

Pursuant to Article 93, Law on Protection Against Natural and Other Disasters (RS Official Gazette, no. 64/94, 33/00, and 87/01) the Government of the Republic of Slovenia adopted on the 76th regular session on 30 May 2002 under item 2C the following

DOCTRINE ON PROTECTION, RESCUE AND RELIEF

1. INTRODUCTION

The Doctrine on Protection, Rescue and Relief (hereinafter: the Doctrine) is a document which is comprised of common principles and views concerning professional and operational guidance, organisation, and conduct of protection, rescue and relief efforts in the event of natural and other disasters. The use of common principles provides for a functionally unified and harmonised approach for disaster preparations as well as harmonised and interlinked operations of all those who carry out protection, rescue and relief efforts.

The Doctrine takes into account that protection against natural and other disasters is part of the internal security of the Republic of Slovenia (RS) and that protection and rescue is, organisationally and functionally, an independent and unified subsystem of Slovenia's national security. It includes and integrates all rescue activities, services, and other task forces involved in protection, rescue and relief efforts which make use of common telecommunication and information systems and other infrastructure.

The Doctrine is based on the Resolution on National Security of the Republic of Slovenia (RS Official Gazette, no. 56/01). It is harmonised with the Defence Strategy of the Republic of Slovenia (RS Government, no.820-00/2001-1, 20 December 2001) and the Civil Defence Doctrine of the Republic of Slovenia (RS Government, no. 810-02/2002-1, 25 April 2002).

2. STARTING POINTS FOR PLANNING, ORGANISING AND CONDUCTING PROTECTION, RESCUE AND RELIEF

2.1. DANGERS AND THREATS POSED TO PEOPLE, ANIMALS, PROPERTY, CULTURAL HERITAGE, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The main sources of dangers and threats of natural and other disasters are inadequate encroachment on the environment, pollution, military threats, terrorism, and other non-military sources of threat.

Three types of disasters are differentiated in Slovenia, based on their frequency of occurrence:

- Disasters which occur very frequently, the aftermath of which are limited to local areas and affect mostly individuals or small groups (fires, car accidents, storms, and the like).
- Disasters which seldom occur, have a widespread and diverse aftermath, affect communities, disable the operation of significant components of society, and may, in extreme cases, also have social consequences (destructive earthquakes, floods, storms and the like).
- Disasters which seldom occur, have an indirect impact on the social structure and have severe, widespread and unpredictable consequences (nuclear disasters).

Dangers which threaten the environment are, in particular, the inexpedient use of natural resources, poorly considered encroachment on the environment and various forms of pollution which destroy the natural balance and threaten healthy human life as well as the existence of animal and vegetable species. Particularly dangerous are encroachment on the environment through the transformation of landscapes, construction of urban and industrial systems, irrigation, redirection of watercourses, introduction of monocultures in agriculture and forestry, excessive use of chemical agents to protect plants, artificial fertilisers, and the like.

Since the end of the Cold War, the probability of a threat of global armed conflict has decreased. In the wider security environment of the Republic of Slovenia, the number of various, non-military risks and sources of threats has increased. A recurring aggravation of the security situation in the region southeast of the Republic of Slovenia is possible. Larger armed conflicts which would directly threaten Slovenia

are possible only in the case of a European or world crisis. Therefore, the security of the Republic of Slovenia mainly depends on the dynamics of Western-European political, economic and defence integration processes.

In the context of the intensive integration of Slovenian society into international economic streams, great migrations of the population and the increase of organised crime, security threats such as terrorism and other forms of violence and non-military threats are increasing, and their forms are different and more difficult to predict.

2.2. NATURAL AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS WHICH HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE OCCURRENCE AND CONSEQUENCES OF DISASTERS

Natural and other characteristics have an impact on the occurrence and aftermath of disasters by enabling, impeding or accelerating occurrences and processes which cause disasters and thus have an impact on their aftermath. Effects of natural phenomena and other uncontrolled forces often depend on natural characteristics, in particular the position, surface, and composition of the ground; water, weather and climate conditions; and areas of vegetation as well as population density, types of settlements and areas, population, characteristics of urbanisation, use of the ground, agriculture, traffic and utilities, development of economic and other activities, air, water and ground pollution, waste dump sites and the handling of waste.

2.3. DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Disaster preparedness consists of monitoring and researching dangers and methods for protecting against them. It includes notifying and warning the population in the event of disasters, organising, equipping and training protection, rescue and relief forces as well as training the population for personal and collective protection. It also includes the provision of stocks of protective and rescue equipment as well as humanitarian aid equipment, the preparation of protection and rescue plans, as well as planning and conducting protective measures.

Local communities, which focus on protection, rescue and relief efforts, plan and allow for disaster preparedness in accordance with estimations made by a competent government body of security threats based on a global estimation of threats. . In particular, risks which most frequently occur in their area and may cause severe

consequences have to be taken into account. Risks with specific consequences (industrial accidents) have to be considered as well.

Ministries and other government bodies are directly responsible for disaster preparedness and the operation of activities under their authority in the event of a disaster. They cooperate in drawing up governmental protection and rescue plans which provide for a harmonised approach in the event of major disasters and the need for assistance to local communities. The state provides for permanent stocks of protective material, rescue equipment and humanitarian aid material as well as for the construction and preparation of the infrastructure necessary for protection and rescue.

Enterprises, institutes and other organisations which conduct activities which represent a higher risk or which handle hazardous materials have to conduct regular monitoring and preparations for an efficient initial assessment as well as protection and rescue efforts in the event of a disaster.

For readiness, schools, child care centres and medical, cultural and other organisations have to be ready to provide conditions and possibilities for personal and collective protection of workers or individuals under their care as well as an efficient initial assessment in the event of various forms of disasters.

One basis for planning and conducting protection, rescue and assistance efforts is the long-term, interdisciplinary research of causes, forms of phenomena and consequences of disasters as well as possible preventive measures. Another basis is analysing the results of research done on the legal, economic, social, psychological and other aspects of disasters which give answers to questions related to the effectiveness and adequacy of assessment. Research defines measures and standards for the provision of security against disasters. Studies of individual disaster cases are also useful for planning the provision of protection, rescue and relief. . Lessons learned from previous accidents have to be considered as well, taking all available sources into account. Protection and rescue models, scenarios and plans have to be examined during actual disaster conditions.

3. PRINCIPLES OF ORGANISING PROTECTION, RESCUE AND RELIEF

Protection, rescue and relief efforts are organised based on the following principles:

- Everyone has the right to protection, rescue and relief efforts if his life, health, or property is endangered by a disaster.
- The protection of human life and the rescue of human lives have priority over other protective and rescue activities.
- All protection, rescue, and relief activities are of a humanitarian nature.
- Only those measures, activities and actions which are based on the Constitution and other laws can be planned and designed for protection, rescue and relief efforts..
- Priority is given to preventive measures in all forms of planning protection against natural and other disasters.
- During the carrying out of protection, rescue and relief efforts, unnecessary risks have to be avoided.
- In the event of a disaster, everyone is obliged to offer assistance to the best of his ability.
- Everyone is obliged to offer assistance to a person who is in danger of losing his life but only when it will not endanger the “rescuer’s” own life. If a person is not able to help, he is obliged to immediately notify the Notification Centre, police or appropriate rescue service in order to provide assistance in another way.
- Everyone has to notify the closest notification centre, police, or appropriate rescue service as soon as he has noticed or been informed of any case of danger or disaster.
- Citizens have to have access to information about threats of natural and other disasters as well as how to protect against them.
- The local community is obliged to notify the population about threats and how to protect against them and has to inform them about plans concerning protection and rescue as well as how to handle disasters.
- Local communities are directly responsible for conducting protection, rescue and relief efforts in their area.
- Local communities and the state provide for assistance and social security only to those who cannot provide it themselves in the event of disasters.

- Local communities use their forces and equipment first for protection, rescue and relief efforts.
- Natural and legal persons have the right and duty to conduct protection against natural and other disasters alone or along with others and are, in accordance with the law, responsible for conducting protection, rescue and relief efforts. Natural or legal persons must provide for their own security first; if unable to, they can ask for others' assistance.
- Natural and legal persons that have deliberately or due to gross negligence caused a situation which resulted in emergency intervention expenses or resulted in a disaster has to cover the direct damage, preventive measures and protection and rescue expenses, the re-establishment of the previous situation and reimbursement expenses.
- Forces and equipment for protection, rescue and relief efforts are organised according to threats and according to spatial or functional principles, or a combination of both.
- Forces which conduct protective and rescue activities in peace-time, also conduct these activities in states of war, emergencies or other changed conditions. They do so with the smallest organisational changes possible.
- Protection, rescue and relief forces have to be organised, trained and equipped in such a way so as to be able to respond in the shortest time possible.
- Civil protection units and services are organised especially to conduct those tasks concerning protection, rescue and relief efforts for which volunteer or professional rescue forces are not responsible, or if there are not enough forces in a particular area.
- Conducting protection and rescue missions is based on a single command principle and the obligatory decision-making bodies responsible for managing protection, rescue and relief operations.
- Only as many protection, rescue and relief forces as needed for the rational accomplishment of protection, rescue and relief missions can be used.
- Each Civil Protection commander, incident commander and commanders of rescue units, services or teams has to have a deputy. If there isn't a deputy, one must be authorised.

- Each commander or incident commander and each member of protection, rescue, and relief force or rescuer must know who his direct superior and subordinate is at all times.

Commanders or incident are responsible for the security of protection, rescue and relief forces during operations. The implementation of prescribed measures related to security and health at work and the provision of an adequate supply of personal and group safety equipment is accomplished by those bodies which organise individual units, services and other operational structures.

- Forces and equipment used and measures taken during protection, rescue and relief efforts have to be in proportion to threats or consequences of the disasters.

- As a rule, in order to provide for the coordinated use of various rescue forces, services, and structures, existing equipment, resources, unified processes and standards have to be used when organising and conducting protection, rescue, and relief efforts.

- Armed forces and defence assets can be used for protection, rescue and relief efforts if the forces and assets available are not sufficient for emergency rescue and relief and if the armed forces are not needed to conduct defence missions.

- Protection and rescue plans, as well as implementation procedures, have to be simple, transparent and comprehensible. All those who carry out protection, rescue and relief have to be informed about them.

- All forms of protection, rescue and relief efforts have to be conducted in line with the principles of international humanitarian law and international laws on the protection of people, animals, cultural heritage and the environment against harmful impacts of natural and other disasters and in accordance with adopted international obligations.

- In states of war, persons responsible for protection, rescue, and relief efforts have to comply with conditions determined by the Geneva Convention.

- The state provides for cooperation and solidarity with other states in the area of protection against natural and other disasters by signing international agreements, notifying other countries about dangers and disasters, and exchanging international data and disaster relief.

- It is necessary to be insured against known risks. Persons responsible for risks have to be insured against damages caused by a third person.

- As a rule, disaster relief is free of charge.

4. GOALS AND MISSIONS OF PROTECTION, RESCUE, AND RELIEF

The basic goal of protection, rescue, and disaster relief is to protect people, animals, material and other goods, as well as the environment, against disasters or destruction, damage and other consequences of disasters and to alleviate the consequences. The basic goal is implemented through:

- preventive activities,
- the establishment and maintenance of preparedness for action,
- monitoring, notification and warning system,
- protection, rescue and disaster relief,
- the alleviation of the aftermath of disasters.

4.1. PREVENTIVE ACTIVITIES

Preventive activities aim to prevent, abolish or reduce security risks. Preventive activities comprise organisational, technical and other measures and activities which prevent, or at least alleviate, the occurrence of consequences of individual disasters or facilitate the conducting of protection, rescue and disaster relief in the event of a disaster. Preventive measures are under the auspices of ministries, local communities and enterprises, institutes and other organisations in line with their activities. Ministers are directly responsible for their capabilities. Preventive measures and activities are regulated by area legislation. They are planned, however, in the context of programs and plans for protection against natural and other disasters or in the framework of developmental plans related to individual activities.

4.2. INTERVENTION PREPAREDNESS

Intervention preparedness includes plans for protection and rescue as well as other forms of preparedness which allow for a prompt response and effective intervention in the event of disasters. Prerequisites to ensure preparedness are an adequate organisation, equipment and training for protection, rescue and relief forces with regard to the type and scope of disasters in the area where the forces are established. This also includes spatial, construction and other measures through which individual areas, settlements and facilities are built, arranged, and equipped in such a way to prevent human casualties and greater material damage and to enable

the effective operation of rescue services. The above-stated measures are taken into account when drafting spatial plans as well as projecting and constructing facilities. Enroachment on the environment planning has to take into account limitations related to security risks (limitations on activities and construction in earthquake, flood and landslide prone areas) as well as areas of limited land use (temporary settlements, dump sites for polluted and hazardous materials, debris dump sites, etc.).

Protection against threats is provided for by constructing shelters in preparation for evacuations in order to accommodate and care for endangered inhabitants, provide a sufficient supply of technical and other equipment for personal and group nuclear, chemical and biological protection, and protect moveable items of cultural heritage. Shelters for basic protection are built in cities and other endangered settlements as well as in facilities which are designed for wide-range activities, such as health care, education, telecommunication, energy systems, public transportation and the like.

Intervention preparedness is provided for by ministries and other state bodies, local communities and businesses, institutes and other organisations in accordance with their activities and capabilities. Citizens also contribute by providing equipment for personal and collective protection.

4.3. MONITORING, NOTIFICATION, AND WARNING SYSTEM

The monitoring, notification, and warning system is organised as a unified subsystem for detecting and monitoring threats of natural and other disasters and the notification, warning and managing of protection, rescue and relief efforts in the event of disasters. It consists of informational and telecommunication systems, notification centres and warning equipment. The system operates continually in the required scope; if necessary it can be completely activated.

4.4. PROTECTION, RESCUE, AND RELIEF

In the event of disasters, protection, rescue and relief efforts consist of fire-fighting and rescue in the event of fires and explosions, rescue from debris and avalanches, rescue in mountains, caves, mines, and in and on water, rescue in the event of storms, hurricanes and other extreme weather conditions, rescue and care in traffic accidents, and the provision of first and emergency medical aid as well as

veterinarian care, protection against unexploded ordnance, nuclear, chemical and biological protection, moving casualties to safety, assistance to endangered people, general humanitarian assistance and the assurance of the basic conditions for life.

Protection, rescue and relief efforts are carried out by public volunteer and professional rescue services, professional services of businesses, institutes and other organisations, humanitarian organisations, units, services and Civil Protection bodies as well as other protection, rescue and relief forces. They cooperate with each other in order to carry out rescue activities. Competent Civil Protection commanders and staffs are in charge of planning and coordinating operations.

4.5. REMOVING THE AFTERMATH OF DISASTERS

Alleviating the aftermath of disasters consists of emergency measures and activities for the provision of the basic conditions for life and the provision of permanent reconstruction (revival) of the affected area. Activities for the provision of the basic conditions for life include ensuring a supply of drinking water, food, medicine, and power, the establishment of emergency traffic connections, public utilities, animal care and emergency protection of the cultural heritage. These activities are organised and directed by bodies responsible for carrying out protection, rescue and relief efforts, or also by protection, rescue and relief forces, as well as public services and other organisations. When the basic conditions of life have been provided for is, as a rule, decided by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia (hereinafter: the Government) based on an estimation of actual conditions in the affected area.

The permanent reconstruction of an affected area is usually organised and led by competent ministerial bodies or bodies determined by the Government, competent ministries or local communities. The purpose of permanent reconstruction is to return the area affected by the disaster to its previous condition or to improve the condition.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES OF INDIVIDUALS AND BODIES RESPONSIBLE FOR PROTECTION, RESCUE, AND RELIEF

The state provides for a normative regulation of the system of protection against natural and other disasters, development and research planning, preparation of governmental plans for protection and rescue efforts as well as the organisation of

the monitoring, notification and warning system. It is in charge of organising and preparing governmental forces and preparing and implementing education and training programs for protection, rescue and relief. It organises or supports the conducting of certain forms of protection, rescue and relief (rescue in mountains, caves, on and from the water, etc.). The government is also responsible for international cooperation and supervisory control. In the event of disasters, the government also provides, if required, assistance to affected areas and local communities. In order to ensure the effective planning, leadership, and carrying out of missions related to protection against natural and other disasters, arising from this governmental responsibility in individual geographical areas, and to allow for a timely response to disasters, the country's area is organised into a certain number of regions where expert protection and rescue services, bodies for managing protection, rescue and relief efforts as well as Civil Protection units, services and bodies, logistical centres and other operational structures are established. Some of these tasks are also performed by regional organisations.

Local communities provide for the monitoring of dangers, the notification of the population about dangers, the conducting of preventive measures, the development and directing of personal and collective protection, and the organisation, preparation and training of municipal forces for protection, rescue and relief efforts. In the event of disasters, they organise and manage protection, rescue and relief efforts in their area as well as activities related to alleviating the aftermath. To achieve more efficient and economical preparations and interventions, local communities develop some preparations for individual types of disasters together. Municipalities adapt preparations with neighbouring municipalities for those disasters whose aftermaths could affect two or more neighbouring municipalities.

Based on global estimations of threats and other expert documents, municipalities determine and analyse risks in their area and are, alone or in cooperation with neighbouring local communities, in charge of preventive and preparedness measures. Municipalities are required to notify neighbouring communities about each new dangerous activity and other threats in their area if these activities or risks endanger neighbouring activities as well.

Businesses, institutes and other organisations provide conditions and possibilities to ensure the personal and collective protection of employees; they also prepare adequate plans and take required protective measures. They have to provide for required protective and rescue equipment, organise assigned rescue units and services and organise training for protection, rescue and relief force members. Each dangerous activity and other risks which are connected with their endeavours have to be brought to the attention of the local community where they operate and other local communities if their activities also endanger their area.

In compliance with the law, citizens are required to cooperate with Civil Protection units. Depending on events, their equipment and real estate may need to be at the disposal of their Civil Protection unit and they may have to be trained and prepared to conduct training in required personal and collective protective measures. Citizens (non-professionals) who voluntarily conduct protection, rescue and relief missions, have the same rights that are prescribed for Civil Protection members. Citizens who have professional training in areas related to protection, rescue and relief missions are assigned to active service in the Civil Protection unit . The duties they are assigned are equivalent to their professional duties.

6. PROTECTION, RESCUE, AND RELIEF

Protection, rescue and relief forces are assigned to conduct activities and missions related to protection, rescue and relief in the event of natural and other disasters. They are organised as units, services and other structures. They are organised by local communities, governments and particular enterprises, institutes and other organisations. Local communities and governments organise them with regard to the level of threat to their area; enterprises, institutes and other organisations do the same in accordance with risks related to the activities which they perform. When organising protection, rescue and relief forces, priority, if possible, has to be given to volunteer forces. With regard to the integration and cooperation of citizens, these are divided into:

- volunteer forces which are organised according to the principles of non-governmental voluntary service, in particular, humanitarian organisations;

- professional forces which are organised as units or services through the conducting of missions on a professional basis, such as public institutes, administrative organisations and other types of organisations;
- compulsory forces which are organised within units, services and bodies of the Civil Protection units and based on citizen responsibilities.

Protection, rescue and relief forces are comprised of rapid reaction forces, general rescue forces and services, special rescue forces and services, and units, services and bodies of Civil Protection. The police and the Slovenian Armed Forces cooperate in conducting protection, rescue and relief efforts.

6.1. RAPID REACTION FORCES

Rapid reaction forces are assigned to conduct particularly demanding rescue interventions which require rapid reactions in order to prevent or reduce the level of danger or aftermath of disasters. These forces also participate in protection, rescue and relief efforts based on international agreements with neighbouring and other countries as well as in humanitarian and rescue interventions in a broader region. They are organised as governmental rapid reaction units and fire-fighting units which conduct wide-ranged missions. With regard to the threat, they can also be organised as part of larger local communities. Governmental units have to be particularly organised, equipped and trained so they are able to operate independently for a certain period of time in any area in the entire country or outside of it.

6.2. GENERAL RESCUE UNITS AND SERVICES

General rescue units and services are organised as territorial protection, rescue and relief forces for the purpose of conducting interventions in the area for which they have been established. These forces are mainly comprised of public rescue services which are voluntary, with or without a professional core, as well as professional services. Public rescue services are fire-fighter, mountain and cave rescue services, underwater rescue service and public medical emergency care service. The fire-fighting service is organised as a required local public service which, along with fire-fighting, also conducts general rescue missions. The mountain and cave rescue services are organised at the government level as an all-national rescue service. The underwater rescue service is organised at the regional level.

The management of non-governmental organisations at the governmental level direct and are in charge of preparedness, equipment and training of units, services and other operational structures which are developed for protection, rescue and relief..

6.3. SPECIAL RESCUE UNITS AND SERVICES

Special rescue units and services are organised to conduct particular protection, rescue and relief missions. They are organised by ministries, enterprises, institutes and other non-governmental organisations which arrange for the appropriate personnel for these purposes. They are organised in accordance with threat estimations and based on agreements signed with individual local communities or ministries responsible for protection against natural and other disasters or with other ministries. Special rescue units and services are mine rescue units, rescue units for accidents involving hazardous material, dog-handler units, units for the construction of temporary habitats, units for hygienic and epidemic operations, units for casualty identification, helicopter rescue units for traffic accidents, accommodation and medical units for the care of injured or sick people, other units made up of armed citizens, mobile meteorological and hydrological lab units, mobile environmental labs, etc.

Information services and other tasks which are significant for protection, rescue and relief efforts in the event of natural and other disasters are conducted based on legal authorisation by the National Organisation of the Red Cross.

6.4. CIVIL PROTECTION UNITS, SERVICES AND BODIES

Civil Protection units, services and bodies are organised as supplementary forces for protection, rescue and relief efforts at the government level and for local communities and businesses, institutes and other organisations. They are organised based on threat estimations and unified measures for organising, equipping and training protection, rescue and relief forces. Civil Protection units provide for the conducting of certain missions which cannot be conducted by existing general and special rescue units and services or which these units are too small in number to conduct. These missions concern protection, rescue and relief efforts in the event of major natural and other disasters in local communities and at the governmental level,.

Civil Protection units and services are organised especially for technical rescue, first aid, veterinary aid, nuclear, chemical and biological protection, maintenance and use of shelters, support and other missions. Persons in blocks of apartments, streets, settlements, companies and the like are assigned to be responsible for Civil Protection requirements, particularly for the organisation and conducting of personal and collective protection of citizens and employees. Logistic centres are organised to support the operation of Civil Protection forces. In the event of major disasters, information centres are established in order to gather, document and transmit information on affected citizens and to conduct other informational requirements.

Civil Protection units and services are organised throughout the country as tactical units with the man power of one team or squad up to a company. Units and services of the same type can be joined to larger structures.

Certain enterprises, institutes and other organisations, local communities, housing quarters and settlements, as well as government level Civil Protection commanders, deputies and staff are appointed to plan the organisation and coordination of protection, rescue and relief efforts.

6.5. POLICE

The police participate in protection, rescue and relief efforts in accordance with their organisation and equipment. In the event of disasters, the police safeguard human life, personal security and property. They prevent, detect and investigate criminal offences and violations, detect and apprehend perpetrators and other wanted persons and deliver them to competent bodies, maintain law and order, control and organise traffic and the movement of persons, participate in securing dangerous areas or accidents, conduct certain missions concerning foreigners and, if required, participate in rescue missions.

6.6. THE SLOVENIAN ARMED FORCES

The Slovenian Armed Forces participate in protection, rescue and relief efforts in accordance with its organisation and equipment. Air force, engineer, and other units

are equipped and trained by the Ministry of Defence to conduct protection, rescue and relief efforts. The armed forces provide for the protection of military property.

6.7. ACTIVATING PROTECTION, RESCUE AND RELIEF FORCES

Protection, rescue and relief forces are activated in the event of natural or other disasters generally based on the decision made by the body which established individual units and services. The mobilisation of protection, rescue and relief forces is decided by the government. In compliance with protection and rescue plans, the decision to activate and use Civil Protection and other protection, rescue and relief forces in the event of major natural or other disasters is made by the Civil Protection commander or the commander of another body which is responsible for the leadership. In compliance with protection and rescue plans as well as other documents, in the event of minor natural or other disasters, rescue services and other protection, rescue and relief forces are activated by the responsible notification centre.

When the participation of the police is required during protection, rescue and relief operations, the operation and communication centre of the General Police Administration has to be notified. Police tasks are conducted by the police at the disaster site in accordance with regulations which define the police roles, responsibilities, and authorisations.

The use of the Slovenian Armed Forces to conduct tasks related to protection, rescue and relief efforts in peace-time is decided by the government or, in states of emergency, by the Minister of Defence or the Chief of the General Staff. These decisions are made based on the proposal of the RS Civil Protection commander. In times of war, commanders of brigade-level or higher units make decisions on the participation of the Slovenian Armed Forces in tasks related to protection, relief and rescue efforts. The Slovenian Armed Forces participate in protection, rescue and relief efforts only when it is not possible for other units to successfully provide for protection, rescue and relief and as long as it is not carrying out defence-related tasks.

The police and the Slovenian Armed Forces cooperate in conducting protection, rescue and relief missions in compliance with regulations and guidelines of the competent Civil Protection commander or the leader of the intervention. The police and individual units of the Slovenian Armed Forces are led by their chief or commanders.

In times of war, protection, rescue and relief forces are protected while conducting missions based on the augmented protocol (Protocol I) to the Geneva Convention of the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts. They are not allowed to conduct combat missions.

7. EDUCATION AND TRAINING

During primary school education, basic theoretical and practical knowledge about natural and other disasters and protection against them are taught. During vocational, high school and university education, topics related to protection against natural and other disasters are taught in accordance with the guidelines of individual education programs.

Training the population for personal and collective protection and implementing obligatory protective measures are organised, according to security risks, by local communities and the government. Protection and rescue plans are also used as non-compulsory training forms. Initial measures to be taken for personal and collective protection in the event of disasters are also disseminated.

The training of a professional cadre in the area of protection, rescue and relief efforts is carried out through the regular education system and with various forms of functional education. Only the training of professional fire-fighters is carried out through a special education program.

Training of protection, rescue and relief force members is conducted based on programs, which are determined by the minister who is responsible for protection against natural and other disasters. The training of protection, rescue and relief force members is organised by the founders of individual units, services and other operational structures. However, it is carried out by the Training Centre for Protection

and Relief Efforts of the RS Administration for Protection, Rescue and Relief Efforts, the responsible training organisation and organisations and other non-governmental organisations.

The contents of the legal regulations on the national security system and protection against natural and other disasters, the doctrines on protection, rescue and relief efforts, monitoring and warning, telecommunications in the area of protection and rescue, and protection and rescue plans and the management and command of the protection and rescue system are necessary components of all programs related to the training and education of protection, rescue and relief forces.

The training of protection, rescue and relief force members is made up of introductory, basic and supplementary training and exercises. Standards of knowledge are determined for all education and training programs. Tests are usually carried out after the basic training. Tests are also conducted after the completion of supplementary training programs. After the conclusion of training, participants receive certificates for their training to conduct particular protection, rescue and relief missions. . Participants in individual training are protection, rescue, and relief force members, units and other organisational structures. Generally, individual protection, rescue and relief force members participate in the introductory and basic training. Supplementary forms of training and exercises are usually attended by entire units and other operational structures and their leadership.

The purpose of exercises is to examine the training and the readiness of the system of protection against natural and other disasters as a whole or its individual parts and components. The exercises also examine the concept of protection and rescue which has been elaborated in plans. Exercises can be of local or state significance, individual or staff, command, territorial or collective protection or defence protection exercises. An adequate study has to be produced for each exercise. Exercises designed for examining readiness in the event of disasters involving hazardous material are generally conducted every three years, in the event of nuclear disasters every five years and for other major types of disaster every five to ten years.

8. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS

The emergency response plan is a concept or scenario on measures to be taken in the event of natural or other disasters. It determines the content, actions for carrying out missions related to protection, rescue and relief, the executors and provides for the use of human and materiel resources. The emergency response plan is also comprised of particular authorisations for conducting protective measures and collecting the data necessary to conduct them.

Emergency response plans are designed by competent government bodies, local communities and enterprises and institutions and other organisations. Governmental plans (for major disasters or those which can affect a major part of the country) are designed by the RS Administration for Protection, Rescue and Relief in cooperation with other ministries and government bodies. They are adopted by the government. The Administration is also the trustee for government emergency response plans.

Constituent components of the government emergency response plans are plans concerning activities which are designed by individual ministries with the purpose of providing for the undisturbed carrying out of activities under their auspices in the event of natural or other disasters and other changed conditions. The respective ministers are responsible for the content of activity plans.

Governmental emergency response plans are designed at the regional level. For particular types of disasters which endanger a particular region, plans are drafted only for the threatened region.

Emergency response plans can also be designed by provinces.

Local communities design emergency response plans for all major accidents which could occur on their territory. Constituent components of their plans are also plans for individual activities. Plans of local communities have to be coordinated with governmental plans which were designed for the same type of disaster. The mayor receives emergency response plans from local communities. The trustee for municipal emergency response plans is the director of the municipal administration or another person determined by the mayor.

Enterprises, institutes and other organisations which conduct dangerous activities have to design emergency response plans and avoid endangering the environment in which they are operating. In accordance with municipal emergency response plans, plans have to be designed by institutes and other organisations involved in education, training, day-care, disabilities and social welfare, care of senior citizens, health care and culture.

Emergency response plans are designed based on the assessment of threats, the analyses of conditions and possibilities, and the possible use of existing human and material resources to conduct protection, rescue and relief efforts in the event of individual disasters.

When designing plans, basic plans have to be drafted which are related to protection and rescue in a particular area or measures to be taken in the event of a particular disaster plans which provide for the carrying-out of basic plans. The relation between plans is determined by the nature of dangers and threats, available resources (estimations of requirements and possibilities), the state of readiness and other things. Local community plans are, the majority of the time, basic emergency response plans.

9. MONITORING, NOTIFICATION AND WARNING SYSTEMS

Monitoring, notification and warning systems encompass the information and telecommunication systems as well as notification and public warning centres.

The information system includes monitoring threats and states of emergency as well as collecting, processing, forwarding and using data which are significant in protecting against natural and other disasters. Monitoring threats is done through observation posts or networks, by collecting data from organisations and informers and through the international exchange of data. Data are collected, processed, stored, and forwarded by regional and governmental notification centres. In particular, data on meteorological, hydrological, seismological, nuclear, and environmental situations, threats to health, traffic events, obstruction of infrastructure systems, other dangers and threats, the conducting of protection, rescue and relief efforts, and damage are collected in permanent data bases. Data defined territorially

are arranged and forwarded within the framework of the geographical information system.

For directly led protection, rescue and relief operations, protection and rescue telecommunication systems are used. These have to be autonomous, functionally completed and developed in such a manner as to cover the entire territory of the country. The system has to work continually. As a rule, it is composed of a protection and rescue radio connection system and pagers. The use of an appropriate communication system is obligatory in order to lead interventions and other protection and rescue operations. The communication centres of this system are located within the notification centres which provide the connection between the users of public and private telecommunication systems as well as the coordinated operations of all persons responsible for protection, rescue and relief efforts.

For forwarding data and communications in the area of protection against natural and other disasters, there are also other available telecommunication and information infrastructures which are based on various interconnected networks. The transmission data and communication between leadership bodies, rescue units and other persons responsible for protection, rescue and relief efforts are therefore carried out through:

- secure electronic mail which is used for forwarding certain data between organisational units of the ministry which is responsible for protection against natural and other disasters,
- the protection, rescue and relief intranet for forwarding data and communication among leadership bodies at the local, regional, and governmental level and other persons responsible for protection, rescue and relief efforts which operate in this system,
- the network which is used for forwarding data and communication between partner states and the NATO Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre as well as other international networks designed for rescue and relief,
- the internet for the collection, examination and exchange of data and communication with institutes outside the protection and rescue system at the local, regional, governmental and international level.

Notification centres are organised at the regional and governmental level particularly to conduct the operational and communication tasks of monitoring, notification, and warning. They collect and process data, forward them to users, perform dispatch services for fire-fighting and other rescue units, answer emergency calls, coordinate rescue activities in the event of less demanding disasters, conduct operations for the provision of logistics support in the event of protective and rescue operations, operations in the event of an announcement of threats, direct notification of the public, public warning and the international exchange of data.

112 emergency calls are a form of communication with citizens who, due to various reasons, are in great need and require the help of fire-fighters, emergency medical or veterinarian aid or the assistance of other rescue units. This telephone number is also used for the notification of on dangers, disasters and other events which are significant in the protection against natural and other disasters.

The public warning system which notifies citizens about threats of natural or other disasters is used in emergency cases if the citizens cannot be notified by another method or through other means. For the purpose of public warning, two basic warning signals are used: one signal for warning about impending danger and one signal for warning about direct or immediate danger. In special cases, a special warning signal can be determined for warning the public in individual areas about special dangers. Warning signals are used in exceptional circumstances to call up intervention teams, particularly in sparsely inhabited areas.

Whenever a warning signal is used, the responsible regional notification centre has to notify the public through radio, TV and other means about its significance; at the same time, it has to provide instructions on what to do.

10. PERSONAL AND COLLECTIVE PROTECTION

In the event of a disaster, everyone is obliged to conduct personal and collective protection which is comprised of measures for the prevention and mitigation of threats or aftermaths of disasters to health, life and property. Therefore, each individual has to be trained in the use of personal preventive equipment and equipment for simple collective protection. They should be knowledgeable of basic

first aid, how to fight initial or minor fires, simple forms of rescue from debris and facilities in danger and rescue from water. Everyone should be able to provide the most essential personal protective equipment and requirements for personal and collective protection.

The organisation, development and guidelines of personal and collective protection of residential and other areas are taken care of by local communities. In the context of dissemination of knowledge concerning personal and collective protection, local communities and the government are emphasising disaster preparedness for those which are most frequent or those which are particularly threatening to local communities. In the event of disasters, local communities can also organise a special service for answering calls from citizens in need. This task is usually performed by volunteers (psychologists, social scientists, social workers, medical employees and other experts).

11. MANAGING AND LEADING PROTECTION, RESCUE AND RELIEF EFFORTS

The management, leadership and conducting of basic organisational functions are done in accordance with the planned organisation and procedures for conducting protection, rescue and relief efforts. Practical implementation is carried out at the political, executive, administrative, and technical levels. The management and leadership of protection, rescue and relief efforts are part of a logistically and technically unified process.

The management of the process is comprised of various activities which include planning, organising and leading operations and surveillance which provide for the establishment and operation of a unified system of protection against natural and other disasters. The National Assembly and government, municipal councils and mayors as well as the management of businesses, institutes and other organisations each operate at their own level to manage the system. The government and local communities have to provide for the basic legal organisation. Other basic solutions are coordinated at the governmental and local level. In particular, the leadership provides for the timely, coordinated and effective operation of protection, rescue and relief forces in the event of a disaster.

Civil Protection commanders and staff, incident commanders and rescue unit and structure commanders lead protection, rescue and relief operations in an efficient and professional manner. Operational and professional leadership is based on the principle of compulsory decision making and single command. The commander is the commander in line, members of the staff are functional specialists and cover individual professional areas or coordinate the work between individual units, services or other protection, rescue and relief forces. The members of the staff are advisors and are not management. They provide professional proposals to the commander as the commander in line and are directly responsible to him for their work.

The missions of the commander of protection and rescue efforts are determined by law. The Civil Protection commander is directly responsible for his work to the body through which he was appointed. When conducting protective and other measures and missions in the event of natural and other disasters, the Civil Protection commander is directly responsible to his superior Civil Protection commander. Commanders, as a rule, determine the leaders of intervention who are directly in charge of protection, rescue and relief efforts. Civil Protection commanders are responsible for following international humanitarian law when conducting protection, rescue and relief efforts.

Civil Protection commanders or leaders of intervention, in particular if Civil Protection commanders are not activated, have to consider the following basic principles when leading protection, rescue and relief efforts:

- It is necessary to estimate the scope of the affected area and aftermath as well as establish key problems and advantages for conducting protection, rescue and relief efforts.
- General guidelines for conducting protection, rescue and relief efforts have to be determined, in the context of which the protection of people has precedence over other measures. The decisions of the superior have to be taken into account and are not allowed to be modified. Subordinates have to be informed about these. More significant decisions, regulations or orders are transmitted to subordinates or persons responsible for carrying them out in written form.

- The method for conducting the most difficult and important tasks of protection, rescue and relief has to be determined and only that portion of forces which can be rationally and effectively used can be used. At the same time, the capability of long-term operations must be maintained.
- Those who have been affected by disaster have to be included in protection, rescue and relief efforts as soon as possible, taking into account their actual
- Basic decisions on protection, rescue and relief efforts are not changed during the operation unless conditions in the affected area change.
- Subordinates have to be informed about procedures for conducting protection, rescue and relief efforts and also about difficulties or problems during the operation.
- When conducting protection, rescue and relief efforts, it is necessary to simultaneously estimate conditions and the situation in the affected area, to anticipate possible or probable aggravation of the conditions and to prepare for any eventuality.
- From the moment a disaster occurs, it is necessary to inform the affected population and the public in a simultaneous, planned and objective manner and in the required scope about the carrying out of protection, rescue and relief efforts. The information can be transmitted only by authorised persons.
- Obligatory and required documentation on the work of the commander and the staff or the leaders of intervention has to be prepared.

The Civil Protection commander and leaders of interventions have special authorisations. They have the right and duty to prohibit access to the disaster location to unauthorised persons and to divert traffic past this location. They can order the evacuation of persons, animals and property from endangered facilities and areas and prohibit people from enter flats. They can decide on the use of particular communication equipment or its establishment, the removal of obstacles which disable effective intervention and the use of foreign protection, rescue and relief vehicles. They can order the compulsory cooperation of citizens in rescue operations in accordance with their capabilities and equipment which are appropriate for rescue, the use of foreign land for conducting protection, rescue and relief efforts, the demolition of facilities, the cutting-down of trees and others. The commander or leader of interventions can use the above-stated authorisation only if he cannot otherwise protect people, animals and property or provide emergency protection,

rescue and relief. Ordered actions have to be comparable with the aftermath of the disaster and are conducted only as long as necessary.

The commander of the municipal or regional civil protection unit can, based on their estimation of requirements and possibilities, require and/or ask for assistance such as forces and equipment from the broader community and also for the assistance of the police and Slovenian Armed Forces.

The commanders of Civil Protection staffs generally operate in their headquarters in all situations. Therefore, they have to provide for adequate conditions for their work (appropriate location, facilities, premises, and equipment). The facility has to be accessible, working areas have to allow for the independent work of the staff members as well as of other experts. Adequate telecommunication, informational and other logistic support has to be provided for the work.

12. COMMUNICATING WITH THE PUBLIC

Communicating with the public is one of the key components of mastering changed social, economic, safety and other conditions in the event of natural and other disasters. Changed conditions require adapted communication between bodies managing and leading operations and other persons responsible for carrying out protection, rescue and relief efforts as well as with other professionals and the public. The public has to be notified about an accident, its aftermath and measures taken in a rapid and objective manner. Organised public relations have to be based on trust and reliability. Therefore, bodies which manage and lead the system of protection, rescue and relief efforts, individuals responsible for carrying out the efforts and, in particular, public relations services and information centres are obliged to maintain this confidence even in the event of disasters.

During disasters, the above stated bodies and services have to provide for factual and carefully considered information on the situation, disaster aftermath and measures taken. In wartime, information activities have to be closely interconnected and adapted to the psychological defence.

Personal relations with the affected population are especially maintained by members of humanitarian organisations, servicemembers, members of rescue services and

representatives of bodies responsible for protection, rescue and relief efforts. These relations are maintained through discussions and other appropriate methods. Humanitarian organisations compose a significant part of the social network in which people seek support and assistance. Humanitarian organisations, in accordance with their mission, organise and conduct protection, rescue and relief efforts. At the same time, their members can decisively influence the conduct of the people. Representatives of religious communities can also contribute to this.

Communicating through the media consists, in particular, of publishing public information on conditions, aftermath, measures taken and conducted in the event of disasters. This information is provided by local and governmental authorities and other bodies which are responsible for protection, rescue and relief efforts. The media can also significantly contribute to the alleviation of the aftermath of disasters. Their role is particularly significant in the event of disasters with regard to their influence on social occurrences, activities and is therefore governed by law. In such events and based on a request by a competent governmental or local body, the media are obliged to publish urgent information without delay and free of charge. Governmental bodies and bodies of local communities, public businesses, public institutes, individuals performing public functions and other authorised persons are responsible for the authenticity and accuracy of information which is transmitted to the public.

In the event of minor disasters, the leader of an intervention provides the first information to the public. In the event of major disasters, the Civil Protection commander or the commander of an authorised service are responsible for providing initial information on the disaster. For alleviating the aftermath of disasters, public relation services are designated for communicating with the public. In the event of major disasters notification centres are also activated.

13. MATERIAL RESOURCES FOR PROTECTION, RESCUE, AND RELIEF

The main material resources for protection, rescue and relief are available resources for protection, rescue, and relief, funds allocated for protection, rescue, and relief which are provided for by the government and local communities, goods in national reserves and humanitarian aid resources.

Protective and rescue equipment designed for protection, rescue, and relief forces can be provided based on obligatory measures for organising, equipping and training protection, rescue, and relief forces. They have to be verified and to comply with implemented standards. Vehicles, working machines, devices and other equipment which are used by protection, rescue and relief forces to conduct the majority of their tasks have to be correctly standardised.

Facilities and devices designated for protection, rescue and relief are shelters and other protective facilities, warehouses for storing and maintaining protective and rescue equipment and equipment for humanitarian aid. These are also facilities for telecommunication and information devices and equipment, facilities for training, equipment for monitoring threats and other equipment which is provided by businesses, institutes, other organisations, local communities and the state for the purpose of conducting protection, rescue and relief tasks.

Stocks of material resources designated for protection, rescue, and relief efforts are designed by the government and local communities with regard to threats. These are also provided by businesses, institutes and other organisations. Stocks designated for protection, rescue and relief are comprised of particular protective and rescue equipment which is used in great quantities in the event of disasters, stocks of spare parts for vehicles and working machines and other equipment. Stocks are also comprised of devices for the production of electric power, devices for storing and cleaning water, equipment for the temporary accommodation and care of people, strategic stocks of fire-fighting equipment and equipment for protection against floods and other disasters. Governmental stocks designated for protection, rescue and relief are also distributed according to regions depending on the exposure to threats.

Goods in national reserves are specifically designed for interventions in the event of major supply disturbances and need for the provision of basic supplies in the event of major or other disasters and in times of war. Basic supplies consist of a supply of basic foodstuffs and products other than foodstuffs.

Equipment for humanitarian aid which is provided by the government and local communities is allotted and distributed by the Slovenian Red Cross and responsible social services according to social criteria. The use of this material is determined by the government and in emergency cases by the Civil Protection commander of the Republic of Slovenia and mayors based on proposals by Civil Protection commanders.

The use of stocks of resources designated for protection, rescue, and relief efforts is determined by competent Civil Protection commanders. The use of goods in national reserves for protection, rescue, and relief is determined by the government based on a proposal by the ministry responsible for supplies. The government, based on a proposal from the commander of the RS Civil Protection or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, decides on material assistance to other countries and to international organisations.

Assistance with material resources is generally free of charge. In the context of the use of state goods, reserves, or appropriated stocks, the government decides on the type, purpose and method of use as well as the term and method of their replacement.

14. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

The permanent and direct threat of natural and other disasters requires active cooperation with neighbouring countries and international organisations. Therefore, the Republic of Slovenia, based on international agreements and in accordance with national interests and the principles of equal rights and solidarity, participates in protection against natural and other disasters in the international community. This particularly concerns cooperation between neighbouring countries and countries in the region which are linked by common threats of natural and other disasters.

In accordance with foreign political and security priorities and objectives, the government is trying for the earliest possible full membership in the European Union and NATO. This will provide for the interoperability of protection, rescue and relief forces and the organisation of protection, rescue and relief capabilities for participation within the framework of NATO and the European Union. At the same

time, all organisational and other characteristics of the protection, rescue, and relief system, based on geographical, urban, historical and other conditions, which have proven themselves in practice so far, will be preserved. In the context of the European Union, we will enhance our efforts and activities for the management of industrial and nuclear disasters and other risks related to economic activities.

Relations with neighbouring countries in the area of protection against natural and other disasters are of key importance. Adopted bilateral, international agreements on mutual cooperation in the area of protection against natural and other disasters determine that the focus of bilateral cooperation be on the mutual notification of threats and disasters, planning and conducting joint protective measures in the event of disasters in border areas, international assistance in the event of disasters, and conducting joint research, preventive and other programs.

The Republic of Slovenia is, given its capabilities, prepared to participate in international rescue and humanitarian operations and to offer affected communities humanitarian, technical and other forms of assistance related to protection against disasters.

The exchange of data and information on security risks and disasters generally takes place through the governmental notification centre. For assistance in the form of forces and equipment in the event of major natural or other disasters, neighbouring countries and international organisations can ask the RS government or the RS Civil Protection commander for assistance if not otherwise covered by international agreements. The RS Red Cross and other humanitarian and non-governmental organisations are independent in managing international humanitarian assistance. The government also decides on assistance to other countries in the event of natural or other disasters as well as on the participation of Slovenian protection, rescue, and relief forces in international humanitarian and rescue operations.

15. FINANCING PROTECTION, RESCUE, AND RELIEF MISSIONS

Protection, rescue, and relief missions are financed by means of the state budget, budgets of local communities, fire taxes, insurance fees, donations and other voluntary contributions, international assistance and other sources. The state budget

and budgets of local communities, along with assets for preparations for the event of disasters and other tasks in the framework of regular activities of the government and local communities, also provide assets for the purpose of conducting protection, rescue and relief missions during disasters.

The government and local communities provide assets to cover expenses of tasks related to protection, rescue and relief which cannot be delayed (including tasks related to the provision of basic life conditions) generally in the framework of the budget reserve. As part of the budget reserve, the government and local communities provide assets to help alleviate the aftermath of natural and other major disasters.

Assistance to people and legal entities on the territory of the country is generally free of charge, except in cases where the threat or disaster was the result of deliberate actions or gross negligence. In this case, the person or persons responsible have to cover all the expenses of the intervention, the improvement of sanitary conditions and the re-establishment of the prior state as well as provide compensation for damages.

16. CONCLUSION

The government will adjust this Doctrine and supplement, as needed, in accordance with major changes in threats to the state, the security environment, the political territorial arrangement of the state and new findings of science and professional fields in the area of protection against natural and other disasters and, in particular, the area of conducting protection, rescue, and relief efforts in the event of disasters.

The Doctrine is the basis for the preparation and adoption of normative, organisational and other solutions as well as related doctrines in the system of protection against natural and other disasters.

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