

Administrative Arrangement

between

the Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defence, Emergencies and
Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters

and

the Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection of
the European Commission

on Practical Cooperation in the Field of Civil Protection

The Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters (EMERCOM of Russia) and the Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection of the European Commission (DG ECHO), hereinafter referred to individually as “the Side” or collectively as “the two Sides”,

- Considering the good practical cooperation between EMERCOM of Russia and the Directorate General for Environment under the previous Administrative Arrangement,
- Considering the change of attribution within the European Commission of the Directorate General responsible for civil protection,
- Considering that natural and man-made disasters are increasing both in frequency and intensity,
- Recognising the need for effective disaster prevention, preparedness and response,
- Recognising the need for broadening the scope of practical cooperation between the two Sides,

have come to the following mutual understanding:

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Administrative Arrangement is:

- 1) To enhance coordination and cooperation between the two Sides on disaster resilience, reduce disaster risk and improve international disaster response;
- 2) To explore processes and share best practices for facilitating coordination during disasters; and
- 3) To expand the respective knowledge bases concerning prevention (including adaptation to climate change), preparedness, response, recovery and resiliency activities.

II. Scope – Exchange of information, cooperation and mutual assistance

Under this Administrative Arrangement the Sides intend to create a framework for information sharing, knowledge exchange and mutual support to further foster coordination and cooperation in disaster management. The two Sides intend to:

- 1) Exchange and regularly update relevant information and points of contact (POC) between the EMERCOM's National Emergency Management Center (NEMC) and the European Commission's Monitoring and Information Center (MIC) to ensure continuity of contact, dialogue and facilitate coordination when necessary, and to test regularly their respective communication systems;
- 2) Exchange information in case of imminence or occurrence of disasters or accidents with potential trans-boundary effects;
- 3) Promote the provision of mutual civil protection assistance through the respective systems in the event of emergencies overwhelming the available response capacities;
- 4) During emergencies, share information as much as practically possible, including exchanging personnel to observe operations where possible;
- 5) Share lessons learned from disasters and exercises on a regular basis;
- 6) Explore methods and share best practices for facilitating the entry of staff and material requested to assist in the response and recovery process following a disaster;
- 7) Exchange information on emergency management best practices including education, training and public awareness, community information and warning systems, risk assessment and solutions to promote resiliency to disasters;
- 8) Participate jointly in the development of transnational scenario planning for those events which are likely to cross borders;
- 9) Share information regarding the development of risk planning and preparedness efforts;
- 10) Share information on cooperation with private sector on prevention, preparedness, response and recovery;
- 11) Exchange information regarding the coordination and implementation of citizen-based volunteer programmes and efforts;

12) Invite members from both Sides to participate in relevant conferences, seminars and exercises;

13) Organize exchange visits of staff on a yearly basis between the two Sides.

III. Arrangements for cooperation in events involving air assets for transport and fire-fighting operations

In case of need for aerial assets the MIC or a contractor authorized by the MIC may decide on a case-by-case basis to send to EMERCOM of Russia a written request for information on availability of transport support by air or availability of aerial fire-fighting assets.

EMERCOM of Russia will inform the MIC or the contractor, as soon as possible, about its readiness and ability, or inability, to deploy the required aviation assets or aerial fire-fighting assets and about expected costs related to the operation from the moment of positioning of aviation assets or up to their returning to the home air base in the Russian Federation.

On the instructions of DG ECHO the contractor may be required, if appropriate and feasible, following a request by a Participating State to contract these assets as principal.

Any aircraft entering the territory of countries participating in the EU Civil Protection Mechanism or the Russian Federation as a result of the present Administrative Arrangement has to be authorised by the competent authorities and comply with the International Civil Aviation Organisation Standards.

IV. Specific Work Plan

The two Sides may jointly decide specific guidelines, and/or standard operating procedure for each activity contemplated or planned under this Administrative Arrangement.

Contact Points

The two Sides appoint the following Contact Points for managing this Administrative Arrangement, correspondence and for exchange of information during emergencies, upon signature of the Administrative Arrangement:

1) Contact Point for the DG ECHO:

Head of Unit A.5, Civil Protection Policy, Prevention, Preparedness and Disaster Risk Reduction,

2) Contact Point for the EMERCOM of Russia:

Representative of EMERCOM of Russia at the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the European Union in Brussels.

V. Financial

This Administrative Arrangement does not entail any financial commitments from either Side. It is understood that, unless otherwise provided, each Side is to bear its own costs deriving from any actions under this Administrative Arrangement. The activities of the Sides under this Administrative Arrangement will be subject to the availability of funds and resources and are to be consistent with applicable laws and regulations.

VI. Legal nature

This Administrative Arrangement is not intended to create any legal rights or obligations under international law.

VII. Commencement, Renewal, Modification and Discontinuance

1) This Administrative Arrangement replaces the previous arrangement signed on 25 June 2008 between the European Commission's Directorate General for Environment and the Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defence, Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters;

2) This Administrative Arrangement will be in effect five years following the date of the signature of the last side. It can be prolonged or modified only by written amendment signed by the duly authorized representative of each Side;

3) This Administrative Arrangement may be discontinued:

a. By either Side which should endeavor to provide ninety days advance written notice to the other Side; or

b. At any time with the written mutual consent of the Sides.

This Administrative Arrangement is signed in English and Russian versions.

**For the Ministry
of the Russian Federation for
Civil Defence, Emergencies and
Elimination of Consequences of
Natural Disasters**



**For the Directorate General for
Humanitarian Aid and Civil
Protection of the European
Commission**

