disasters (with an emphasis on floods, thunderstorms, avalanches, and chain-reaction accidents), mass disasters, and in migrant and refugee care. These specific areas were selected on the basis of events and disasters, and were current and comparable to European Union doctrine in the area of first aid. The teams provided first aid to 34 ill and injured people at seven simulated sites. The team of the Krško Nuclear Power Plant demonstrated the highest level of knowledge and took first place. Second place was taken by the Slovenian Red Cross - Ajdovščina Regional Association team, and third place by the Slovenian Red Cross - Zagorje ob Savi Regional Association team.

*European Examination of the Training Level of First Aid Teams "FACE 2016"*

The European examination of the training level of first aid teams, First Aid Convention in Europe (FACE 2016), examined the training level of first aid teams from European countries. It took place in Ljubljana from 30th June to 2nd July 2016. The event connected all European National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in the exchange of practical and theoretical knowledge of first aid. The organizer of the FACE 2016 examination was the Slovenian Red Cross, in cooperation with the ACPDR and the Municipality of Ljubljana. The preparation and implementation of the examination included 552 people from 11 ACPDR regional offices and 31 regional organizations of the Slovenian Red Cross (SRC). The examination of the first aid teams took place on Saturday, 2nd July 2016, from 8am to 4.30pm. It was attended by 22 teams from 18 countries: Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Macedonia, Germany, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Serbia, and Switzerland. Two Slovenian teams participated outside the competition, namely the CP team from the Ptuj municipality and the team from the SRC Grosuplje Regional Association. The first aid teams demonstrated their knowledge and skills at ten different sites with simulated accidents and realistically imitated injuries. The best was the first aid team from Serbia, followed by Ireland and Montenegro. According to the results, the two Slovenian first aid teams would have taken second and third place.

## **5 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

### **5.1 Bilateral Cooperation**

In 2016, the ACPDR continued good cooperation in the field of protection against natural and other disasters with Slovenia's neighbouring countries. Cooperation with Austria was conducted through the standing committees of Austrian Carinthia and Styria; representatives of the border regions of Austria and Italy took part in the exercise Earthquake Breginj 2016; and Slovenian and Austrian protection and rescue units trained together in the exercises Cooperate 2016 - Voda Obala (Water Coast) and Ruševina (Ruin) Gorenjska 2016. Sessions of the permanent mixed commission for protection against natural and other disasters, and four sub-commissions, were carried out with the Republic of Croatia. Activities in the border area and in supporting cross-border projects were carried out with the Republic of Hungary. A meeting was conducted at the level of Directors General who committed to further joint activities in supporting regional cooperation in the Western Balkans. Cooperation with Italy took place in the context of different European projects, and at the bilateral level with the autonomous region Friuli Venezia Giulia through the joint committee. A project was prepared on extinguishing fires in the areas of unexploded ordnance.

Good cooperation was continued with the Western Balkan countries at the bilateral level, in the context of the regional initiative DPPI SEE, and in the implementation of European projects. The procedure was started for concluding a bilateral agreement on cooperation in the field of protection against natural and other disasters with the Republic of Albania. A visit to the ACPDR Director General in Bosnia and Herzegovina was carried out, during which experience in controlling the migrant situation was presented. The procedure was started for concluding a bilateral agreement on cooperation in the field of protection against natural and other disasters with the Republic of Kosovo; the ACPDR provided expert assistance in modernizing the emergency call centres - 112. In May, the ACPDR provided bilateral technical assistance to Serbia in the EU accession process and in the introduction of a single emergency call number. In October, the Slovenian delegation visited the fire and rescue service of the Czech Republic. The focus of the cooperation with Sweden was training. Representatives of the embassies of the Republic of Poland, the People's Republic of China and the United States of America visited the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief.

### **5.2 Regional Cooperation**

The framework of regional cooperation in the field of protection against natural and other disasters is the Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative for South-Eastern Europe (DPPI SEE), which aims to strengthen the participation of countries in the region. Slovenia chaired the Initiative in 2016 and successfully implemented the planned priority tasks; progress was made in the preparation of the host agreement. In addition to the traditional partners (Denmark, Italy and Sweden), Austria and Hungary also joined the activities; moreover, cooperation was strengthened with the United Nations - United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR). In April, the ACPDR organized the 32nd regional meeting of the Initiative in Portorož, and in November, it co-organized the 33rd regional meeting of the Initiative in Sarajevo. In the context of the project on a joint regional flood response unit in South Eastern Europe, eleven water rescue units were equipped with personal equipment. A cave rescue course was organized in Romania, a dog rescue worker course was organized at the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief, and a disaster risk reduction course was organized in Bled.

### **5.3 The European Union**

In 2016, the focus was on the strengthening of cooperation between the Civil Protection and critical infrastructure, and on the prevention of flash floods. The EU ministers confirmed the need to strengthen cooperation between the Civil Protection, the Police and the health services to respond effectively to terrorist attacks. The ACPDR actively participated in the Civil Protection Committee and in the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, which is the main framework for the coordination of assistance provided by member states in the event of major disasters. The National Risk Assessment was supplemented by the effects of climate change. The ACPDR started preparing an assessment of the disaster risk management capability. One part of Slovenia's capability - the cave rescue unit - was additionally registered in the Common Emergency Communication and Information System (CECIS), and the certification process was started for participation in the voluntary set of forces.

The RS Notification Centre participated in the regular exchange of information on disasters via the CECIS. In line with national quotas, 15 Slovenian representatives attended 11 different courses in the context of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. Furthermore, Slovenian representatives attended several expert workshops, seminars and staff exercises. The Slovenian Civil Protection unit for search and rescue in urban environments (MUSAR) participated in the field exercise "EU Tritolwerk 2016" in Austria. A Slovenian representative took a one-week internship at the European Emergency Response Centre (EERC). The ACPDR also participated in the field of major accidents involving dangerous substances (the Seveso II and III directives), intentional sea pollution incidents, the Single European Emergency Call Number 112, and others. In addition, it attended meetings of the EU Civil Protection Directors General.

### **5.4 European Projects**

In 2016, the ACPDR participated in the implementation of 11 European projects. In the context of the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, the ACPDR, as a partner, completed a four-year course implementation project, and, as a leading partner, launched a four-year course project for modules and courses for technical experts. It also continued the implementation of staff exercises for the Civil Protection modules. In the context of the Matilda project, a multinational (Croatia, Italy, Slovenia) module was established to assess damage and support buildings after earthquakes. Preparations were begun for the project of flood response, NEIFLEX. The IPA Floods project was carried out in the context of external Pre-Accession Assistance, in which two multinational modules were created to respond to floods in the Western Balkan region. The project for the development and implementation of psychosocial assistance provided to first responders and inhabitants after disasters, and the project for the development of the ACPDR 3D GIS capability, were implemented in the context of the Internal Security Fund. The ACPDR participated in the European Territorial Cooperation project (FRISCO 1) for reducing flood risk in the border area between Slovenia and Croatia; in the research project of the Horizon 2020 programme (EPISECC); and in the Connecting Europe Facility project for the period 2014-2020 (I\_HeERO) with the emphasis on emergency calls from vehicles (eCall). In 2016, the ACPDR acquired six European projects to be launched in 2017. The application for the disbursement of cohesion funds was prepared to raise the public's awareness of the flood risk and to co-finance the upgrade of the public warning system by purchasing 98 sirens.

### **5.5 The United Nations Organization**

The ACPDR implemented commitments within its powers under the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents. Slovenia chaired the Convention in 2016 and hosted the 9th session in November. Moreover, it held a seminar, in the context of the session, on the integration of the objectives of the Sustainable Development Agenda and the Sendai

Framework. Slovenia also participated in the European Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction, and, for the first time, sent two representatives to the United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC) course.

## **5.6 NATO**

In the context of NATO, the ACPDR participated in competent working bodies from the Civil Protection and civil emergency planning fields, stressing in particular the importance of closer cooperation of the Alliance with the European Union, the United Nations and other international players. Slovenia participated in NATO's international exercise "EADRCC Montenegro 2016" with a Civil Protection unit for water pumping, on the assumption of extensive flooding and landslides in the area of the Skadar Lake.

## **5.7 Assistance in the Event of Disasters Abroad**

Through the Emergency Response Coordination Centre of the European Commission, the ACPDR monitored all major natural and other disasters around the world. Following the Government's decision, Slovenia responded to requests for international assistance on five occasions in 2016.

At the request of Albania, which was hit by severe flooding in November, Slovenia responded with assistance in the form of five sludge pumps and the posting of an expert to coordinate international assistance. On the basis of a bilateral cooperation agreement, Bosnia and Herzegovina requested assistance in the search for a missing person who was killed during a water jump competition on the Drina River. Slovenia provided assistance by sending a water rescue unit. Slovenia also responded to a request by Macedonia for international assistance to those affected by a heavy thunderstorm which claimed 21 lives and caused extensive damage by posting an expert to help assess the situation and coordinate international assistance. In April 2016, Slovenia responded to the request of Greece for the care of refugees by sending material assistance in the form of beds, blankets, tents and other equipment for the care of vulnerable groups. At the invitation of the Italian Civil Protection through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, following the earthquake in August 2016, the ACPDR deployed an expert to Italy to assess damage to buildings. The expert operated in the EU multinational team.

## **6 INSPECTION ACTIVITY IN THE FIELD OF PROTECTION AGAINST NATURAL AND OTHER DISASTERS**

The Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia for Protection against Natural and Other Disasters (IRSPANOD) performs inspections of the implementation of regulations in the field of fire protection, firefighting, protection against natural and other disasters, and protection against drowning. In compliance with the Minor Offences Act, the IRSPANOD also performs the function of a minor offence authority in these fields. The IRSPANOD inspectors participate in emergency response operations during natural and other disasters, as well as in investigations into the causes of fires. As evaluators, they participate in national and regional emergency response exercises, as well as in NATO and EU crisis management exercises. They also participate in the Inspection Board and in regional coordinations, running three of them.

In 2016, inspectors in the field of protection against natural and other disasters carried out 4,595 inspections. Fire protection inspections were carried out in buildings with a large number of people, and in facilities where activities that may endanger workers and nearby residents take place. Inspectors also supervised the construction of buildings and exercised control on the basis of reports. They participated in a number of joint actions of different inspection bodies at the level of regional co-ordinations and of the Inspection Board. In addition, they participated in firefighting emergency response operations and in determining the causes of fires. Firefighting units were supervised with regard to meeting the prescribed conditions and standards for the directors of professional firefighting units and for personal protective equipment.

In the area of protection against drowning, inspections of swimming pools, equipment lenders and water activity organizers were carried out. Special attention was paid to the organizers of rafting and canyoning.

In the field of protection and rescue, inspections of companies representing a major source of environmental risk were carried out, as well as inspections of unexploded ordnance (UXO) storage sites. In addition, inspections were carried out in municipalities, primary schools and organizations which have concluded contracts with the ACPDR.

Based on the Minor Offences Act, the IRSPANOD carried out 6,644 inspections and issued 43 payment orders. It introduced 16 procedures for the issuing of offence decisions, filed one accusatory instrument, and issued 6,584 offence warnings.

It carried out the task of evaluating exercises of national importance in the field of civil protection and disaster relief. Inspectors from the IRSPANOD management and its branch offices, together with other competent inspectors and experts from the field of health care, firefighting, and the Police, evaluated the following exercises of national and regional importance: Železniška nesreča (Railway accident) 2016, Earthquake Breginj 2016, Lopata 2016, Potniška ladja (Passenger ship) 2016, and Ruševina (Ruin) Gorenjska 2016. The IRSPANOD participated in NATO's Crisis Management Exercise 2016 (CMX 16) as a trainee in the framework of the MoD.

Due to the lack of inspectors in individual areas of the country, and in order to ensure an even range of inspections in Slovenia (which, within the competence of the IRSPANOD, provides a uniform standard of safety for the citizens of Slovenia in the area of protection against natural and other disasters), 2016 saw the continued implementation of the concept of provision of uniform criteria to perform inspections in Slovenia. The work of the IRSPANOD continued to be adapted in administrative operations, where the ACPDR and the Defence Affairs Directorate signed an Agreement on Cooperation in the Performance of Tasks in the Field of Administrative Operations and Maintenance of Materiel and Equipment in 2013. According to this Agreement,



employees of the organizational units of the signatories perform tasks related to joint administrative operations.

IRSPANOD employees attended various forms of consultations, seminars and workshops. They mostly attended training courses organized by the Academy of Administration. The participants in training transferred the acquired knowledge to their colleagues.

# THE DEFENCE SYSTEM AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT

## 1 DEFENCE POLICY AND PLANNING

### 1.1 Unified Objectives of the Medium-Term Defence Programme and the MoD Business Plan

#### Strategic Defence Review 2016

The MoD conducted a strategic defence review which gives answers to the question of whether the organization and functioning of the defence system and defence capabilities of the Republic of Slovenia ensure the responsiveness and ability of the state to cope with the current and possible future security threats and risks. The achieved level of development of the defence system and its capabilities was assessed in the light of the current national defence ambitions, in connection with international commitments and declared capabilities. The identified causes of discrepancy between the planned and actual state of Slovenia's defence capabilities will represent the basic planning assumptions and starting points for the completion of the strategic and development guidance documents pertaining to national security.

Based on the conclusions of the Strategic Defence Review, the Government of the RS adopted the decision to consider the possibility of gradual nominal growth in the defence budget at the level of EUR 20 to 30 million annually, in accordance with the adopted programme priorities and the fiscal framework for the preparation of the general government budgets. This would gradually bring Slovenia closer to the adjusted value of the commitment given to NATO on the level of defence spending, with an intermediate target of 1.2% GDP in the next decade.

#### NATO Capability Targets for 2017

In 2016, the MoD carried out a number of activities related to the adoption of a new package of NATO capability targets for 2017. In 2017, on the basis of the adopted package, Slovenia will be assigned the capability targets to be developed and maintained in the coming years. The capability targets will be divided between NATO members according to the principle of fair burden-sharing and reasonable challenge.

### 1.2 NATO

The Alliance continued intensive adjustment to the changed security situation. Emphasis was on preparing for the July summit in Warsaw and the implementation of its decisions. At the Summit, the Allies decided to strengthen their military presence on the eastern borders of NATO in 2017, and contribute to the stabilization of the situation in the south by training the Iraqi security forces, supporting the coalition against ISIL, and conducting a naval operation in the Mediterranean. To provide for a more efficient response to complex conflicts, with ever-increasing elements of hybrid warfare, the Allies will strengthen their cyber and civil defence. The theme of the meetings was also the need to increase defence expenditure in line with economic growth.

Slovenia supported the forward positioning of NATO forces in the east, where, as a credible ally, it will participate with an enhanced SAF platoon, which will be included in the battalion group led by Canada and located in Latvia.

Slovenia was active in shaping the Alliance's efforts to stabilize the situation in the south, since the events in this area have direct security implications on the Western Balkans and, consequently, Slovenia. In the context of addressing the refugee and migrant situation, Slovenia promoted closer coordination between NATO and the EU in the Mediterranean.

Slovenia was among the first countries to ratify the Treaty of Accession of Montenegro to NATO, and assisted the Montenegro Mission to NATO in its inclusion in the work of most Allied committees.

In the context of the Framework Nations Concept, Slovenia participated in a project led by Italy.

### **1.3 EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)**

During the Netherlands' presidency of the EU Council, from January to June, and Slovakia's presidency from July to December, the main focus was on the preparation of the EU Global Strategy (EUGS) on Foreign and Security Policy, followed by the EUGS Implementation Plan on Security and Defence which, in the context of the EU Defence Package, and together with the European Defence Action Plan (EDAP) and the Implementation Plan of the EU-NATO Joint Declaration signed in Warsaw, was confirmed by the conclusions of the December European Council. All three documents are highly interlinked and constitute a framework for further in-depth work in the field of defence and security, and the strengthening of political will and finance. The implementation of the defence package was the most important political priority of the EU.

Slovenia was actively involved in preparing the EU Global Strategy's Implementation Plan on Security and Defence (SDIP), which was designed to raise awareness and strengthen a new level of ambition in the field of the EU's security and defence in the context of three priorities: 1. The EU's response to external crises; 2. Capacity building for partner countries; 3. The protection of the EU and its member states.

The European Defence Action Plan (EDAP), prepared by the European Commission, is expected to reinforce the common market in the field of security and defence, to increase investment, boost the European defence industry, strengthen the technology base and research domains, and encourage civil-military synergy. The establishment of the European Defence Fund was aimed to achieve a more efficient use of resources for joint defence capabilities, and enhance the safety of citizens.

The EU and NATO are entering a new era of cooperation, since, in the context of the Implementation Plan for the Joint Declaration on Strategic Partnership between the EU and NATO, they agreed on 42 concrete proposals for cooperation in seven key areas: hybrid threats, operational cooperation at sea, solving migrant issues, cyber security, defence capabilities, the European defence industry, crisis management exercises, and resistance of partner countries. Slovenia stressed the Western Balkans in particular as an example of good practice of cooperation between organizations. In countering illegal migration and addressing the issue of stability in the EU's southern neighborhood, Slovenia highlighted the strengthening of operational cooperation at sea, such as the EU's Operation Sophia and NATO's Operation Sea Guardian.

Slovenia supported measures for a comprehensive solution to the migrant situation and the neutralization of human smuggling networks in the southern part of the Central Mediterranean, as was evidenced by its active participation in the EUNAVFOR MED Operation Sophia. The goal was to contribute to improving the humanitarian situation and the strengthening of security in the region, in the spirit of solidarity, and to identify the causes of migration at the place of origin.

#### **1.4 Bi- and Multilateral Events and Defence Diplomacy**

Minister Andreja Katič hosted the Ministers of Defence of Austria and Macedonia during their official and working visits to the Republic of Slovenia. She went on an official visit to Macedonia and attended a ceremony marking the official opening of the Balkan Medical Task Force (BMTF) headquarters in Skopje. The Minister attended two ministerial meetings within the framework of the Central European Defence Cooperation (CEDC) Initiative, which took place in Austria. In the context of the November meeting in Frauenkirche, she joined the host, the Austrian Minister of Defence, on a visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina and the EUFOR ALTHEA Operation. She met with the Serbian Minister of Defence in the margins of the third joint session of the governments of Slovenia and Serbia, which was held in Belgrade in October. She also had several short bilateral meetings with the Ministers of Defence of partner countries in the margins of regional, NATO and EU ministerial meetings. The ministerial meeting of the South-Eastern Europe Defence Ministerial (SEDM) Initiative, which was held in October in Rome, was attended by the State Secretary Miloš Bizjak.

The MoD leadership hosted a large number of ambassadors and defence attachés accredited to the RS in introductory and working meetings.

It sent a SAF officer to the BMTF headquarters in Skopje, on the basis of a signed international treaty, and began preparations to assume the role of lead nation at the beginning of 2020.

With eight resident and two roving attachés, two defence representatives at the OSCE and the UN, and one defence counsellor in Montenegro, the scope of the defence and diplomatic network remained the same as in 2015. The Dean of the Nato Defence College (NDC) in Rome finished her temporary work abroad. Some additional regular personnel replacements were carried out. An MoD employee was deployed to the Protection of Civilians Section in the Operations Directorate of the NATO International Staff as a voluntary national contribution.

#### **1.5 International Operations and Missions (IOM)**

The MoD was actively involved in national decision-making processes and took part in decision-making processes regarding Slovenia's participation in IOM at the international level. In its activities, it took into account the principles of the Strategy on the Participation of the RS in IOM and promoted enhanced inter-ministerial cooperation, more intense public diplomacy, and appropriate adaptation of the working and coordination processes in IOM. At the highest decision-making level of the MoD, the Coordination Group for IOM continued with regular consultations and coordination activities regarding participation in IOM. At the end of 2016, new guidelines for the planning of participation in IOM in the future two-year period (2017-2018) were prepared for adoption. Taking in consideration the good practices established up to the present time, and the identified improvements in the planning and implementation procedure regarding participation in IOM, amendments to the Rules on the Planning and Implementation of Participation in IOM were adopted at the end of 2016. In line with the Strategy on the Participation of the RS in IOM, the MoD participated in the preparation of the regular annual report of the RS Government to the National Assembly regarding Slovenia's involvement in IOM.

#### **1.6 Preparation of the Medium-Term Defence Programme 2016-2020**

In 2016, the Government of the RS adopted the Medium-Term Defence Programme of the Republic of Slovenia for 2016-2020, which defines the key guidelines for the operation and development of the RS defence system in the medium term, and provides for funding and its use in the development of specific capabilities. The medium-term objectives of the Medium-

Term Defence Programme take into account the level of ambition of the Resolution on the General Long-Term Development and Equipping Programme of the Slovenian Armed Forces up to 2025 (ReSDPRO SV 2025). Its implementation is tailored to the financial capabilities of Slovenia, which, by only providing initial investment in 2019 and 2020, delays the provision of the most demanding defence capabilities planned for this medium term to the period after 2020.

### **1.7 NATO Defence Planning Capability Review for Slovenia**

In 2015, in the context of step five of NATO's Defence Planning Process, which verifies the fulfillment of Capability Targets by the member states, and based on Slovenia's responses to a questionnaire on the planning of defence capabilities, NATO prepared a draft estimate of Slovenia's defence capabilities in 2015, which was addressed during bilateral discussions organized in Slovenia in November 2015. In February 2016, Slovenia participated in multilateral discussions with all the Allies at NATO Headquarters in Brussels. The Allies called on Slovenia, as they had already done at the bilateral meeting, to increase the disproportionately reduced defence resources as soon as possible, due to the changed security environment and because the estimate of GDP growth for the coming years points to an improved economic situation in Slovenia.

The Ministers of Defence endorsed the capability reviews of the individual Allies and the entire Alliance at the ministerial meeting in June 2016.

### **1.8 Provision and Implementation of the Unified Operation of the NATO Registry System in Slovenia**

In 2016, the Central NATO Registry and the EU Sub-Registry successfully coordinated the work and ensured the operation of the NATO Registry System in Slovenia, together with the operation of the NATO sub-registries and the EU sub-registry at the MoD. All conditions for the receipt, traceability, sending and destruction of classified and official NATO and EU data were fulfilled by the due time and in full. The transport and transfer of NATO and EU classified and official data in Slovenia and abroad for the needs of the MoD and other Ministries and public authorities in Slovenia were carried out successfully. In 2016, 13,657 NATO and EU documents were transferred. The Central Registry, in cooperation with the national security authority, continued to upgrade the conditions for compliance with the security principles and security standards which Slovenia, as a NATO member state, must satisfy in order to ensure a unified level of protection for the data exchanged between the member states.

## **2 SLOVENIA'S CRISIS PREPARATIONS AND RESPONSE MEASURES**

In compliance with the Regulation on Defence Planning (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 51/13), the MoD coordinated the establishment of defence plans, and prepared the necessary bases in the area of defence planning. As manager of the National Defence Plan, the MoD prepared guidelines on the preparation of crisis response measures for the entities responsible for defence planning in Slovenia, and notified and coordinated activities with the planning bodies. In accordance with the annual programme of professional guidance and coordination with the defence planning entities in the supplementation of defence planning documents, the MoD provided expert assistance in supplementing and coordinating the defence plans to ensure they were up-to-date, useful, and in line with the regulations, which was also reflected in the National Defence Plan.

Regular supplementation of the MoD Defence Plan and the harmonization of its contents with new bases was ensured, as well as the updating of the records of defence duties (including military, work and material duty).

The MoD participated in the preparation and coordination of the legal documents which fall under the competence of other Ministries in those parts that refer to crisis management, defence planning and the protection of critical infrastructure. The MoD's views on defence planning were represented in numerous interdepartmental working groups and commissions.

In 2016, the Inter-Ministerial Coordination Group for coordinating preparations for the protection of critical infrastructure, which is managed by the MoD and its core working group, continued to coordinate the text of the Critical Infrastructure Act. The proposed Act was harmonized and submitted for public discussion at the end of 2016.

Due to personnel changes, the Government of the RS, at the proposal of the MoD, adopted the Decision amending the Decision on the Appointment of the Inter-Ministerial Coordination Group for the Coordination of Preparations for the Protection of Critical Infrastructure in June 2016. A report to the Government of the RS on the work of the inter-ministerial coordination group for 2016 was prepared in November 2016.

In the context of the tasks carried out by the MoD in the role of the national POC for the protection of the European critical infrastructure in the RS, the participation of the MoD was ensured at events organized by the European Commission. In that same context, responses to the Commission's initiatives and to the proposals of individual EU member states were ensured. Representatives of the MoD, together with representatives of the Ministry of Infrastructure and the company ELES d.o.o., participated in an international exercise held in the Netherlands. The training activities were focused on the area of power supply, which is a subdivision of European critical infrastructure.

As part of the harmonization and coordination of activities for the protection of European critical infrastructure in Slovenia, coordination with the competent Ministry and representatives of the neighbouring countries was carried out, in line with the Decree on European Critical Infrastructure (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 35/11). The European Commission received a report on the implementation of provisions of the Decree and the Council Directive 2008/114/EC on the identification and designation of European critical infrastructure and an assessment of the need to improve its protection.

The MoD, with the support of the EU Internal Security Fund (ISF), launched projects in the areas of crisis management and critical infrastructure protection in the EU Financial Perspective 2014-2020.

The following projects were submitted for co-funding from the European funds:

- The upgrading and modernization of the National Crisis Management Centre's (NCMC) multimedia system;
- The upgrading of the crisis management information system (NCMC IPKIS);
- The survey and upgrading of the crisis management mechanisms in the RS (the Crisis Management Mechanisms);
- The development and implementation of the system of psychosocial support after disasters (PSYCIV);
- The upgrading and modernization of the ICT staff room for management in the event of disasters (COMASIR);
- The necessary knowledge and proposal for the training programme of critical infrastructure managers (PROPU);
- The development of capabilities for the inclusion of 2D and 3D geolocated data into the ACPDR 3D GIS environment (GIS-FASTLOK).

Four projects (out of a total of eight submitted – five in 2015 and three in 2016) were completed in 2016. Two of the submitted projects were one-year projects (already completed), while the others are multi-year projects with a planned completion at the beginning of 2018 at the latest. The total value of the completed projects was EUR 284,867.

The project entitled the Survey and Upgrading of the Crisis Management Mechanisms in the RS (the Crisis Management Mechanisms) is in its final stage. This project is linked to the Government's strategic development project P7: Crisis Management System in the RS, which was carried out between 1st April 2015 and 31st December 2016. The aim of the P7 project, in the implementation of which the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Health cooperated, was the preparation of proposals for the organization of crisis management at the national level, to upgrade the crisis management mechanisms and to regulate the field normatively and legally.

Regular examination and coordination of applications within the MoD's organizational units and constituent bodies were ensured for construction adaptations for the needs of defence.

Concerning the issuing of authorizations by the RS Government for carrying out air imaging for the production of cartographic publications, the MoD regularly prepared resolution proposals for government consideration. Regular examination and coordination of applications within the MoD's organizational units and constituent bodies were ensured for issuing consent for the conduct of research relevant to defence.

In accordance with the Plan of Exercises in the Defence System and the System of Protection against Natural and other Disasters in 2016, and in accordance with the Rules of Exercises in the Defence System (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 100/13), the following exercises were organized and conducted: the NATO cyber defence exercise CC16 (Cyber Coalition 2016); the NATO nuclear safety exercise Able Staff 16; the NATO crisis management exercise CMX16 (Crisis Management Exercise 2016); and the EU Crisis Management Exercise Multi Layer 2016 (ML16).

In addition to the key NATO bodies, NATO's crisis management exercises also involved member states, and, depending on the content of the exercise, invited partner countries. In 2016, the main planning conference for the CMX17 exercise was held in Portorož, Slovenia. It was attended by over 240 representatives of the Alliance and the partner countries of Sweden and Finland. NATO and the participants rated both the organization and the execution of the conference as highly successful.

The National Crisis Management Centre (NCMC) provided spatial, organizational, technical and other conditions for the work of the Government.

In October 2015, the Prime Minister of the RS decided to establish the permanent and uninterrupted operation of the inter-ministerial analytical group, working under the auspices of the National Crisis Management Centre, for the purposes of responding to the migrant crisis (Decision of the Prime Minister of the RS, No. 012-5/2015/1 and No. 012-5/2015/2 of 23rd October 2015, and No. 012-5/2015/6 of 27th November 2015). In addition to daily reports, the inter-ministerial analytical group prepared weekly and monthly reports, reports for 2015, and a final report on the work of the group. At the decision of the Prime Minister, the inter-ministerial analytical group stopped work on 15th March 2016.

In 2016, the NCMC continued updating and upgrading its communication and information network, which enables a faster and more reliable transfer of data and information between the crisis management entities. With co-financing from the EU Internal Security Fund, the NCMC upgraded the multimedia equipment in the large meeting room.



### **3 DEVELOPMENT OF CIVILIAN CAPABILITIES**

#### **3.1 Civilian Functional Experts**

In 2016, the greatest effort relating to civilian functional experts was oriented towards the provision of the continuity of their work on missions, and to the preservation and strengthening of the necessary international connections.

Civilian functional experts operated in the NATO Advisory Team (NAT) in Kosovo (renamed NATO Advisory and Liaison Team (NALT) in the second half of 2016) in the fields of contracts and public procurements, budgeting and finance, coordination of the work of the advisory team, and legal matters. Two civilian functional experts worked in the KFOR Headquarters in Kosovo, holding the position of POLADs (SPECAD). In the second half of 2016, a civilian functional expert was deployed to Tbilisi in the context of the NATO initiative to build defence capabilities in Georgia. A Slovenian civilian functional expert continued to serve as liaison consultant in the Multinational CIMIC Group (MNCG) in Italy.

In the light of strengthening civil-military cooperation, intensive cooperation with the Multinational CIMIC Group (MNCG) from Motte di Livenza in Italy took place. Within the framework of the MNCG, the MoD participated in a conference of the CIMIC unit commanders and sent an instructor to take part in an international course. In May, an MoD representative attended the NATO CIMIC Education and Training Conference (NCTEC) in Austria.

#### **3.2 Cartographic and Geospatial Support to the Defence System**

In the field of mapping and geospatial affairs, the MoD carried out development projects and maintained the mapping system, and coordinated with the Slovenian military and NATO standards and the NATO geospatial policy, for the purposes of providing mapping and geospatial support to the SAF and to protection and rescue. In cooperation with the Surveying and Mapping Authority of the RS and the Geodetic Institute of Slovenia, the contents of three sheets of the military topographic map of Slovenia, with a scale of 1:50,000, were updated and printed. A military topographic map of the Kamnik-Savinja Alps and the Karavanke, at a scale of 1:25,000, was prepared for the needs of the SAF in its performance of mountain training and its cooperation in the implementation of PRR tasks. A military topographic map of Ljubljana was also prepared at the same scale. In cooperation with the Surveying and Mapping Authority of the RS and the Geodetic Institute of Slovenia, a development project was carried out: a change in the editorial plan and new methods of maintaining the national and military topographic maps at a scale of 1:50,000. In the context of the project, a test map sheet was produced and updated in terms of graphics and content, and was supplemented by shading and other characteristics and data important for the Slovenian Armed Forces.

For the purposes of preparing SAF members for exercises and international operations and missions, the MoD acquired cartographic material based on the agreements concluded with the Alliance nations in the geospatial field. The MoD sent a special, NATO standardized e-catalogue of the available cartographic and geospatial MoD material, presented in the prescribed manner and format (the GIS format), to the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) and the MoD cartographic services with which the MoD has concluded bilateral agreements on cooperation in the geospatial field.

In the context of standardization in the field of mapping and geospatial issues, fourteen Standardization Agreements (STANAGs) received national certification, seven SAF STANAGs were verified in terms of adequacy, and four new STANAG editions were accepted in the SAF

STANAGs. This is by far the largest number of Standardization Agreements treated at the annual level since Slovenia's accession to NATO.

Users were informed of all the new items in the geospatial field, the current projects, and the available cartographic material through the internal web portal GEOPORTAL and the Catalogue of Cartographic Material which gives information on the available cartographic material in graphic and written form. The Catalogue and the new maps were also distributed to those countries with which the MoD has concluded agreements on cooperation in the geospatial field.

## **4 INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY OPERATIONS**

The MoD's intelligence and security operations were carried out in line with the Defence Act and with the adopted annual work programme, objectives and tasks. The key tasks and objectives were linked to the provision of adequate intelligence and security support to SAF members and other MoD employees in Slovenia and abroad, as well as to other national security system bodies.

The Intelligence and Security Service analyzed and assessed data used by high state representatives in the adoption of decisions on national security and defence policy, and drew attention to potential sources of threat to the defence system in Slovenia and abroad.

For the purposes of providing intelligence, counterintelligence and security support to the SAF in Slovenia and abroad, the Intelligence and Security Service cooperated directly with J2 of the SAF General Staff. During the period concerned, the Intelligence and Security Service actively cooperated with partner intelligence and security services, NATO, and the EU in the intelligence, counterintelligence and security fields.

During the given period, the Intelligence and Security Service provided continual intelligence, counterintelligence and security support to Slovenian contingents (SVNKON) in Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Iraq, the Golan Heights, and Mali, and within the framework of the EUNAVFOR MED humanitarian operation in the waters of the southern and eastern Sicily.

The focus of security-related tasks in the Intelligence and Security Service was on detecting, investigating and preventing security threats to people, work posts, facilities and areas of special importance for defence in Slovenia and abroad. The Intelligence and Security Service also carried out functions of detecting and preventing the activities of foreign intelligence services of military organizations and other bodies and organizations which pose a threat to the defence interests of Slovenia, the SAF and the MoD.

## **5 EQUIPPING, REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT, STANDARDIZATION AND CODIFICATION**

### **5.1 Equipping**

In 2016, the MoD continued to carry out major projects of equipping the SAF with military equipment, weapons and other equipment, in line with the objectives of the Alliance: the command and control communication and information system (this project is expected to be completed by the end of 2017 and presented to the public); equipping the SAF for explosive ordnance disposal (EOD) and joint terminal attack control (JTAC) (these projects will be completed in 2017 and presented to the public); equipping the SAF with engineer machinery (the first phase of this project will be completed in 2018); equipping the SAF for intelligence and reconnaissance operations (unmanned aerial vehicles, IMINT) (this project will be completed in 2017); and other projects, particularly the reconstruction of the MoD's vehicle fleet; the modernization of the Cerklje ob Krki Military Airfield; the Air Command and Control System - ACCS Software Based Element (ACCS-ASBE); the capacity building of the SAF Central Firing Range and Poček Training Area; the 4x4 Light Wheeled Armoured Vehicle with increased ballistic and counter-mine protection; the rehabilitation of warehouses and the regulation of the ventilation system in ammunition depots; and the energy rehabilitation of buildings.

Investment documentation was also prepared for those projects which will be included in future planning documents, and those which are planned within the framework of the Alliance's capabilities.

### **5.2 Real Estate Management**

In 2016, the MoD began to implement the comprehensive energy renovation of buildings, and thus fulfilled the objectives set by the Long-Term Strategy for Mobilizing Investments in the Energy Renovation of Buildings. It carried out extensive energy audits and prepared investment documents for the energy rehabilitation of buildings in two SAF military posts: the Jernej Molan Military Post in Cerklje ob Krki and the Baron Andrej Čehovin Military Post in Postojna. On the basis of a call for tenders from the Eco Fund of the RS, the MoD submitted an application for the co-financing of the energy rehabilitation of buildings at the Baron Andrej Čehovin Military Post. The MoD expects to acquire funds for the energy rehabilitation of buildings in 2017, in the amount of up to 40% of the investment. Notwithstanding the call for tenders from the Eco Fund, the MoD fully reconstructed one facility at the Baron Andrej Čehovin Military Post in the amount of EUR 2.7 million, and the Smelt II facility of the administrative part of the MoD in the amount of EUR 0.25 million. It also prepared documentation for a complete renovation of the boiler room on wood biomass. By implementing all the planned measures, and on the basis of the results already achieved, the MoD estimated that the savings in energy consumption would lead to the reimbursement of investments within 4-5 years. In the long run, funds would be released on material costs and diverted to other urgent investments.

Work continued on the modernization of the Cerklje ob Krki Airfield. A technical inspection of the reconstruction and extension of the runway with the entire infrastructure was carried out, and an operating permit was obtained. In addition, an operating permit was obtained for the navigation equipment, the light navigation equipment, and the low voltage (LV) and telecommunications (TC) networks of the air side of the airfield. Procedures started for the handover to the user and for obtaining an operating licence. The construction of the airfield fuel farm with transfer area was completed and the technical inspection was carried out. Its operating permit will be obtained in 2017, when the MoD has prepared the environmental protection regulations, conducted user training, and taken measurements for the measuring lines of the fuel transfer area. The construction of a hangar with platforms and a road for the transportation of explosive

ordnance was completed at the Cerklje ob Krki Airfield, the operating permit was obtained, and the facility was handed over to the user. All the airfield investments were financed from NATO funds, while the work was carried out by Slovenian companies on the basis of completed procurement procedures in accordance with NATO rules.

Investment work was carried out in the MoD's infrastructure facilities: roof repairs at the Škrilj firing range and training area, Building 14 at the Baron Andrej Čehovin Military Post in Postojna, the storage facility in Celje, the registration facility at the Edvard Peperko Military Post in Ljubljana, and the Internat building of the administrative part of the MoD; the water supply network was renovated at the Franc Rozman Stane Military Post in Celje and the Edvard Peperko Military Post in Ljubljana; a guard rail was built at the Military Post in Postojna; windows and doors were replaced in Building 13 of the Military Post in Postojna, the Triglav building of the administrative part of the MoD, and a facility at the Bile firing range; and sanitary facilities were renovated in the accommodation facility no. 13 at the Military Post in Postojna and in the accommodation facility at the Slovenska Bistrica Military Post.

Furthermore, eight MoD apartments were completely renovated, and 25 major and 154 minor maintenance works were carried out in other MoD apartments.

### **5.3 Standardization and Codification**

The adoption and implementation of Slovenian military standards in support of the construction and maintenance of SAF capabilities is one of the cornerstones of achieving interoperability of the Slovenian defence system with NATO, NATO member states, NATO partner countries, and the EU member states. A particular focus was on the elimination of backlogs in the national approval of STANAGs, with an emphasis on important Alliance standards arising from the commitments made in Wales and Warsaw. Slovenia's backlog has been reduced by 300 STANAGs. The response to the critical standards identified by NATO was good for Slovenia and exceeds half the list. Since defence standardization should be addressed in a systematic (comprehensive) way, amendments to the Defence Act were proposed. To this end the MoD will have to supplement the Standardization Act and prepare new Rules on the Implementation of Standardization at the MoD.

Codification is the only universal logistics tool that contributes to the transparency and reduction in costs of the equipping and maintenance of weapons and military equipment. The codification of supply resources is incorporated throughout the equipping processes, from investment programmes to delivery orders, acquisitions, and the introduction of weapons and military equipment into operational use, to their removal from service and divestment. The results are best seen in the optimization of stocks and in achieving the best prices for spare parts. Codification strengthens the status of the Slovenian economy and other organizations which manufacture products and provide services for the needs of the defence systems of NATO member states and partner countries.

In the framework of its national competence, the National Codification Bureau of Slovenia allocated 52 new NATO codification numbers (NSNs) to Slovenian products in 2016, and registered 49 Slovenian companies, which makes 278 altogether. On the basis of the acquisition of new supply resources, Slovenia was registered as the user of 412 NSNs; altogether it uses 33,930 NSNs. A total of 1,382 identifications of material resources were carried out in the register of material (SKEV). Data for identification was fully prepared in the SAP and e-ZAHMAT software environments, which ensures quality data for use in logistics processes.

#### **5.4 Cooperation with the Military Industry**

Sixteen activities were conducted in cooperation with the military industry, such as presentations of the defence industry to foreign and domestic diplomatic representatives, and a round table on the cooperation of the defence system with the Slovenian economy and scientific institutions. The MoD created a catalogue of the capabilities of Slovenian companies and scientific institutions, which will be regularly updated.

The MoD actively cooperated with the representatives of the Slovenian industry at the SOBRA Fair (an international fair of defence, security, protection and rescue) in Gornja Radgona; in a group performance at Eurosatory in Paris; in the testing of guns under the NATO standard; in the joint development and testing of upgraded automatic rifles; in the testing of a water purification system and the open source GIS solution; and in the high pressure testing of mortars. In 2016, in cooperation with a Slovenian company, the development of folding touring skis was completed.

The MoD also helped organize meetings of representatives of the Slovenian defence industry and scientific institutions with Turkish, Austrian, Hungarian, Serbian and Croatian industry representatives.

## **6 THE COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEM (CIS)**

### **6.1 Information Security**

The key operational activities were focused on the maintenance of systems and devices for the provision of information security in the MoD's communication and information system (CIS) and its subsystems, which provide interoperability within the Alliance.

The MoD participated in two major international cyber-defence exercises (Cyber Europe, Cyber Coalition) designed to respond to cyber threats, which were very highly rated. The purpose of the two exercises was the training of technical and operational procedures for cyber defence, cooperation in the training audience, and making decisions to minimize the consequences of cyber attack in the RS and in the framework of the Alliance.

### **6.2 Information Infrastructure**

Due to technological obsolescence and the increased availability of information infrastructure, some key building blocks were replaced and upgraded. By changing the organization of work and implementing certain technological measures, the MoD improved the control and management of the information infrastructure.

### **6.3 Communication Infrastructure**

The communication infrastructure and related services were upgraded incrementally, with the aim of increasing the accessibility, reliability and security of services. The upgrade of computer networks was carried out to the extent of the available financial possibilities, with an emphasis on providing a higher level of information security. Within the framework of cooperation with civil society, the MoD participated in the provision of communication support to the Biathlon World Cup at Pokljuka. Participation in military exercises and crisis management exercises is part of a continuous process of verifying the capacity of the communication infrastructure and the qualifications of the technical staff. The MoD participated in the international military exercises "Adriatic Strike 2016" and "Immediate Response 2016", which confirmed the highly trained level of the personnel. Due to the increased communication and information support to users, the MoD continued with the construction of the MoD SECRET CIS, which significantly accelerates all the processes dealing with classified information at the higher levels of classification.

### **6.4 IT Solutions**

The highest priority was given to the provision of the availability of information solutions which had already been introduced into operational use (information system for paperless operations – IRDG, register of material – SKEV, information system for defence and protection duties – ISOZD, unified accounting, finance, personnel and labour costs – MFERAC, the public procurement information system – ISOJAN, and a large number of smaller applications). Some important information services used by the MoD and the SAF were significantly improved. New functionalities of the SCMS system for the management of requirements and information incidents were introduced.

### **6.5 Development of C4I Systems**

The development of the C4I systems focused on supporting the SAF in the preparation and implementation of projects which will enable the SAF to increase its mobility and connectivity within the Alliance. Individual SAF units participated in the testing and introduction of new systems, and in demanding education and training courses of crews and individuals.

Cooperation of these units continued with their participation in national and international military exercises. The professional bodies of the GS SAF participated in the analysis of objectives and requirements of the Alliance, in the preparation of certain doctrinal documents, and in the acceptance of certain standards.



## **7 INSPECTION AND INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITIES IN THE FIELD OF DEFENCE**

### **7.1 Inspections in the Field of Defence**

The Defence Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia (DIRS), as an MoD body, performs inspections of the implementation of laws and other regulations, as well as of command and control acts in the field of defence. It reviews, identifies and evaluates the preparedness and performance of military commands, units and institutions, the status of defence preparations, the implementation of military education and training, and the provision of administrative and technical issues in the field of defence.

In line with statutory provisions, the Inspectorate carries out inspections of the implementation of the Act on the Protection of Classified Information at the MoD and in the entire field of defence. It also inspects the MoD in the implementation of its administrative and technical tasks, except for the tasks and activities of the Administration for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief (ACPDR) and the Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia for Protection against Natural and Other Disasters (IRSPANOD). Inspectors conduct procedures and decide on any violations in accordance with the Minor Offences Act.

The key objectives of the Inspectorate for 2016 were specified in the DIRS annual work plan:

- Work planning and management of the Inspectorate;
- Implementation of inspections in the field of defence;
- Implementation of inspections in the field of classified information;
- Conduct of procedures and decision-making in minor offence proceedings;
- Training of DIRS inspectors and employees;
- International cooperation.

To achieve the above objectives, the chief inspector directed special attention towards the planning and coordination of the work of the Inspectorate, which was conducted on the basis of monthly and weekly DIRS work plans.

In 2016, the DIRS started to carry out inspections in accordance with the adopted amendments to the Rules on Inspection Procedures in the Field of Defence. The main change in the modified method of work of defence inspectors is in the issuing of inspection decisions. With the enforcement of amendments to the Rules, inspectors, in accordance with the Inspection Act, always issue inspection records (records according to the General Administrative Procedure Act) after inspections, but they only issue inspection decisions (except for the aforementioned records in accordance with the General Administrative Procedure Act) in cases where they deem the inspection measures in the records to be insufficient.

The DIRS carried out 34 inspections in 2016; 32 regular and two extraordinary. Based on the findings of these inspections, a total of 351 inspection measures were issued, all related to the elimination of deficiencies and discrepancies with the regulations and acts of command and control. In accordance with the imposed inspection measures, the inspectors regularly monitored their implementation based on the analysis of notifications on the implementation received by the inspected entities and, if necessary, issued inspection decisions. In accordance with the Minor Offences Act, the defence inspectors introduced appropriate minor offence proceedings for the identified offenses.

The DIRS provided the Minister of Defence and the Secretary of State with up-to-date information on the findings of inspections. Similarly, on the basis of Article 32 of the Inspection

Act, defence inspectors submitted to the competent authorities several initiatives to improve the situation in inspection.

## **7.2 Internal Auditing**

In 2016, the implementation of seven audits and three consultations was planned. In fact, five regular audits and six consultations were carried out. In addition to the five planned audits, three extraordinary audits were carried out at the request of the MoD's leadership. The realization of the annual plan was only 70%, but the execution of the three extraordinary audits must also be taken into account.

The regular audits included:

- An audit of the existence and functioning of internal controls and regularities in the use of business cards in the SAF;
- An audit of the suitability of use of the Falcon aeroplane;
- A regular audit of the existence and functioning of internal controls and regularities in overtime work;
- An audit of the feasibility of modification and mobility of short-range radar and the introduction of the man-portable short-range radar system into use;
- An audit of the existence and functioning of internal controls and regularities in the payment of transfers in the ACPDR.

The content of the three extraordinary audits:

- An extraordinary audit of the effectiveness of internal controls in the signing of documents;
- An extraordinary audit of the regularity of payment of the command bonus;
- An extraordinary audit of the regularity and rationality of concluding copyright contracts with ACPDR employees, concluded with the ACPDR and other organizations.

In 2016, the Internal Audit Service issued 61 recommendations for the improvement of operation in the audited fields. Of these, 31 recommendations have already been put into effect, while two recommendations remain open; the deadline for the realization of the remaining recommendations has not yet expired.

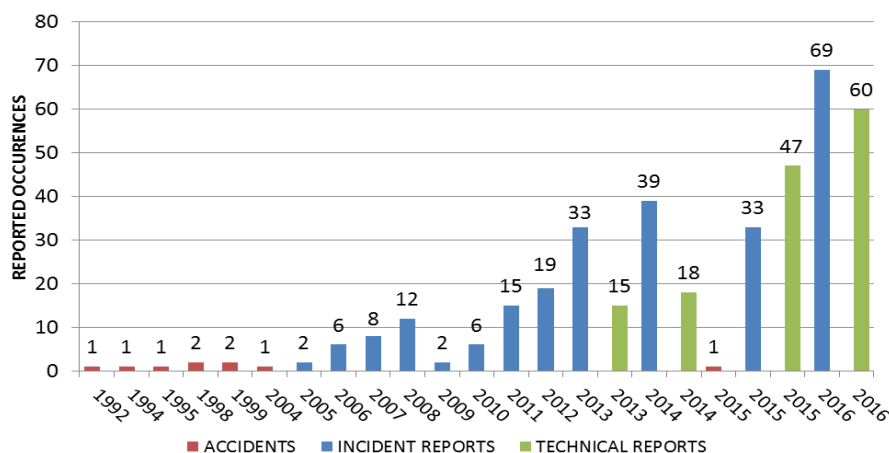
## 8 INVESTIGATIONS OF AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS AND MILITARY AIRCRAFT INCIDENTS

Based on the findings of investigations into aircraft accidents and incidents, the issuing of safety recommendations represents the implementation of measures to reduce or prevent new threats and risks to military air traffic. Investigations of accidents and incidents do not include the determination of guilt or responsibility of those involved in an accident or incident. Timely implementation of security measures affects the elimination or reduction of the possibility of the loss of human lives and material damage to military equipment and facilities on the ground.

In 2016, there was a further trend in the increase of extraordinary events in the SAF air units - 69 outstanding aviation events or incidents. Of these, investigations into four serious incidents were commenced. An increasing number of aviation emergency events is the result of technical faults during the flight due to the aging of the air fleet. A serious aircraft incident is treated as if an accident had actually happened and is being investigated in the scope of the investigation of an aircraft accident. The target value of completed investigations in 2016 was 95%; however, according to reports by the responsible SAF unit – the Military Aviation Authority – only 52% of the issued safety recommendations were put into effect (due to financial constraints). In 2016, the MoD's Aviation Investigation Authority completed five investigations (more than 100% of the plan) and issued 73 safety recommendations or measures to prevent similar emergencies in the future. On the basis of the order of the Minister of Defence, the Service for the Investigation of Aircraft Accidents and Military Aircraft Incidents participated in the investigation of two accidents involving civilian aircraft which resulted in fatalities. In accordance with the annual plan, theoretical and practical training was carried out with the permanent professional staff of the MoD's Aviation Investigation Authority. The equipping of investigators was carried out to the extent that was urgently necessary.

The training of new investigator/pilot (due to the imminent retirement of the senior investigator) from the SAF structure was not carried out. There were no candidates for this military post, because of its difficult working conditions, and because the fact that the Aviation Investigation Authority was placed under the administrative part of the MoD means that the post is valued at a 20% lower basic salary (because the employee occupying this post does not receive the allowance under Article 59 of the Service in the Slovenian Armed Forces Act) than is received by a pilot or other specialist in the SAF unit. International cooperation activities were carried out as planned. The MoD successfully carried out the international and inter-ministerial crisis response exercise "Broken Wing 2016".

*Graphic Representation of Reported Aviation Emergency Events and Failure Reports from 1992 to 31st December 2016 (Source: Aviation Investigation Authority)*



## **9 STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND COOPERATION WITH CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS**

### **9.1 Strategic Communication**

The MoD strived to maintain an open dialogue with various sections of the public, and successfully used all the communication channels which determine modern trends in communication. Much attention in communication activities was paid to the promotion of regular MoD tasks, in order to achieve greater public understanding of the importance of their smooth performance to ensure the security of citizens. In notifying the internal and wider public, the MoD strived for transparent and comprehensive information on the work of the administrative part of the MoD, the SAF, the ACPDR, and both Inspectorates. One of the most talked about topics at the beginning of 2016 was the cooperation of the ACPDR in the care of refugees and migrants, and the cooperation of SAF members in the protection of the border.

The MoD endeavoured to ensure that the public was properly informed of strategic documents, such as the Medium-Term Defence Programme of the Republic of Slovenia for 2016-2020, adopted at the beginning of 2016, which defines the key guidelines for the operation and development of the defence system in the medium term and provides for the funding; and the Strategic Defence Review, whose findings on current defence capabilities had already been discussed and adopted by the Government of the RS. Special attention was paid to informing the public of the proposals of the new and renewed framework acts in the field of defence; specifically, the Defence Act, the Service in the Slovenian Armed Forces Act, and the Critical Infrastructure Act. This challenge was taken very seriously as it represents a fundamental reform of the systemic legislation in the field of defence, the purpose of which is to enable the operation and further development of the defence system, especially the SAF, in the long term.

Different modes of cooperation between the Ministries and in civil-military cooperation were among the most important topics presented to the public. Also worth mentioning is the cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food in the pilot project of remote detection, developed to improve the situation in forestry using the Belin unmanned aircraft system. The public were very interested in activities which are directly related to the quality of life of citizens. Such activities include the transportation of vital organs and medicines by the Falcon aircraft for the needs of the Slovenija Transplant institute, rescue operations by duty helicopter crews, mountain rescue operations, emergency medical helicopter assistance, participation in the search of missing people, and the extinguishing of fires.

The wider public was informed of the divestment of uneconomic resources, and public tenders for the purchase of new equipment and weapons, and of the activities of the MoD's leadership to encourage the inclusion of Slovenian companies from the defence and security fields in the EU and NATO markets. The MoD promoted employment in the SAF and acquainted the public with the profession of a soldier.

An important topic of communication was the participation of the SAF in international peacekeeping operations and missions. Altogether the MoD answered 110 journalists' questions. It also prepared 89 draft speeches for different events and ceremonies, and eight editorials for a number of different publications.

#### *Review of Website Posts in 2016*

In 2016, an average of 1.7 press releases per day were published on the MoD and SAF websites ([www.mo.gov.si](http://www.mo.gov.si) and [www.slovenskavojaska.si](http://www.slovenskavojaska.si)) – a total of 615 releases. The releases were accompanied by 2,766 photographs, 117 sound recordings and 74 video recordings, published on the MoD YouTube channel. These figures are comparable to those of 2015.

2016, there were 385 tweets on MoD Twitter, which is comparable to 2015, and 17 posts on MoD Facebook, which is more than in 2015.

#### Filming and Publishing Activities

The MoD documented all important events in video production:

- Important events attended by the Minister and the Chief of General Staff;
- SAF exercises;
- Soldier training;
- Video conferences with soldiers on missions;
- Events (ceremonies, concerts by the SAF's orchestra).

Seventy-four videos were published on the MoD's YouTube channel, which were also available to media companies for the preparation of informational material. The MoD recorded for media companies on peacekeeping operations and missions (Kosovo), provided archival recordings on request, and maintained the MoD's video archive. It also recorded a film on the use of a defibrillator. A promotional video was recorded for the SAF orchestra, members of the orchestra were photographed, and promotional material and concert lists were produced. A promotional video was also recorded for the Specialized Unit for Special Tactics (FIST). The MoD designed DVD covers and produced around 150 copies of DVDs with associated video content. It also participated in on-camera training. Video production support was provided to the Office of the President of the RS and the Government Communications Office (two or three times a month).

Publishing activities in 2016:

- Twelve issues of the Slovenian Armed Forces Magazine, four issues of Contemporary Military Challenges, one issue of the Ujma Magazine, and two issues of the Collection of Military Education Papers;
- Design and page break of the Medium-Term Defence Programme of the RS for 2016-2020 for publication on the internet;
- Design and page break of the Comprehensive Analysis of National Capabilities for the Establishment of an Inter-Ministerial Peace Operations Training Centre for Participation in International Operations and Missions (IOM) and the United Nations (UN) Missions (Publication subscriber: Defence Policy Directorate; Editor: Bojan Pipenbaher).

In 2016, eleven programme booklets were designed and produced in the context of desktop publishing for protocol visits in Slovenia and abroad. A few dozen booklets were prepared for each visit (on average 15 copies per programme booklet). Proof-reading activity encompassed the proof-reading and the editing of professional military and other literature. In addition to the latter, a large number of official texts were also proof-read for the MoD's administration, the SAF General Staff and the ACPDR. Also, a number of internal training courses were carried out. Work performed: submitted proof-read texts: 6,205.75 pages, of which 2,371 pages underwent a second proof-reading and at least two corrections; altogether 8,576.75 pages. This sum does not include the participation in the Slovenian Armed Forces Magazine (proof-reading and corrections) and short website texts.

## **9.2 Participation in Projects of Other State Institutions**

In September 2016, the MoD joined a project to upgrade the single editorial structure and the policy of the state administration's websites, whose operators are the Ministry of Public Administration and the Government Communication Office. The content, objectives and tasks of the project, including all the presentation, thematic and service websites of the state administration, were presented to other organizational units of the MoD.

In cooperation with the MoD's official person for providing public information, the MoD updated and unified the MoD's catalogue of public information and began to prepare the contents for the National Open Data Portal (OPSI), which was established by the Ministry of Public Administration at the end of 2016 as a single internet point for the publishing of open data for the entire public sector.

## 10 NORMATIVE ACTS

### *Internal General Normative Documents Adopted in 2016*

	<b>Review of Regulations from the Field of Work of the MoD, Adopted in 2016</b>	<b>Publication</b>
1	Decree amending the Decree on Protection, Rescue and Relief Operations by Aircraft*	Official Gazette of the RS, No. 21/16
2	Decree amending the Decree on the Organization, Equipment and Training of Protection, Rescue and Relief Forces*	Official Gazette of the RS, No. 27/16
3	Rules on Registration, Labelling, Airworthiness, and Military Aircraft Records and Books	Official Gazette of the RS, No. 42/16
4	Decree amending the Decree on the Participation of Civilian Experts and Capabilities in International Operations in the Field of Defence	Official Gazette of the RS, No. 51/16
5	Decision amending the Decision on the Appointment of Members of the Committee for the Fire Protection Fund Management and its Activity*	Official Gazette of the RS, No. 58/16
6	Rules amending the Rules on Military Personnel Assessment	Official Gazette of the RS, No. 61/16
7	Decree amending the Decree on Authorizations for the Production of and Trade in Military Weapons and Equipment and on Prior Authorization for the Import, Export, Transit and Transfer of Defence-Related Products	Official Gazette of the RS, No. 62/16
8	Decree amending the Decree on the Content and Elaboration of Protection and Rescue Plans*	Official Gazette of the RS, No. 78/16
9	Decisions on the Appointment of the RS Civil Protection Commander, the Deputy, and Members of the RS Civil Protection Headquarters, as well as Regional Civil Protection Commanders, their Deputies, and Members of the Regional Civil Protection Headquarters*	Official Gazette of the RS, No. 79/16

Note: Regulations in the field of protection against natural and other disasters are marked with an asterisk \* in the table.

#### *A Short Explanation of the Adoption Procedure and of the Content of Normative Changes in the Field of Defence and Protection against Natural and other Disasters*

In terms of content, the Decree amending the Decree on Protection, Rescue and Relief Operations by Aircraft (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 21/16) adds two new types of use of state aircraft for protection, rescue and relief: transportation of emergency medical assistance teams (emergency medical assistance or helicopter emergency medical assistance), and transportation of incubators.

The primary purpose of amendments to the Decree on the Organization, Equipment and Training of Protection, Rescue and Relief Forces (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 27/16) was to improve rescue in single-tube and double-tube tunnels on roads and railways. In addition, these amendments regulate the responsibilities and tasks of the tunnel firefighters and firefighters providing support in tunnel operations. Helicopter mountain rescue and helicopter rescue in other demanding situations was also partly amended. Furthermore, the criteria for the organization of first aid units were reduced, which brought financial savings to the local communities.

The Rules on Registration, Labelling, Airworthiness, and Military Aircraft Records and Books (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 42/16) regulated the field of registration, labelling, airworthiness and military aircraft records and books in one act. The new Rules emphasized, in particular, the

determination of airworthiness of military aeroplanes and helicopters, including unmanned military aircraft, which had not been regulated previously.

The Decree amending the Decree on the Participation of Civilian Experts and Capabilities in International Operations in the Field of Defence (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 51/16) brought changes to the tasks of civilian experts in international operations. At the same time, the period of deployment of civilian experts in international operations (which may last a maximum of three years), which is determined by a contract of employment, also changed. A civilian expert may, after completing any peacekeeping operation, apply again for the same or a different peacekeeping operation. The contract of employment may also provide for a longer period of deployment, if so determined in the tender of an international organization.

The amendments to the Decision on the Appointment of Members of the Committee for the Fire Protection Fund Management and its Activity (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 58/16) resulted in a personnel change within the Committee as a result of the retirement of a Committee member.

The Rules amending the Rules on Military Personnel Assessment (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 61/16) brought some innovations to the assessment period of military personnel deployed abroad, and simplified the procedure for the verification of the official assessment of military personnel assessed as "excellent".

By adopting the Decree amending the Decree on Authorizations for the Production of and Trade in Military Weapons and Equipment and on Prior Authorization for the Import, Export, Transit and Transfer of Defence-Related Products (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 62/16), the MoD harmonized with the Commission Directive 2016/970/EU of 27th May 2016 Amending Directive 2009/43/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council with regard to the list of defence-related products (Official journal L No. 163 of 21st June 2016).

The Decree amending the Decree on the Content and Elaboration of Protection and Rescue Plans (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 78/16) introduces Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4th July 2012 on the Control of Major-Accident Hazards Involving Dangerous Substances, Amending and Subsequently Repealing Council Directive 96/82/EC (Official Journal L No. 197 of 24th July 2012), into the legal order of the Republic of Slovenia. The primary Decree contains all the content of this Directive, but it was not possible to invoke it at the time of the acceptance of the Decree because the Directive had not yet been formally adopted by the European Parliament. The Decree also clarifies some ambiguities and remedies some shortcomings in the primary Decree, and is in line with newer regulations in energy industry.

Due to major staff changes, transfers to other Civil Protection bodies and units, and retirements, a new Decision on the Appointment of the RS Civil Protection Commander, the Deputy, and Members of the RS Civil Protection Headquarters, as well as Regional Civil Protection Commanders, their Deputies, and Members of the Regional Civil Protection Headquarters (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 79/16) had to be adopted to ensure the operational capability of the Civil Protection Headquarters.



*Internal General Normative Documents Adopted in 2016*

**Rules**

- Rules Amending the Rules on the Manner and Conditions of Using Additional Leave to Maintain Physical and Mental Fitness (MoD, No. 007-206/2015-6 of 27th January 2016)
- Act amending the Act on Internal Organization of Work Posts of the Ministry of Defence with its Constituent Bodies (MoD, No. 0070-4/2016-3 of 3rd February 2016 with later modifications (eight Acts))
- Rules amending the Rules on the Signing of Documents and Reporting on the Documents Adopted or Issued – title changed:
- Rules on the Preparation, Validation and Signing of Documents, and Reporting on the Documents Adopted or Issued (MoD, No. 0070-12/2012-18 of 25th April 2016)
- Rules amending the Rules on the Procedures for the Calculation and Reimbursement of Costs Incurred on Business Trips (MoD, No. 0070-29/2016-1 of 29th September 2016)
- Act on Internal Organization and Systemization of Work Posts of the Administration of the Republic of Slovenia for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief (MoD, No. 0070-4/2016-66 of 3rd November 2016)
- Rules amending the Rules on the Management and Protection of Personal Data at the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia (MoD, No. 071-2/2016-31 of 19th December 2016)
- Rules on Internal Security in the Intelligence and Security Service of the Ministry of Defence (MoD, No. 0070-7/2016-4 of 19th December 2016)

**Instructions**

- Instructions on the end of the validity of the Instructions for the Work of the Sanitary Service in the RS Territorial Defence Training Centres and Units (MoD, No. 007-215/2015-1 of 22nd January 2016)
- Instructions on the Recording of Telephone Conversations at the Ministry of Defence (MoD, No. 0070-30/2015-13 of 22nd April 2016)
- Instructions Regarding Entertaining Expenses at the Ministry of Defence of the RS (MoD, No. 0070-21/2016-2 of 2nd June 2016)
- Instructions on the end of validity of the Instructions on Procedures for Financial Planning, Liquidation and Account Records of the Basic Development Programmes (MoD, No. 0070-22/2016-1 of 2nd June 2016)
- Instructions on the end of validity of the Instructions on Procedures for Ordering and Accepting Goods and Services, and for the Liquidation of Accounts (MoD, No. 0070-23/2016-1 of 3rd June 2016)
- Instructions on the Regulation and Maintenance of Vegetation in the Area of Technical Depots of Ammunition and Mine Explosive Ordnance (MoD, No. 0070-25/2016-1 of 13th June 2016)
- Instructions amending the Instructions on Combat Uniforms and Sports Equipment of the Slovenian Armed Forces (MoD, No. 4301-5/2014-34 of 17th August 2016)
- Act amending the Act on the Inventory of Business Premises, the Allocation of Markings to Business Premises and the Allocation of Sequence Numbers of the Ministry of Defence's Invoices (MoD, No. 0070-40/2015-2 of 30th August 2016)
- Instructions on the Preparation and Publication of Periodicals of the Slovenian Armed Forces (MoD, No. 613-6/2016-6 of 14th October 2016)
- Instructions on the Restrictions and Responsibilities of the Ministry of Defence's Employees Regarding the Acceptance of Gifts (MoD, No. 0070-31/2016-1 of 11th November 2016)

## 11 RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS

In 2016, the MoD conducted and evaluated a public call for the identification of potential contractors and for research and development projects in the fields of defence and security for public procurements in the period 2016-2020. Of the 157 applications received, 62 were identified as promising. In this way the MoD gained insight into research and development capabilities and interest in the field of defence. The MoD did not commit itself to execute the orders of the promising proposals because of the lack of funds.

The research and development projects implemented in support of civil and military capabilities were primarily dual use projects of greater technological maturity, in which the MoD looked for connections with other national and international research and development programmes and projects.

The primary areas of development in support of military capabilities focused on increasing the following capabilities: mountain warfare; development of new and modern materials; soldiers' capabilities and autonomy; robotization and miniaturization in connection with unmanned land and aerial vehicles; and the detection and prevention of threats from different networks. The MoD is in the testing phase of folding touring skis which represent a unique innovation and will contribute to the development of mountain warfare capabilities.

Research and development in support of civilian capabilities was aimed at increasing the protection, rescue and relief capabilities for the population in the event of natural and other disasters in the areas of flood safety, earthquake safety, and the protection of the population against landslides. The results of these projects will contribute to more effective responses by the services providing security to the population.

Experts from various Slovenian research organizations and companies, and experts from the MoD, were involved in defence research in the international environment.

By putting forward suggestions and initiatives, the RS actively participated in the preparation of a new multi-year programme aimed at stimulating research and new technologies in defence and the military, and at reviving the European technological defence base, primarily by promoting the inclusion of small and medium-sized companies in the common security and defence policy in the framework of the European Defence Agency (EDA) and Research and Technology (R&T). The MoD monitored the Joint Investment Programme in the context of the Administrative Committee of Remotely Piloted Systems under the European Framework Cooperation, with the focus on Air Traffic Insertion (EFC JIPRPAS).

It also actively participated in NATO's Science and Technology Organization. The work was carried out in various fields and at different stages of development. Cooperation on terahertz technology for the detection of explosives, the development of energy technologies for transferable applications and remote sensors, and the development of detection methods for the detection of zoonotic agents were concluded. Work continued in the following areas: speech and language processing for translation purposes in NATO operations; a study of solutions for relieving the burden of soldiers; a study on the influence of military life on children in military families; a technological improvement in training in the urban environment; and a study of primary concepts for smaller military forces. The MoD re-engaged in the analysis of predicting contradictory cyber operations; studying the reduction of hearing loss due to noise; performing simulations for the training and operation of ground forces; studying the processes of crisis management and climate change; studying analyses of combat operations in the 21st century; studying smart textiles and the integration of sensors into soldiers' performance systems; the integration of energy sources into NATO's tactical electricity networks; the processing and

modelling of combined digital images of night vision; and preparations for a military symposium on sensory perception, and for a workshop on the analysis of forecasts and analyses in the cyber domain.

## IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOURCE PLANS

### 1 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL PLAN

#### 1.1 MoD Financial Plan

In 2016, the MoD spent EUR 389.2 million on the accomplishment of its tasks, which makes up 96% of the applicable financial plan and 111.9% of the adopted financial plan.

*2016 Budgetary Resources (EUR)*

	<b>Adopted 2016</b>	<b>Applicable 2016</b>	<b>Realization 2016</b>
	(18th November 2015)	(31st December 2016)	
Financial Plan	347,897,736	405,279,167	389,226,748
Percent of the Adopted FP	100	116.5	111.9
Difference in the Adopted FP		57,381,431	41,329,012

The adopted financial plan for 2016 was EUR 347,897,736.

On 31st December 2016, the applicable financial plan amounted to EUR 405,279,167, which is EUR 57.4 million higher than the adopted financial plan. Of this, the integral (budget) funds increased by EUR 36 million. The increase was a consequence of additional funds received by the MoD based on the RS Government's Decision to refund the expenses incurred during the performance of tasks related to the provision of accommodation and care of the migrants, and to pay the overdue international obligations. The appropriations increased by EUR 23.1 million. They represent the MoD's revenues. Their value was estimated when preparing the budget, while the final amount depends on the actual inflow of funds and the transfer of unused funds from the previous year.

The realization of the financial plan, in the amount of EUR 389,226,748, represents 4.32% of the national budget and 0.97% of GDP. In comparison to the applicable financial plan, the realization of integral funds was 99.9%. The realization of appropriations was 57.8%, chiefly as a result of state property management, for which the largest amount of unapplied funds will be transferred to the following year.

The MoD's integral funds represent 94.4%, appropriations 5.5%, and the EU projects 0.1% of the financial plan's realization.

*The Portion of the MoD's Financial Plan in the National Budget and GDP (in Millions of Euros)*

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
National Budget	9,362,821	8,993,488	9,314,513	9,654,921	9,797,661	9,000,298
MoD Financial Plan	448,288	396,001	350,703	339,949	343,939	389,227
Defence Expenditure	478,857	422,969	381,658	366,460	361,376	404,349
GDP in Million EUR	36,896	36,003	35,917	37,332	38,570	39,769
<b>% of the MoD's FP in the NB</b>	<b>4.79</b>	<b>4.40</b>	<b>3.77</b>	<b>3.52</b>	<b>3.51</b>	<b>4.32</b>
<b>% of the MoD's FP in GDP</b>	<b>1.22</b>	<b>1.10</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>0.91</b>	<b>0.89</b>	<b>0.98</b>
<b>% of DE in GDP</b>	<b>1.30</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>1.06</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>1.02</b>

The difference between the applicable financial plan and the realization is the uncommitted EUR 16.1 million: EUR 284,530 in integral funds and EUR 15.7 million in appropriations, most of which will be transferred to the 2017 budget year.

In comparison to 2015, the realization in 2016 was EUR 45.3 million higher (index 113.2). The realization of integral funds indicates an increase of EUR 39.5 million, while appropriations increased by EUR 5.7 million. In the spending structure, the portion for salaries decreased by 3.2 percentage points. Due to the payment of overdue international obligations (current transfers) from previous years, the share of current expenditure increased by 2.7 percentage points.

*Comparison of the Realization of the FP in the Past Two Years (in EUR)*

Economic Purposes	Realization in 2015	Structure	Realization 2016	Structure
Integral Funds	327,975,785	95.4	367,440,824	94.4
Appropriations	15,818,734	4.6	21,566,381	5.5
EU Projects	144,237	0.04	219,543	0.06
<b>MoD Total</b>	<b>343,938,756</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>389,226,748</b>	<b>100</b>

The overview of expenditure by budget users shows an increase in the share of the SAF by 1.1 percentage points in comparison to 2015. The share of the ACPDR decreased by 0.8 percentage points, while the share of other users remained the same. The table below presents the realization of budget users.

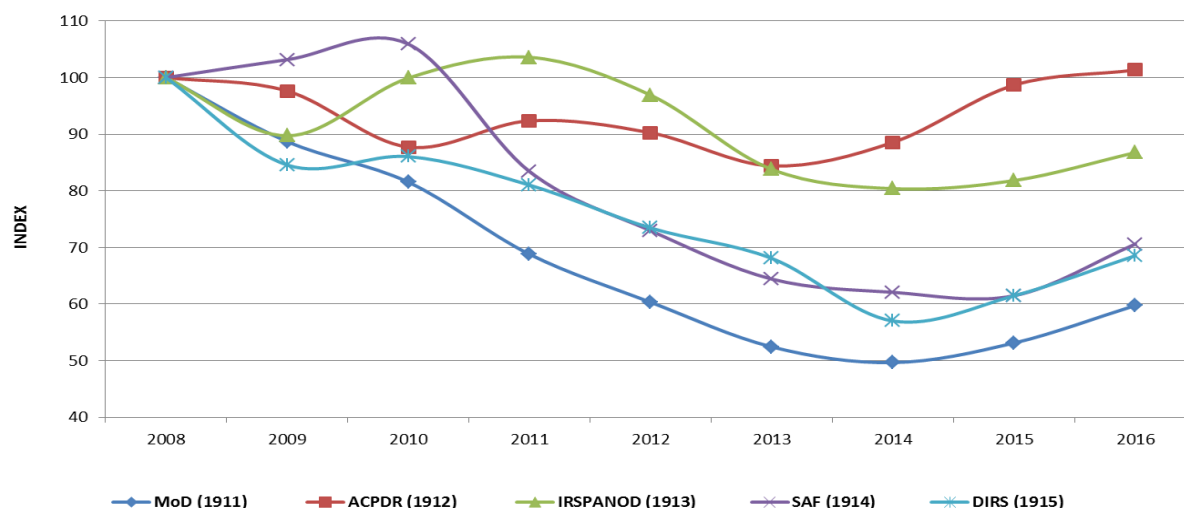
*Realization of the 2016 Financial Plan by Direct Budget Users (in EUR)*

MoD TOTAL	BU 1911 (Administrative Part)	BU 1912 (ACPDR)	BU 1913 (IRSPANOD)	BU 1914 (SAF)	BU 1915 (DIRS)
<b>389,226,748</b>	46,130,320	37,935,691	2,210,458	302,210,931	739,348
<b>100%</b>	11.9%	9.7%	0.6%	77.6%	0.2%

The line chart below depicts the realization by budget users for the period 2008-2016 (base year 2008). Based on the chart, only the ACPDR approached the level of realization from 2008 (index 101). This is due to the additional funds it received for solving the migrant issue and

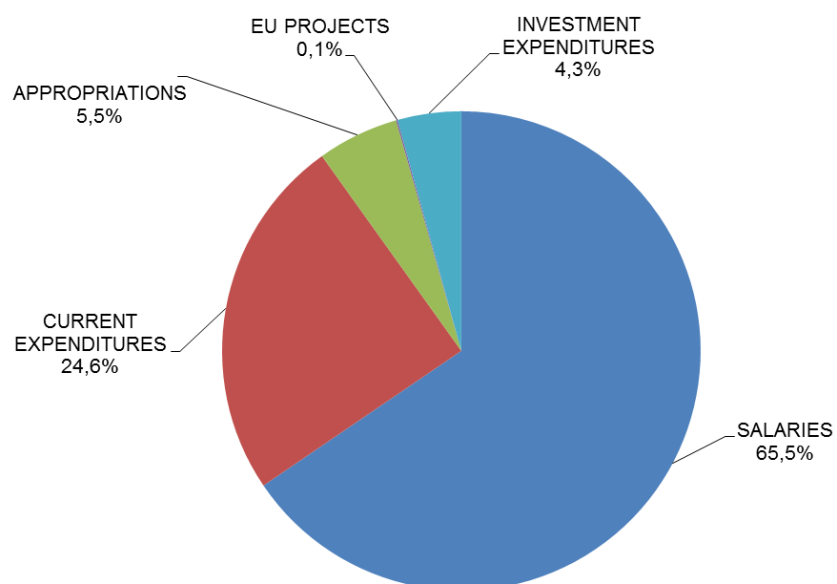
mitigating the consequences of natural disasters. The realization of all other budget users was lower: the index of the Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia for Protection against Natural and Other Disasters was 87; the SAF's index was 71; the index of the Defence Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia was 69; and the index of the MoD's administration was 60.

*The Growth Index of Realization by Budget Users (Base Year 2008)*



The pie chart below depicts the breakdown of realization by economic purposes.

*Breakdown of 2016 Realization by Economic Purposes*



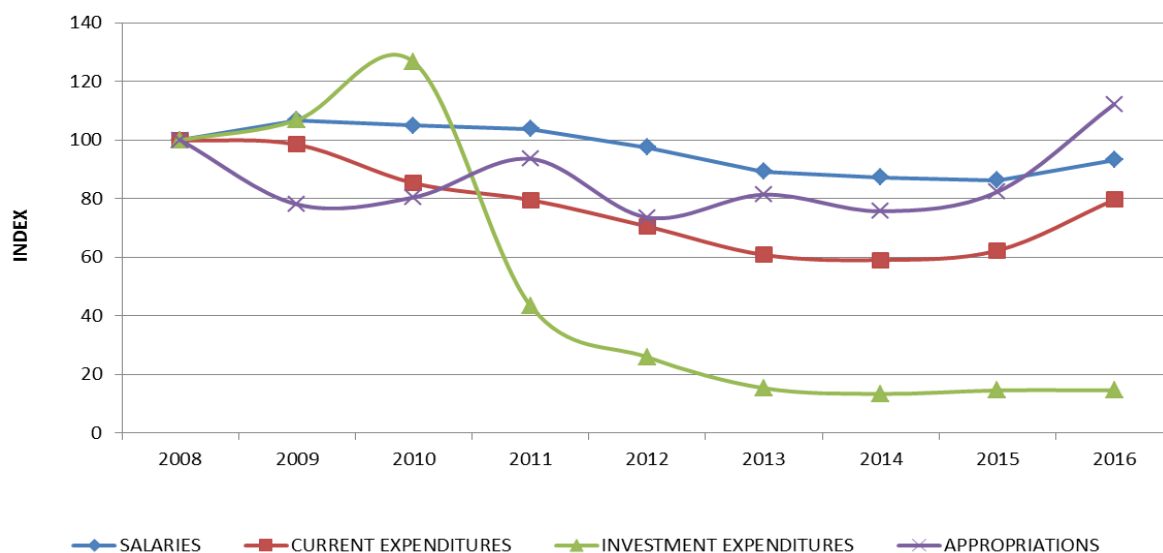
Salaries, in the amount of EUR 254.9 million, represent 65.5% of the total MoD expenditure. In recent years, the portion designated for salaries has been growing, mainly due to lower investments. In comparison to 2015, however, the portion designated for salaries in the MoD's spending structure decreased by 3.2 percentage points, mainly on account of higher transfers in 2016 (overdue international obligations).

Current expenditure amounts to EUR 95.6 million, which represents 24.6% of total spending. Of this, 31.5 million are current transfers, including international commitments, the EU Solidarity Fund, the co-financing of societies for veterans, and the co-financing of firefighting units, societies and NGOs which form part of the operational protection, rescue and relief structure. Due to the aging of equipment, maintenance costs are increasing; fixed operating costs also represent a large proportion of expenditure.

Investment expenditure stood at EUR 16.9 million, accounting for 4.3% of the total MoD's expenditure. Due to reductions in the MoD's financial resources, the number of investments strongly decreased after 2010. Before 2010, it exceeded 20%.

The dynamics of individual categories of the MoD's expenditure in the period between 2008 and 2016 is depicted in the line chart below.

*The Growth Index of Realization by Economic Purposes (Base Year 2008)*



#### Overview of the Realization by Programme Structure

The year 2016 saw the implementation of the financial plan in line with programme planning. The financial plan was implemented through three policies, five programmes, thirteen sub-programmes and seventy-three measures or projects. The MoD's fundamental policy is 07, Defence and Protection, and three programmes: Defence System and Crisis Management, Military Defence, and Protection against Natural and Other Disasters. In the context of Policy 18, Culture and Civil Society, the MoD co-financed the activities of societies and associations acting for veterans in the public interest, in accordance with the Rules on the Criteria for Co-Financing War Veterans' Societies or Associations (Official Gazette of the RS, No. 5/15). As part of Policy 23, Intervention Programmes and Commitments, the MoD settled the costs arising from the migrant issues.

*2016 Financial Plan Realization by Programme Structure (EUR)*

<b>No.</b>	<b>Title of Policy/Programme/Sub-Programme</b>	<b>Realization in 2016</b>	<b>Structure</b>
<b>07</b>	<b>Defence and Protection</b>	<b>369,592,412</b>	<b>95.0</b>
<b>0701</b>	<b>Defence System and Crisis Management</b>	<b>45,363,359</b>	<b>11.7</b>
070101	Common Defence Functions and Defence Planning	25,629,000	6.6
070102	International Defence Cooperation	6,838,134	1.8
070103	Equipment and Infrastructure	12,156,877	3.1
070104	Inspections in the Field of Defence	739,348	0.2
<b>0702</b>	<b>Military Defence</b>	<b>287,576,482</b>	<b>73.9</b>
070201	SAF Human Resources Management, Education and Support	215,386,688	55.3
070202	Operational Tasks and Readiness of the SAF	43,519,532	11.2
070203	Infrastructure and Equipment of the SAF	3,333,256	0.9
070204	Membership in International Organizations and Cooperation with the Local Environment	25,337,005	6.5
<b>0703</b>	<b>Protection against Natural and Other Disasters</b>	<b>36,652,571</b>	<b>9.4</b>
070301	Operation of the Protection, Rescue and Relief System	19,332,888	5.0
070302	Readiness of the Protection, Rescue and Relief System	15,109,225	3.9
070303	Inspection and Tasks Related to Minor Offences	2,210,458	0.6
<b>18</b>	<b>Culture and Civil Society</b>	<b>1,506,308</b>	<b>0.4</b>
<b>1804</b>	<b>Support to Non-Governmental Organizations and Civil Society</b>	<b>1,506,308</b>	<b>0.4</b>
180406	Support to Non-Governmental Organizations in the Field of War Legislation	1,506,308	0.4
<b>23</b>	<b>Intervention Programmes and Commitments</b>	<b>18,128,028</b>	<b>4.7</b>
<b>2301</b>	<b>General Budget Reservation</b>	<b>18,128,028</b>	<b>4.7</b>
230102	Migration Costs Reserve	18,128,028	4.7
<b>MoD Total</b>		<b>389,226,748</b>	<b>100</b>

*Defence Expenditure*

The realized 2016 defence expenditure stood at EUR 404 million, accounting for 1.02% of GDP (IMAD, Spring Forecast of Economic Trends 2017). It was higher by EUR 38.7 million than the adopted defence expenditure (index 111). Given the realization in 2015, defence expenditure increased by EUR 43 million, while pensions reduced by EUR 1.2 million.

Defence system resources (the financial plan of the SAF, the MoD administration, and the RS Defence Inspectorate) represented 86% of the defence expenditure. The remaining 14% was represented by military pensions, while the resources of the Office for the Protection of Classified Information barely reached EUR 0.5 million.

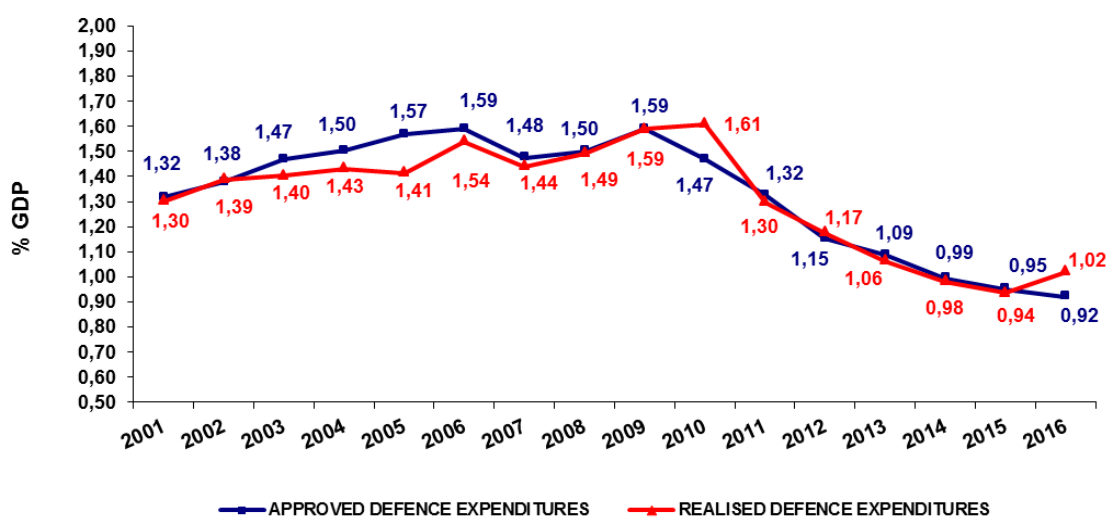


*Defence Expenditure from 2015 to 2018 (EUR)*

Major Programmes	2015	2016 Adopted	2016 Realization	2016 Real-Adopted	2017 Adopted	2017 Adopted Changes	2018 Adopted
BU 1911 (Administrative Part)	41,023,009	42,425,216	46,130,320	3,705,104	39,455,082	41,890,418	43,360,925
BU 1912 (ACPDR)	36,939,508	35,327,835	37,935,691	2,607,856	32,401,953	33,786,241	35,646,558
BU 1913 (IRSPANOD)	2,084,354	2,177,027	2,210,458	33,431	2,225,629	2,364,076	2,445,954
BU 1914 (SAF)	263,228,803	267,243,742	302,210,931	34,961,189	269,124,154	287,278,539	306,729,031
BU 1915 (DIRS)	663,082	723,916	739,348	15,432	746,367	806,795	820,253
<b>MoD Financial Plan</b>	<b>343,938,756</b>	<b>347,897,736</b>	<b>389,226,748</b>	<b>41,329,012</b>	<b>343,953,185</b>	<b>366,126,069</b>	<b>389,002,721</b>
<b>% of FP in GDP</b>	<b>0.89</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>0.98</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.83</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>0.89</b>
Financial Plan without BU 1912 and 1913	304,914,894	310,392,874	349,080,599	38,687,725	309,325,603	329,975,752	350,910,209
Military Pensions*	56,022,367	54,785,478	54,785,478	0	53,857,424	53,857,424	52,412,478
BU 1535 Office for the Protection of Classified Information	438,579	482,512	482,512	0	482,668	481,668	468,531
<b>Defence Expenditure of the RS</b>	<b>361,375,840</b>	<b>365,660,864</b>	<b>404,348,589</b>	<b>38,687,725</b>	<b>363,665,695</b>	<b>384,314,844</b>	<b>403,791,218</b>
GDP in Million EUR	38,570	39,769	39,769		41,625	41,625	43,675
	Spring 2017	Spring 2017	Spring 2017		Spring 2017	Spring 2017	Spring 2017
<b>% of DE in GDP</b>	<b>0.94</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>1.02</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>0.92</b>

\*Data from the Pension and Disability Insurance Institute of Slovenia (PDII), No. 410-9/2016-11 of 8th November 2016.

*Comparison of the Percentage of Approved and Realized Defence Expenditure in GDP*



The chart shows that realized defence expenditure reached the lowest percentage of GDP in 2015, namely 0.94%. The highest percentage was reached in 2010, when defence expenditure stood at 1.61% of GDP. The highest percentage of the approved defence expenditure was recorded in 2006 and 2009, namely 1.59% of GDP. In the period 2001-2016, the average approved defence expenditure represented 1.33% of GDP, while the average realized defence expenditure represented 1.32% of GDP.

## 2 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PERSONNEL PLAN

### 2.1 Implementation of the Personnel Plan in the Administrative Part of the MoD

The Government of the RS decided to no longer reduce the number of employees in the state administration in 2016, in comparison to 2015, so the Joint Personnel Plan of the Government of the RS (Decision No. 10002-24/2015/39 of 10th March 2016) stipulated that the number of employees permitted in the administrative part of the MoD as of 31st December 2016 was 1,124 public employees. In accordance with the Resolution of the Government of the RS, No. 00702-3/2015/51 of 23rd July 2015, through which the Government acquainted itself with the Analysis of Traineeship in the RS and adopted the Action Plan which refers to the organization and implementation of traineeship in the RS, the Government set a specific quota of authorized employment within the permitted number of employees for each state administration body, which was intended exclusively for the employment of trainees. The MoD was thus able to employ eleven trainees. A body is able to exceed the permitted number of employees due to the employment of a trainee or a police officer candidate, but it must harmonize the number of employees with the adopted personnel plan by 31st December 2017.

In accordance with the Rules on the Content and Procedures of the Preparation and Submission of Personnel Plans, the permitted number of employees excludes:

- Replacement of public employees due to prolonged sick leave or maternity/childcare leave;
- Replacement of public employees due to parental leave;
- Public work;
- All employees with a "source of funding" in the workplace or contract;
- Full-time employment with reduced working hours to compensate for phased or disability retirement of public employees.

In accordance with the Joint Personnel Plan of the RS Government, the number of employees in the administrative part of the MoD, as of 31st December 2016, was 1,130 public employees, of which eleven were trainees. This is five employees less than the permitted number. Here it should be clarified that, as of 31st December 2016, procedures for the employment of the five candidates were in the final stage, but the selected candidates were only employed in 2017 due to notice periods and, in some cases, additional medical examinations.

Year	Allowed Situation Based on the Personnel Plan (1)	Personnel Plan Realization (2)	Difference (3=2-1)
2008	1,359	1,378	19
2009	1,328	1,328	0
2010	1,310	1,300	-10
2011	1,281	1,274	-7
2012	1,259	1,190	-69
2013	1,170	1,161	-9
2014	1,158	1,134	-24
2015	1,124	1,123	-1
2016	1,135	1,130	-5

The administrative part of the MoD employed 36 public employees, while 38 left. In the field of public work, the MoD significantly reduced the number of public work employees in 2016; of 255

employees, only 16 remained at the end of the year. The greatest decrease occurred at the beginning of May 2016, when 212 public work employees did not have their contracts renewed because the migrant crisis had settled.

## 2.2 Personnel Plan Implementation in the SAF

### Active Component

The medium-term planning documents provided for 7,254 members in the SAF active component in 2016. On 31st December 2016, the SAF numbered 6,920 members, meaning that the predicted size of the SAF reached 95%. The structure of employees on 31st December 2016 was as follows: 1,061 officers; 1,960 non-commissioned officers (NCOs); 2,886 soldiers; 255 senior military specialists; 315 junior military specialists; and 443 civilians. This situation is unsatisfactory, especially in the case of soldiers, where the predicted number only reached 88%.

In 2016, 316 members left the SAF (28 officers, 29 NCOs, 219 soldiers, 19 military specialists, and 21 civilians). This is less than in 2015 (381), and more than in 2014 (312), 2013 (292), and 2012 (265). The Personnel Plan was not fully realized. Reasons for the failure to achieve the planned number of employed members are a higher occurrence of consensual terminations of employment contracts, termination of employment contracts, and a reduced interest in employment with the SAF.

### *Comparison of the SAF Active Component in 2015 and 2016*

Status	Situation as of 31st December 2015	Situation as of 31st December 2016	Difference
Officers	1,060	1,061	+1
NCOs	1,961	1,960	-1
Soldiers	3,017	2,886	-131
Senior Military Specialists	246	255	+9
Junior Military Specialists	322	315	-7
Civilian Personnel	449	443	-6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7,055</b>	<b>6,920</b>	<b>-135</b>

Owing to the reduction in the number of SAF employees and the fact that it is mostly soldiers leaving the armed forces, who cannot be fully replaced, the SAF could not achieve the target ratio between officers, NCOs and soldiers. The strategic objective of the SAF is to achieve a structural balance between officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers equal to the ratio 1:2:5. The active component ratio in 2016 is similar to 2015, namely 1:1.9:2.7.

### *Ratio between Officers, NCOs and Soldiers*

Category	Officers	NCOs	Soldiers
2012	1	1.8	2.9
2013	1	1.8	2.8
2014	1	1.8	2.8
2015	1	1.9	2.8
2016	1	1.9	2.7

From 2006 to 2015, the average age of SAF members increased from 35.5 to 40.4.

### *Average Age of SAF Members Between 2006 and 2015*

Category	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Soldiers	27.92	28.56	29.16	29.19	29.62	30.11	30.78	31.41	32.6	33.6	33.3
Total	35.53	36.12	36.50	36.27	36.50	36.89	37.46	38.23	39.3	39.8	40.4

The SAF's personnel plan realization was 95%. In 2016, 584 candidates applied for employment in the SAF, and 205 of them were employed following the selection process. Despite the efforts of competent authorities, it seems that the requirements and complexity of the military profession, together with the level of salary, discourage potential candidates from employment in the SAF.

### *Planned and Achieved Number of SAF Employees by Years*



### Employment in the SAF

Based on the personnel plan, the SAF planned to employ 483 new members in 2016. Including employments by 31st December 2016, 205 professional members were employed (42% of the personnel plan). The number of SAF members on 31st December 2016 was 6,920 (95.4% of the planned 7,254 members provided for in the personnel plan). Despite the adopted decision on employment up to the age of 27, the right to a financial award on the signing of a ten-year contract, and other measures to complete the SAF's active component, the personnel plan was not fully realized.

### Military Service in the SAF Contract Reserve

The Medium-Term Defence Programme 2016-2020 stipulated that during this period the number of contract reserve members would be 1,500, which was also foreseen in the SAF's personnel plan for 2016. The realization of the SAF's plan to employ contract reserve members in 2016 was 59%. On 31st December 2016, the SAF contract reserve numbered 892 members, of whom 24 were officers, 47 NCOs, 788 soldiers, 18 senior military specialists, and 15 junior military specialists.

*Comparison of the Number of Contract Reserve Members in 2015 and 2016*

<b>Status</b>	<b>Situation as of 31st December 2015</b>	<b>Situation as of 31st December 2016</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Officers	25	24	-1
NCOs	52	47	-5
Soldiers	744	788	+44
Senior Military Specialists	21	18	-3
Junior Military Specialists	18	15	-3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>+32</b>

In 2016, contracts for officers, NCOs, and contract reserve members of the Military Medical Unit were extended for five years, while contracts for soldiers were extended for two years. According to the original plan, the SAF was supposed to have 816 contract reserve members by the end of 2016. With the adoption of the Medium-Term Defence Programme 2016, the target size for contract reserve members increased to 1,500. The MoD issued guidelines for the manning of the SAF with contract reserve members by the end of 2016, and, on this basis, updated the original plan for 2016. A total of 237 contracts were awarded in 2016.

Voluntary Military Service

In 2016, 172 candidates applied for voluntary military service. Of these, 77 were actually deployed to voluntary military service, and 51 completed the training successfully. In 2016, the SAF employed 21 former volunteer soldiers, of whom three completed their training in 2016.

The training was carried out in two locations, at the Janko Premrl Vojko Military Post in Vipava and at the France Uršič Military Post in Novo mesto. The MoD prepared a draft amending the Decree on Voluntary Military Service. On the basis of the above amendment, a volunteer who has successfully completed voluntary service will receive about EUR 400 more income than before the amendment.

Promotion of Employment and Service in the SAF

In 2016, in accordance with the provisions of the Military Service Act, 9,318 young men born in 1998 were invited to a briefing session for national service personnel. After the candidates' entry in the military records, the administrative body competent for defence acquaints these young men with their obligations and rights (in the same calendar year as the candidates reach the age of 18). Of the candidates invited, 76.1% attended the briefing session, while the rest were subsequently informed by mail.

The promotion of the military profession was also carried out on the Postani vojak (Become a Soldier) website, updated in 2016. The website update brought the highest annual visit so far – 105,622 visitors, who visited the website 160,505 times and opened 587,371 pages. An average visitor viewed 3.66 pages and stayed on a single web page for 2.49 minutes.

Scholarships for Work in the SAF

In 2016, three contracts for SAF scholarships were concluded for the academic year 2015/2016 (there were five scholarship calls). Two separate calls for applications for the award of five scholarships for the academic year 2016/2017 were published in the first half of 2016. On the basis of these calls, contracts were concluded with two selected candidates. Due to the insufficient number of applications, the call for scholarships was repeated on 20th January 2017 (only one application was received during the repeated call, and it was invalid).

#### Preparation of Personnel for Departure from Military Service

The amendment to the Pension and Disability Insurance Act (ZPIZ-2B) changed the conditions for the retirement of military personnel, so the pre-retirement seminar was not implemented. Four soldiers who reached 45 years of age were granted the right to transfer to a suitable working position within the MoD. Of these, two soldiers accepted the offered redeployment, and two soldiers rejected it.

#### Care of Former SAF Members

The Intergenerational Information and Social Centres (MIDS) in Ajdovščina, Slovenska Bistrica, and Novo mesto organized 115 events which were attended by about 1,350 people. The events included everything from regular recreation, lectures, and thematic workshops, to hikes, excursions and multi-day camps. A decision was adopted to found an Intergenerational Information and Social Centre in Ljubljana.

The MoD monitored the need for direct assistance to its former members who are socially, medically or otherwise disadvantaged and in need of support. Support was provided in the form of support packages, visits, regular contact, counselling, and the organization of voluntary work.

#### Provision of Comprehensive Care for SAF Members

Comprehensive care of SAF members and their families was provided in individual fields of expertise, in accordance with regulations and within the available material and financial resources. The care provided included medical, psychological, social security, and religious and spiritual care, legal assistance and legal advice, and the possibility of organized free time. The SAF provided continuous professional psychological support by telephone, while special care and attention were dedicated to the activities of preserving and maintaining the physical and mental health of SAF members.

Summer and winter camps were organized for the children of SAF members. Two additional clubs were opened in 2016 as part of the project of the SAF Military Clubs.



*Summer and winter camp for children of SAF members*

#### Cooperation with Civil Society Organizations

In 2016, ten war veterans' societies and associations submitted tenders in response to a public invitation to tender for co-financing. Nine of them met the requirements. Their applications were assessed and contracts signed. At the end of November 2016, the invitation to tender for 2017 was published. Altogether ten societies and associations applied, of which nine met all the requirements.

The MoD issued five positive decisions in accordance with the Rules on the Criteria Determining an Association's Significant Achievements in Order to be Granted the Status of an Association Operating in the Public Interest in the Field of Defence.

### **3 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE STATE'S PHYSICAL ASSETS**

#### **3.1 Real Estate**

On the basis of Article 24 of the Decree on the Spatial Plan of National Importance for Cerklje ob Krki Airfield, the MoD purchased real estate (a residential building) in the total amount of EUR 147,704 through a direct contract. Due to the construction of the accompanying facilities and a bypass road from Zasap, two agreements were concluded on the settlement of material damage to compensate for damage caused to residential houses as a result of the construction of the road deviation Drnovo-Črešnjica, in the total amount of EUR 3,605.

Based on the Resolution of the Government of the RS of 7th May 2009, 73 apartments were transferred from the MoD's housing fund to the ownership of the Housing Fund of the Republic of Slovenia, on the basis of a contract on the augmentation of the earmarked funds and assets of the Public Fund.

With the exchange contract, the MoD acquired land in Zgornja Ložnica of a total area of 7,311 m<sup>2</sup>.

The plan for the acquisition of physical assets of the SAF did not provide for the purchase of real estate, except for the Cerklje project which, however, was not financed by the SAF.

#### **3.2 Procurement**

In 2016, 222 orders were made and 321 contracts and framework agreements were concluded. The MoD continued to carry out public procurement contracts for the purchase of military equipment, and concluded framework agreements to ensure the security of supply within a period of at least three years. Thus, taking into account the subject of the contract, the MoD follows the guidelines outlined in the Medium-Term Defence Programme, which, in addition to the security of supply, ensures the economic management of financial resources and the unification of weapons and military equipment in operational use, which results in more economical implementation of logistics processes.

In 2016, the MoD concluded framework agreements for the supply of 5.56 mm, 7.62 mm, 9 mm, 12.7 mm and 60 mm ammunition, military off-road vehicles, and combat uniforms.

The MoD also carried out large orders and supplies of goods and services: supply of military combat uniforms; military equipment for the EOD unit; military equipment for the JTAC unit; protective tactical vests; processing of 120 mm mortar mines; supply of accommodation and sanitary containers, and a goods vehicle for the needs of Civil Protection; supply of rescue vehicles; supply of unmanned aerial vehicles; maintenance of aviation technical equipment; upgrade of decontamination tents; supply of equipment for the new NATO headquarters; purchase of the central disk system; supply of software for the analysis of the CBRN effects; supply of eyewear, firing and active earmuffs, automatic rifles, and 7.62 mm machine guns with optical devices; destruction of smoke mortar mines and air defence missiles; and supply of mobile pump generators, self-contained breathing apparatus, and autoinjectors against nerve agents. Public procurements were carried out in the field of construction, as is outlined in Section 5.2.

The MoD also carried out a public procurement procedure to purchase complete furniture and equipment for the Triglav coffee bar in the amount of EUR 32,917.42.

### **3.3 Acquisitions**

In 2016, the Logistics Directorate carried out 441 quality control procedures for goods and services. The total financial value of acquisitions in 2016 amounted to EUR 16.98 million, which is 3.18% less than in 2015, while the number of acquisitions decreased by 5.56%.

Five procedures were carried out for mutual recognition of Government quality assurance, in accordance with STANAG 4107.

The SAF took over the hangar facility for the maintenance of aircraft with platforms, the road for the transportation of explosive ordnance, and the engine testing platform. Procedures for their introduction into the SAF's operational use are currently being prepared.

### **3.4 Plan for the Acquisition of the State's Physical Assets Belonging to the SAF**

The MoD used EUR 1,851,662 for the adaptation of infrastructure (Building 4 at the Baron Andrej Čehovin Military Post, Central Firing Range and Training Area Postojna), signifying a 71.4% realization compared to the baseline financial plan of the SAF. The decrease is mainly the result of delays in the reconstruction of Building 4 at the Baron Andrej Čehovin Military Post in Postojna. Of this amount, EUR 35,564 was earmarked for the establishment of technical security in the SAF's facilities.

Cerklje ob Krki Airfield saw the completion of work on the meteorological information system, visual navigation, extension of the runway and associated systems, fuel depot and associated systems, the hangar for the maintenance of aircraft with platforms, the road for the transportation of explosive ordnance, and the engine testing platform.

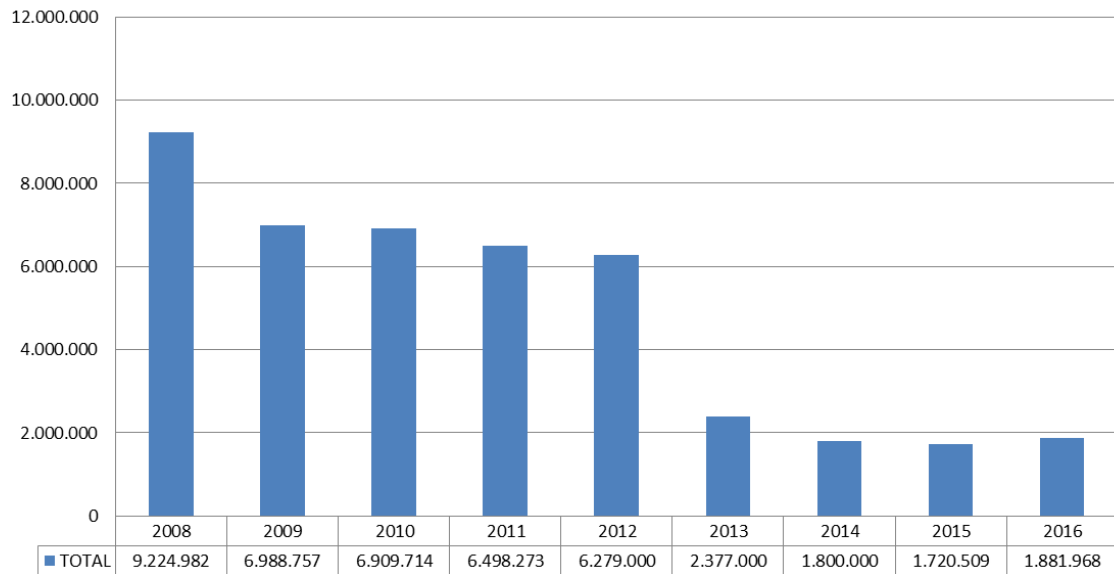
The visual navigation systems, extended runway and associated systems are currently undergoing work to remedy all identified deficiencies. The SAF took over the hangar facility for the maintenance of aircraft with platforms, the road for the transportation of explosive ordnance, and the engine testing platform. Procedures for their introduction into the SAF's operational use are currently being prepared. The MoD is in the process of obtaining an operating permit for the fuel depot and its associated systems (fuel quality control systems, fire safety systems, and additive mixing systems). The construction of these infrastructure facilities was financed by NATO.

EUR 199,289 was used for projects of investment maintenance of military infrastructure, which represents a 26.2% realization compared to the baseline financial plan of the SAF. The decrease is mainly the result of the unstable operation of the SAF's budget. In order to cover the needs of the SAF, the funds were redeployed for other budget headings and for routine maintenance of military infrastructure.

EUR 1,881,968 was used for the routine maintenance of military infrastructure, which represents a 120% realization compared to the baseline financial plan of the SAF.



*Trends in the Use of Funds for the Maintenance of Military Infrastructure by Year*



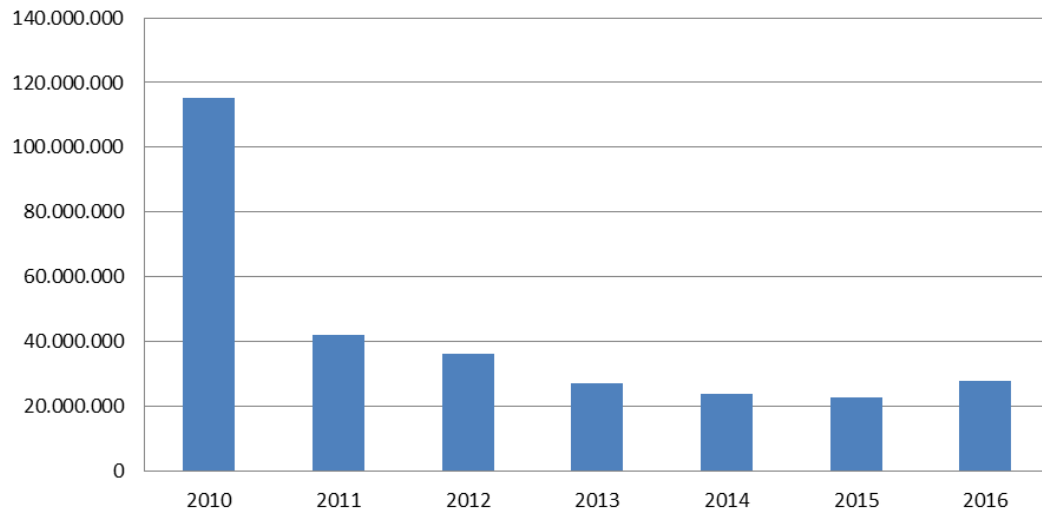
A total of EUR 3,941,429 was allocated to the purchase of SAF uniforms. Most of the funds were used for the purchase of new combat uniforms and personal protective equipment, and a smaller portion of the funds for service uniforms. As many as 65% of SAF members received new combat uniforms. The available resources could not provide for the planned equipping of SAF members in accordance with the criteria of belonging.

A total of EUR 1,403,611 was allocated to the purchase of equipment for operational functioning. This funding only provided the most essential equipment for the operation of SAF members on IOMs, protection and safety at work, equipment for the operation of kitchen installations, and additional equipment required by SAF members for protecting the border at the time of the migrant crisis.

EUR 1,411,000 was planned for investment maintenance in material resources, of which EUR 1,096,137.32 was spent. Of this amount, 7% was used for CBR defence resources, 29% for software upgrades, 40% for the upgrade of the multi-purpose boat Triglav, and 2% for the upgrade of aircraft. A total of 22% was reallocated for the provision of SAF salaries.

EUR 12,927,942 was allocated to the routine maintenance of material resources. The realization was 143%, which is EUR 18,526,994.07. Additional funds from the Ministry of Finance and appropriations of the MoD were allocated, in the amount of EUR 5,599,052.07. These additional funds ensured the operability of material resources allocated to the MoD and the declared Alliance units, as well as payment of liabilities incurred in previous years. By allocating additional funds and ensuring their stability for the maintenance of material resources, the MoD could achieve high availability in the years ahead, as was the case before the recession.

*Purchases of Equipment and Maintenance in the SAF Between 2011 and 2016*



The graph shows the euro financial value of equipping the SAF with the main equipment, uniforms, and operational equipment, of ammunition procurement, and of investment and routine maintenance of material resources and infrastructure.

## **4 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE PLAN FOR THE SALE OF STATE-OWNED TANGIBLE ASSETS**

### **4.1 Real Estate**

The Annual Management Plan for 2016 includes real estate which the MoD does not need for its activities. The MoD is carrying out land allotment procedures and procedures for the arrangement, development and acquisition of the appropriate documents for registry in the Land Register. It is also in the process of obtaining energy performance certificates for buildings and apartments in apartment buildings. Procedures for the sale of non-marketable real estate are lengthy due to municipalities having to give their opinion on the (non-)enforcement of the pre-emption right; the publication of public offers on the websites of the administrative units; the sale of partial agricultural land; lengthy legal proceedings for the establishment of the strata title according to the Act on the Acquisition of the Strata Title of a Part of a Building on the Proposal of the Owner and on Determining the Land Belonging Thereto; denationalization procedures; the acquisition of operators for the appraisal and implementation of energy performance certificates; and the repetition of public auctions for the sale of individual real estate. Based on the Annual Tangible Assets Management Plan, the MoD conducted ten public auctions, one public bidding procedure, and direct sales, selling real estate in the amount of EUR 2,981,130. Forty-two apartments, twelve garages, and nine sets of building land, business premises, and guardhouses were sold. One apartment and one holiday house were sold to other public authorities in the total amount of EUR 397,800, while ten apartments were transferred to a different public authority. For the needs of real estate appraisals, ten contracts were concluded on the basis of five requests totalling EUR 26,176.

Due to the ice damage in 2014 and the expansion of the bark beetle, the rehabilitation of damaged forests and the eradication of the bark beetle were still a priority in 2016. A total of 1,434m<sup>3</sup> in tree volume were cut down, and 223m<sup>3</sup> of wood chips were produced. The MoD sold wood in the total value of EUR 79,546.

### **4.2 Movable Property**

In 2016, compensation funds from insurance companies related to loss events in the event of road traffic accidents involving MoD vehicles were used for the repair of vehicles damaged in road traffic accidents. The funds intended for the purchase of new vehicles, obtained from total damages, were not exhausted, so they were transferred to 2017.

The Ordinance on the State-Owned Tangible Assets Management Plan Intended for State Bodies, Judicial Bodies, Public Institutes, Public Utility Institutes, Public Agencies and Public Funds for 2016 (Official Gazette of the RS No. 96/2015), of which the State-Owned Movable Property Management Plan for 2016 is a constituent part, included a bus, fifteen M-55S tanks, ten M-84 tanks, fifteen BVP M80A infantry fighting vehicles, a ZKB-1V armoured personnel carrier, a BRDM-2 reconnaissance armoured vehicle, five BOV TAM150B9 armoured vehicles, a Roland air defence missile system, two AN/TPS-70 radar stations, ten 105mm howitzers, two Pilatus PC9 aircraft, a Turbolet L410 aircraft, and a Dassault Falcon 2000EX aircraft.

The MoD sold the movable property included in the Annual Management Plan: the two AN/TPS-70 radar stations, worth EUR 1,600,000, were sold through the bid collection method.

The MoD also sold movable property that was not included in the Annual Management Plan because the individual values did not exceed EUR 10,000 (8,817 pieces of infantry weapons; 102 pieces of vehicles, trailers, and working machinery; 156 mortar sets, 120mm and 82mm;

four vehicles of defence employees and SAF representatives working in Slovenian diplomatic missions abroad; non-organic equipment).

The total value of all sold movable property in 2016 was EUR 3,349,489.50.

#### Free Transfers

On the basis of a decision by the Government of the RS, weapons and ammunition in the total amount of EUR 230,000 were allocated to the equipping of the armed forces of Iraqi Kurdistan (Peshmerga) as a contribution by the Republic of Slovenia.

Movable property was transferred free of charge to individual societies, associations, and individuals, if they fulfilled the necessary legal requirements (44 transfers).

#### Expenditure

Revenues from the sale of tangible assets are used for the maintenance and purchase of new assets, especially for the needs of the SAF.

In 2016, these revenues were mainly used for: the current and investment maintenance of the MoD's infrastructure; the renovation of Building 4 at the Baron Anton Čehovin Military Post in Postojna; the purchase of office furniture and external windows and doors; the purchase of personal and multi-purpose vehicles and an ambulance; the purchase of special and military equipment and weapons; the purchase of equipment for the new premises of the SAF 's Mission to NATO; and the maintenance of the SAF's material resources.

## **5 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EDUCATION, TRAINING AND ADVANCED TRAINING PLAN**

SAF members improved their abilities in the performance of functions through participation in various forms of education and training within the Military Schools Centre and in comparable military education and training courses abroad. They also acquired knowledge at educational institutions in the RS, the Police, the Civil Protection Centre, and elsewhere. A total of 425 members were referred to education in the RS outside the SAF.

In 2016, the education of SAF members was conducted in accordance with the plans. Eleven SAF members began their education in 2015, and will obtain the 2nd Bologna cycle education by 2017 and finish higher staff training. Fifteen new contracts were concluded with SAF members for the acquisition of higher vocational education at the Vocational College of Traffic and Transport, in conjunction with the advanced NCO course. Their education will be completed in 2017.

Eighty-six SAF members were referred to individual preparations for the English language test according to the STANAG criteria; 42 members were referred to English language refresher courses, and 20 members to the English language beginner course. An Italian language beginner course was conducted for twelve SAF members, a French language beginner course for eight SAF members, and a French language advanced course for four SAF members. In 2016, 665 candidates were referred to English placement tests. The MoD also implemented an advanced and advanced higher English language course, attended by representatives of foreign armed forces in addition to members of the SAF.

A total of 2,630 members of the SAF, the MoD, the Police, and foreign armed forces participated in different forms of military education and training within the organizational units of the Military Schools Centre.



*Military Schools Centre - the Kadetnica*

Various functional and career education and training courses abroad were attended by 263 SAF members. Of these, 26 members were referred to career education. Most SAF members were referred to the functional courses at the Oberammergau NATO School (70) and the Latina NATO School (25). The referrals to career education abroad were mostly carried out under the IMET programme, and attended by 21 of a total of 26 members.



NATO School Oberammergau



NATO School Latina

*Funds Available for the Education and Training  
in the SAF Between 2010 and 2016*

YEAR	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
AMOUNT (EUR)	4,107,087	4,716,458	2,927,535	2,605,605	1,808,578	1,600,000	1,600,000

The table shows the downward trend in funds over the past seven years; in 2016, the funds remained the same as in 2015. In 2016, 61% fewer financial resources were allocated to education and training in the SAF than in 2010. Input into the education and training of individuals does not follow the needs resulting from the maintenance of the current and the development of new capabilities. Deployments to functional education and training courses were carried out mainly to grant licences and powers necessary for the members to perform their professional duties.

The Education, Training and Advanced Training Plan in the administrative part of the MoD was implemented as follows:

- 109% in the field of functional internal training (reason: increased participation of the administrative staff of the MoD and the ACPDR, compared to the Education, Training and Advanced Training Plan for 2016);
- 48% in the field of functional external training (reasons: streamlining of financial resources, work overload, cancellation of certain forms of training, personal reasons);
- 90% in the field of language training (reasons: capacity of the School of Foreign Languages – one spot available for the administrative part of the MoD in a particular language course, work obligations, sick leave);
- 75% in the field of training abroad.

*Functional Internal Training*

Budget User	Planned Number of Participants	Realized Number of Participants	Realization (in %)
BU 1911	715	866	121
BU 1912	254	192	76
BU 1913	25	15	60
BU 1915	9	22	244
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,003</b>	<b>1,095</b>	<b>109</b>

*Functional External Training*

<b>Budget User</b>	<b>Planned Number of Participants</b>	<b>Realized Number of Participants</b>	<b>Realization (in %)</b>
BU 1911	299	189	63
BU 1912	31	25	81
BU 1913	202	37	18
BU 1915	26	17	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>48</b>

*Language Training*

<b>Budget User</b>	<b>Planned Number of Participants</b>	<b>Realized Number of Participants</b>	<b>Realization (in %)</b>
BU 1911	10	7	70
BU 1912	9	1	11
BU 1913	0	9	
BU 1915	1	1	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>90</b>

*Training Abroad*

<b>Budget User</b>	<b>Planned Number of Participants</b>	<b>Realized Number of Participants</b>	<b>Realization (in %)</b>
BU 1911	64	44	69
BU 1912	2	3	
BU 1913	0	3	
BU 1915	1	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>75</b>

## 6 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PLAN

International activities in the MoD were conducted within the programmes of bilateral and multilateral cooperation, the EU, NATO, sports (Conseil International du Sport Militaire – CISM), and military and technical cooperation. Activities were carried out in accordance with the priorities, programmes, and objectives set out in the 2016 MoD Business Plan.

The objectives in international cooperation supported the achievement of important conceptual objectives and priorities of the MoD.

Based on the Annual Plan of International Cooperation for 2016, the MoD planned 1,391 events. A total of 859 events, or 61.8%, were realized, 542 planned events remained unrealized, and 322 unplanned events were realized. The MoD spent EUR 910,921.67 to implement the plan of international cooperation. Details are shown in the table below.

*Summary of the Realization of the MoD's International Cooperation Plan for 2016*

Organizational Unit	Number of Planned Events	Number of Realized Planned Events	% of Realization	Number of Unrealized Planned Events	Number of Additionally Realized Unplanned Events	Total Funds Spent (in EUR)
Minister's Office (Minister, State Secretary, Strategic Communication Service, Protocol Service)	26	17	65%	9	20	39,513.89
Defence Policy Directorate	85	62	72.9%	23	54	94,284.16
Defence Diplomacy Representatives	226	184	81.4%	42	7	89,294.51
Secretariat of the Secretary General	42	31	73.81%	11	10	30,686.35
Logistics Directorate	178	147	82.6%	41	13	103,900.75
Defence Affairs Directorate	32	15	46.9%	17	12	28,025.92
Internal Audit Service	0		0		0	0
Service for Investigation of Aircraft Accidents and Military Aircraft Incidents	4	2	50%	2	1	4,773.95
<b>Administrative Part of the MoD Total</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>77.2%</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>390,479.53</b>
DIRS	4	0	0	4	0	0
ACPDR, IRSPANOD	283	187	66%	96	11	136,523.14
SAF General Staff	511	214	41.87%	297	194	383,919.00
<b>MoD Total</b>	<b>1,391</b>	<b>859</b>	<b>61.8%</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>910,921.67</b>

The discrepancy between the planned activities and the actual realization was still high. At the same time, the number of new, unplanned events that could not have been foreseen during the planning period increased.

The number of realized unplanned events reminds us that planning should also take into account new obligations and foresee their subsequent execution. Assessment of the realization of planned events must also take into account the following factors: cancellations by the other side; some planned proposals only written as a form of possible cooperation; revised objectives aimed at by certain activities; and organizational and personnel changes.



The SAF Management Plan for 2016-2017 focused on strategic partners within the Alliance with whom the MoD cooperates in international operations and missions, and on neighbouring countries with which the MoD has already established project cooperation. Special attention should be paid to cooperation with those countries that support the Republic of Slovenia in joining the declared forces in the NATO Force Structure. The strategic interest of the RS remains in the Western Balkans (KFOR, EUFOR Althea, NATO integration and counselling structures), neighbouring countries (Italy, Austria, Hungary, and Croatia), and partner countries (USA, Germany, France). Therefore, cooperation with these countries should be intensified.

## **6.1 International Cooperation**

In 2016, the Slovenian Armed Forces carried out activities in the fields of bilateral and multilateral cooperation; operation within NATO, the EU, the OSCE, and other regional organizations; and in military and technical cooperation. The SAF's sporting events in the international field were carried out within the framework of the International Military Sports Council (CISM). The planned activities supported the priorities set out in the SAF Management Plan for 2016-2017.

The Plan of International Military Cooperation for 2016 identified 511 events, which is seven events less than in 2015. Of the planned events, 214 were carried out. In addition, 194 unplanned events were carried out, so a total of 408 events were held. The realization of the planned events from the Annual Plan of International Military Cooperation was 41.87%. The funds available through the financial plan were all spent.

From 1st January to 31st December 2016, the ACPDR carried out numerous international activities within the framework of bilateral and regional cooperation programmes, the EU, and multilateral cooperation. The international activities followed the priorities defined by the programme and objectives of the ACPDR for 2016, as well as by the adopted international obligations of the RS. All the key objectives set out in the priorities of the ACPDR's international cooperation were achieved.

ACPDR representatives attended 54 events within the framework of bilateral cooperation (60% realization); 18 events within the framework of regional cooperation (90% realization); 52 events within the framework of the EU (77% realization); 50 events within the framework of EU projects (65% realization); two events within the framework of multilateral cooperation - the UN (33% realization); five events within the framework of multilateral cooperation - NATO (50% realization); and six events within other frameworks (50% realization).

## **6.2 International Cooperation within NATO**

The MoD was actively involved in NATO military committees and working bodies. The Alliance continued its intensive adjustment to the changed security situation. Emphasis was on preparing for the July Summit in Warsaw and the implementation of its decisions. At the Summit, the Allies decided to strengthen their military presence on the eastern borders of NATO in 2017, and contribute to the stabilization of the situation in the south by training the Iraqi security forces, supporting the coalition against ISIL, and conducting a naval operation in the Mediterranean. To provide for a more efficient response to complex conflicts with ever-increasing elements of hybrid warfare, the Allies will strengthen their cyber and civil defence. The theme of the meetings was also the need to increase defence expenditure in line with the economic growth.

Slovenia supported the forward positioning of NATO forces in the east, where, as a credible ally, it will participate with an enhanced SAF platoon, which will be included in the battalion group led by Canada and located in Latvia.

Slovenia was also active in shaping the Alliance's efforts to stabilize the situation in the south, since the events in this area have direct security implications on the Western Balkans and, consequently, on Slovenia. In the context of addressing the refugee and migrant situation, Slovenia promoted closer coordination between NATO and the EU in the Mediterranean.

Slovenia was among the first countries to ratify the Treaty of Accession of Montenegro to NATO, and assisted the Montenegro Mission to NATO in its inclusion in the work of most Allied committees.

In the context of the Framework Nations Concept, Slovenia participated in a project led by Italy. NATO's activities to transfer the centre of gravity from operations to operational readiness across the whole spectrum of possible sources of threat, particularly in the implementation of the Readiness Action Plan (RAP), are at the forefront. The focus is on complementing the newly established NATO Force Integration Units (NFIU), achieving key capabilities within the NATO Defence Planning Process (NDPP), on the Connected Forces Initiative (CFI) and Smart Defence (SD), and on training and exercises (ETEE).

An ACPDR representative attended the Spring Plenary Session in the field of Civil Emergency Planning. The Defence Affairs Directorate also participated in the Autumn Plenary Session of the Civil Emergency Planning Committee (CEPC), which took place in mid-December.

The MoD participated in the implementation of the NATO Crisis Management Exercise CMX16, and in the preparations for the NATO Crisis Management Exercise CMX17. The CMX16 exercise took place in March, while the CMX17 exercise planning conferences were held as follows: the initial planning conference was held in June in Belgium (Brussels), the main conference in September/October in Slovenia (Portorož), and the event planning conference in November in Romania (Bucharest). The main planning conference in Portorož was attended by over 240 representatives of the Alliance and the partner countries of Sweden and Finland. NATO and the participants rated both the organization and the execution of the conference as highly successful. The final planning conference for the CMX17 exercise was held at the beginning of 2017, so this event remained unrealized in 2016.

The NATO nuclear safety exercise "Able Staff 16" took place in September 2016. It was organized by the Defence Affairs Directorate, and included representatives of the MoD and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Before the exercise, in the framework of the preparations, the participants took part in the final training in Brussels, Belgium, at the beginning of September.

The Defence Affairs Directorate was also involved in the preparation and implementation of the NATO Cyber Coalition Exercise 2016 (CC16), in the context of which it attended the main planning conference in Turkey (Istanbul) in June, and the final conference in Romania (Bucharest) in October.

In 2016, the MoD studied NATO documents, directives, policies, and standards in the field of mapping and the provision of geospatial support, which is very important in terms of the interoperability of geospatial data and products between the Alliance nations.

The RS participated in the purchase of an important NATO capability for the provision of Air Ground Surveillance (AGS). By participating in this project, the RS demonstrated its readiness in the provision of critical NATO capabilities, thus identifying itself as a credible NATO member.

Altogether, 15 NATO members were included in the purchase. In the context of industrial participation, the RS currently ensures participation at the level of 64% of the invested funds.

### **6.3 International Cooperation within the European Union**

During the Netherlands' presidency of the EU Council, from January to June, and Slovakia's presidency from July to December, the main focus was on the preparation of the EU Global Strategy (EUGS) on Foreign and Security Policy, which was followed by the EUGS Implementation Plan on Security and Defence which, in the context of the EU Defence Package, and together with the European Defence Action Plan (EDAP) and the Implementation Plan of the EU-NATO Joint Declaration signed in Warsaw, was confirmed by the conclusions of the December European Council. All three documents are highly interlinked and constitute a framework for further in-depth work in the field of defence and security, and the strengthening of political will and finance. The implementation of the defence package was an important political priority of the EU.

Slovenia was actively involved in preparing the EU Global Strategy's Implementation Plan on Security and Defence (SDIP), which was designed to raise awareness and strengthen a new level of ambition in the field of the EU's security and defence in the context of three priorities: 1. The EU's response to external crises; 2. Capacity building for partner countries; 3. The protection of the EU and its member states.

The European Defence Action Plan (EDAP), prepared by the European Commission, is expected to reinforce the common market in the field of security and defence, to increase investment, boost the European defence industry, strengthen the technology base and research domains, and encourage civil-military synergy. The establishment of the European Defence Fund aimed to achieve a more efficient use of resources for joint defence capabilities, and enhance the safety of citizens.

The EU and NATO are entering a new era of cooperation, since, in the context of the Implementation Plan for the Joint Declaration on Strategic Partnership between the EU and NATO, they agreed on 42 concrete proposals for cooperation in seven key areas: hybrid threats, operational cooperation at sea and in the solving of migrant issues, cyber security, defence capabilities, the European defence industry, crisis management exercises, and the resistance of partner countries. Slovenia stressed the Western Balkans in particular as an example of good practice of cooperation between organizations, having a key role in countering illegal migration. In addressing the issue of stability in the EU's southern neighborhood, Slovenia highlighted the strengthening of operational cooperation at sea, such as the cooperation between the EU's Operation Sophia and NATO's Operation Sea Guardian.

Slovenia supported measures for a comprehensive solution to the migrant situation and the neutralization of human smuggling networks in the southern part of the Central Mediterranean, as was evidenced by its active participation in the EUNAVFOR MED Operation Sophia. The goal was to contribute to improving the humanitarian situation and the strengthening of security in the region, in the spirit of solidarity, and to identify the causes of migration at the place of origin.

### **6.4 Bi- and Multilateral Events and Defence Diplomacy**

The MoD leadership hosted a large number of ambassadors and defence attachés accredited to the RS in introductory and working meetings.

It sent a SAF officer to the BMTF headquarters in Skopje, on the basis of a signed international treaty, and began preparations to assume the role of lead nation at the beginning of 2020.

The annual bilateral cooperation programmes were prepared together with individual countries on the basis of framework agreements on the cooperation of countries in the field of defence. In accordance with the Declaration of the National Assembly on the Western Balkans, the Guidance on the Activities of the RS in the Western Balkans, and the Action Plan on the Activities of the RS in the Western Balkans 2016, part of the operations planning was oriented towards the countries of that region, in addition to the four neighbouring countries. In 2016, Slovenia cooperated most intensively with its neighbouring countries of Austria, Croatia, Hungary, and Italy, and with the countries of the Western Balkans and the USA.

In addition to the USA, bilateral cooperation with France, the Federal Republic of Germany and Italy must also be emphasized. Slovenia works with all these countries in important areas of operation. Cooperation with France is focused on education and training, and the navy. With Italy, Slovenia cooperates in international operations and missions, and the Multinational Forces (MLF). Cooperation with the USA is very intensive within the Mil to Mil and IMET programmes.

In the context of bilateral cooperation in the field of mapping and geospatial issues, coordination continued at an informal level with regard to a new agreement with the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Austria. This new agreement will enable widespread participation in joint projects in the professional and development fields, and exchanges of digital map data, which is particularly important for the production of border topographic maps.

The SAF participated in the regional initiatives of the Western Balkans (A5), the SEDM (South East Defence Ministerial), and the DECI (Defence Cooperation Initiative). Expert meetings were carried out for further development of the Balkan Medical Task Force (BMTF).

The SAF's Verification Centre carried out a total of 33 activities in the field of arms control, related to the OSCE Vienna Document 2011, the international Treaty on Open Skies, and the Dayton Agreement, which is a 94% increase compared to 17 activities carried out in 2015.



## 6.5 Cooperation in the Field of Military Technology

In military technology cooperation, the MoD attended several important military equipment and weapons fairs abroad (Eurosatory, MSPO). Although the SOBRA 2016 Fair, which was once again organized in Gornja Radgona after a five year absence, was not specifically added to the work programme, the MoD was able to ensure the participation of the neighbouring countries of Austria, Croatia, and Hungary. Austria also brought some of its latest equipment (the improved Pandur I) to the Fair, and ensured the participation of the Austrian Chamber of Commerce.

## 6.6 Sports – CISM

Major activities in cooperation within the CISM in 2016 were the participation in the World Military Parachuting Championship in the Russian Federation, the World Military Shooting Championship in Qatar, and the World Military Marathon Championship in Italy.

SAF members attended the CISM General Assembly and Congress in Estonia.

Slovenia organized a regional CISM competition in orienteering, which took place in Ajševica in March, and was attended by representatives of the Belgian and Latvian Armed Forces.



## 6.7 Other

The MoD planned 42 events and realized 31 of them. Eleven planned events were unrealized, and ten unplanned events were additionally realized.



*The President of the Republic of Slovenia, Borut Pahor, and members of the SAF at a protocol event*

A visit to the General Directorate of the Fire and Rescue Service at the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic was carried out as part of a project entitled "The Survey and Upgrading of the Crisis Management Mechanisms".

Within the Necessary Knowledge and Proposal for the Training Programme of Critical Infrastructure Managers (PROPU) project, the project manager and project staff participated in the CRITIS 2016 International Conference on Critical Information Infrastructures Security in France, and the International Security Expo 2016 in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The MoD also intends to attend a seminar for critical infrastructure managers with international participation, which is planned within this project for 2017.

## 7 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RISK REGISTER

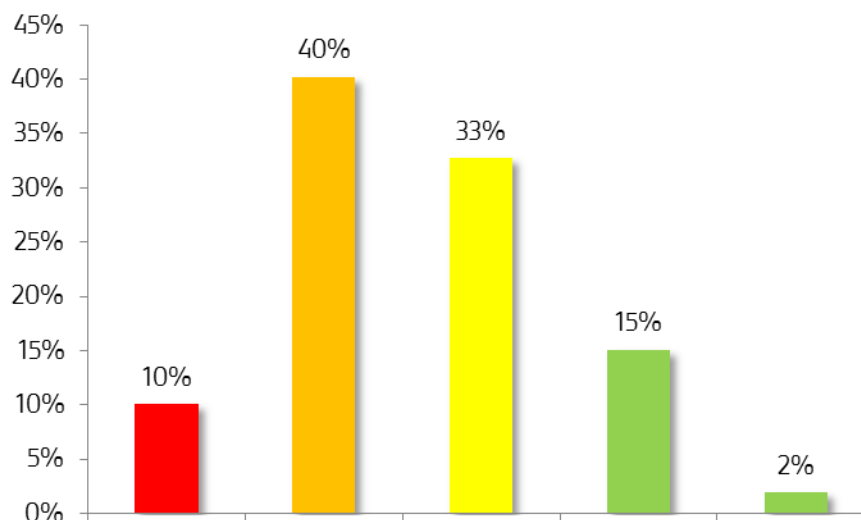
The risk register is a set of anticipated risks that could have a negative influence on the economical use of the fiscal resources and the attainment of the MoD's goals, and the set of all measures prepared in advance and applied to the preventive and timely reduction of the negative consequences of risks.

Based on the MoD's risk register, 159 risks were anticipated in 2016. The level of risk is determined based on the risk probability estimate and the consequence estimate, graded by numbers from one to three; a higher value means a greater probability of occurrence or greater consequences should the risk occur. The product of both estimates signifies the level of risk. Depending on the value of the product, four levels of risk are determined:

- Level 9 – very high probability of the occurrence of the risk and its consequences (red);
- Level 6 – high probability of the occurrence of the risk and its consequences (orange);
- Levels 3, 4 – medium probability of the occurrence of the risk and its consequences (yellow);
- Levels 1, 2 – low probability of the occurrence of the risk and its consequences (green).

Of all the risks, 16 risks or 10% were assessed at the highest level of risk; 64 risks or 40% at a high level of risk; 52 risks or 33% at a medium level of risk; and 27 risks or 17% at a low level of risk, as depicted in the histogram below.

*Structure of Risks with Reference to the Levels of Risk*

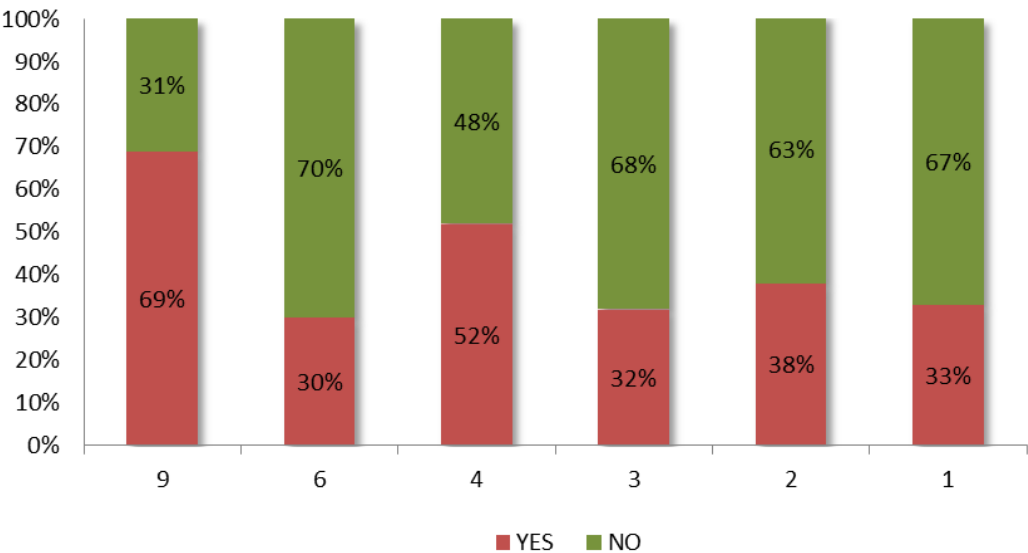


The chart below depicts the realization of risks with reference to individual levels of risk. With very high and high probability risks, namely levels 9 and 6, the realization was 69% and 30%. This means that with these risks, the assessment of the level of probability was correct, and that consequently, measures in response to the incurred risks were prepared and implemented on time. The level of realization of medium level risks was 52%, and of low level risks (1-3) 33%, 38% and 32%.

The prevailing risks with a very high probability of occurrence are procedural in nature and refer to the management of the main processes, especially the maintenance of the existing and establishment of the planned capabilities. The prevailing risks with a very high probability of occurrence are also of a project nature and refer to the untimely implementation of orders and measures. Additionally, risks with a very high probability of occurrence include those of

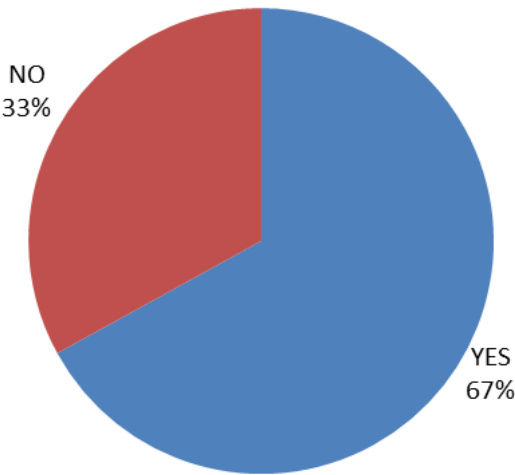
financial, personnel-related and regulatory types. Financial and personnel risks relate to a failure to provide or maintain the target capacity, while regulatory risks relate to an unrealized plan for the purchase of equipment according to the Programme for the Establishment of National Commodity Reserves in the Field of Protection against Natural and Other Disasters, and equipment according to the Programme for Equipping the Protection, Rescue and Relief Forces.

*Realization of Risks with Reference to Individual Levels of Risk*



In 2016, 63 anticipated risks or 40% occurred, and appropriate measures were applied to the majority of them. Measures were successfully implemented for 67% of all the risks that occurred.

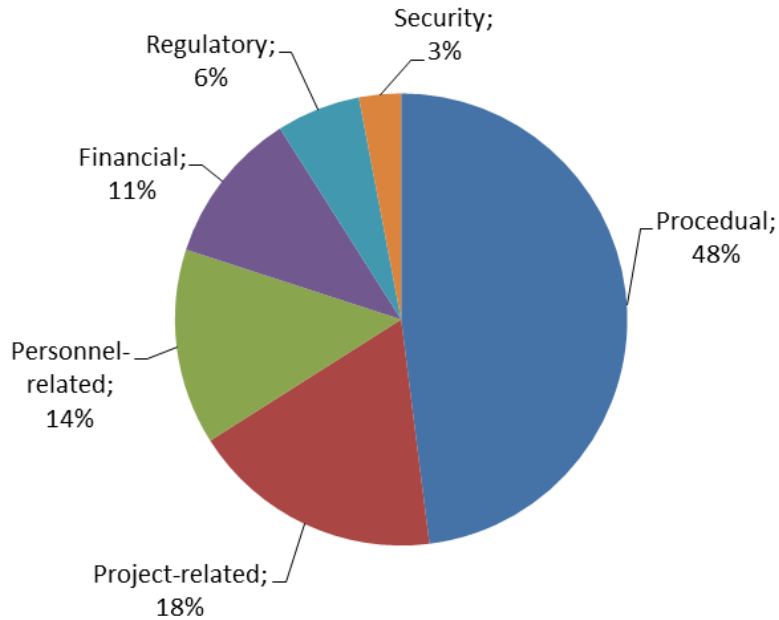
*The Level of Implementation of Measures for Realized Risks*



However, there are still too many risks on which the MoD has no direct influence, as it depends on the available funds allocated under the RS national budget. In such cases, it is necessary to ensure the least possible impact of such risks on the achievement of the key MoD objectives.

The structure of risks with reference to their type (procedural, project-related, personnel-related, regulatory, financial or security) shows that just under half of the risks (48%) are procedural in nature, as depicted in the pie chart below.

*Structure of Risks with Reference to their Type*



The predominance of procedural and project-related risks is a warning that processes and project management should be given more attention in the future, as they directly influence the effectiveness and efficiency of operations. In a metaphorical sense, this means that the MoD's priority in the short-term must be to further strive for the effective use of the limited financial, personnel and material resources, and systematically direct them towards the implementation of the key long- and medium-term objectives.

Effective implementation of measures for the management of risks and the prevention and mitigation of their consequences greatly contributes to the further development of the defence system, which is extremely important in the ever more complex, changing and unpredictable security environment.



## **REPORT SUMMARY**

The year 2016 was very demanding and dynamic for the MoD. Events in 2016 reaffirmed the importance of the field of defence, protection against natural and other disasters, and the response of the RS to various crises.

### **I. SLOVENIAN ARMED FORCES**

The SAF maintained its existing capabilities in its area of operation, but was unable to establish any major new capabilities due to the limited financial resources. The modernization and equipping of the SAF were accomplished in accordance with the available financial resources.

The SAF was actively involved in the system of protection against natural and other disasters, mainly focusing on helicopter mountain rescue and helicopter emergency medical assistance.

In 2016, the SAF continued its credible and highly appreciated participation in international operations and missions (IOM). Despite the limited financial resources it ensured the participation of approximately 350 members a year. The largest operation was the KFOR operation in Kosovo which also involved civilian functional experts as well as SAF members.

### **II. ADMINISTRATION OF THE RS FOR CIVIL PROTECTION AND DISASTER RELIEF**

In 2016, the operational readiness of the system of protection against natural and other disasters was provided through continuous operation of the notification centres and public rescue services, and through the preparedness of other civil protection (CP) rescue services, commissions, and commanders of units and headquarters. The current level of preparedness to respond to natural and other disasters was maintained. Protection, rescue and relief (PRR) forces acted in over 15,825 events, with almost 21,000 structures of PRR forces or a total of about 133,000 members of different units, services and other structures being activated.

In 2016, the ACPDR co-financed activities of services, societies, units, companies, institutes and other organizations in the field of protection and rescue in the amount of EUR 7,266,065, which ensured the operational readiness of professional rescue services, firefighting units of general importance, societies and other organizations, rescue services and structures which operate on a voluntary basis.

Education and training took place at the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief in Ig and the Centre's training units in Pekre, Sežana and Logatec. Training was provided to members of various PRR forces and public employees in the field of protection and rescue. Various forms of education, training and other activities were attended by almost 31,000 participants: over 22,000 at the Training Centre for Civil Protection and Disaster Relief in Ig; about 6,000 at the Centre's training unit in Pekre; 622 at the Logatec training unit; and 1,713 at the Sežana training unit.

The National Notification Centre (NNC) and the 13 regional notification centres (RNC), responding to the emergency call number 112, perform operational and communications tasks regarding monitoring, notification and warning 24 hours a day and 365 days a year. Thus, all citizens are guaranteed emergency medical assistance, rapid activation of rescue workers, primarily firefighters, and appropriate responses by different rescue services during natural and other disasters.

The 13 RNCs received 481,230 emergency calls in 2016, according to the latest unaudited figures, which is more than 1,300 calls per day. At the same time, the operators conducted 225,268 return calls.

In 2016, the ACPDR responded to over 15,800 different events, such as natural and other disasters, road traffic accidents, fires and explosions, pollution, accidents involving dangerous substances, nuclear and other events, findings of unexploded ordnance, supply disruptions, damage to buildings, and technical and other assistance. The PRR forces and other services

responded to these events. Through their timely and effective action and help to those affected, the PRR forces undoubtedly contributed to the mitigation of damage and other consequences caused by disasters and accidents.

In 2016, the ACPDR continued to address the migrant situation until the closure of the Balkan migrant route on 5th March 2016. It did so by transporting materiel and equipment from the Roje National Logistics Centre to the vicinity of the reception and accommodation centres (tents, emergency beds and blankets); by providing logistic support to the Ministry of the Interior and the Police during the setting-up of the reception and accommodation centres (providing electricity, water, toilets and washrooms in the facilities); and by setting-up tents and equipping them with beds and bedding.

### **III. ADMINISTRATIVE PART OF THE MoD**

#### Strategic Defence Review 2016

The MoD conducted a strategic defence review which gives answers to the question of whether the organization and functioning of the defence system and defence capabilities of the Republic of Slovenia ensure the responsiveness and ability of the state to cope with the current and possible future security threats and risks. The achieved level of development of the defence system and its capabilities was assessed in light of the current national defence ambitions in connection with Slovenia's international commitments and the declared capabilities.

#### Medium-Term Defence Programme 2016-2020

In 2016, the Government of the RS adopted the Medium-Term Defence Programme of the Republic of Slovenia for 2016-2020, which defines the key guidelines for the operation and development of the RS defence system in the medium term, and provides for the funding and its use for the development of specific capabilities.

The applicable financial plan of 31st December 2016 amounted to EUR 405,279,167, which is EUR 57.4 million higher than the adopted financial plan. Of this, the integral (budget) funds increased by EUR 36 million.

The financial plan realization, in the amount of EUR 389,226,748, represents 4.32% of the national budget and 0.97% of GDP. The realization of the integral funds was 99.9%, in comparison to the applicable financial plan.

In 2016, the MoD succeeded in ensuring the nominal growth of the financial plan. The MoD can justifiably expect a significant increase in financial resources in the coming fiscal years, due to successful rationalization measures in the past years, which would ensure a new impetus to its development and successful operation.

In accordance with the Joint Personnel Plan of the RS Government, the number of employees in the administrative part of the MoD, as of 31st December 2016, was 1,130 public employees, of which eleven were trainees. This is five employees less than the permitted number.

### **IV. MIGRANT ISSUES**

In the first third of 2016, the functioning of the MoD and its constituent bodies was marked by the migrant issues, which many other European countries were also engaged in.

Civil Protection was, due to the mass influx of migrants, responsible for the setting-up and maintenance of temporary accommodation centres. It was tasked with providing temporary housing in the accommodation centres, establishing foundations for the functioning of these centres, and coordinating the involvement of all participants. Together with the competent bodies, rescue services, and humanitarian and non-governmental organizations, Civil Protection organized the reception and accommodation of migrants, and provided food and other provisions essential to life, as well as lay first aid, helping to reunite families, and providing protection and other necessary services. All the employees of the ACPDR regional offices were included in the activities, establishing capabilities for the organization of accommodation and reception centres, and ensuring their operation and management.

The SAF provided vital assistance and support to Civil Protection in dealing with migrant issues. SAF members, in accordance with the needs identified, managed the accommodation centres, prepared and distributed hot meals and drinks, prepared cargo, disinfected the premises, carried out pest control, and performed a variety of transport services.

In addition to providing assistance to Civil Protection, the SAF supported the Police in the wider protection of the state border and the protection of certain facilities. To this end, it provided transport for police officers and material resources, participated in the protection of the state border with technical means and patrols, assisted in the wider protection of the border with helicopters, and, in line with the requirements, supported the Police with the available material resources. Additionally, the SAF helped the Police in the transportation of migrants, the protection of collection centres and the implementation of migrant escorts.

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Minister

Distributed to:

- All bodies within the MoD and MoD internal organizational units.

Annexes:

- Report on the realization of the MoD's annual work programme for 2016
- Report on the realization of the MoD's risk register for 2016