



## **Administrative Arrangement**

**between**

**the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid  
Operations of the European Commission (DG ECHO)**

**and**

**the Emergency Management Service of Georgia**

**with respect to Disaster Risk Management Cooperation**

With disasters increasing both in frequency and intensity, largely due to climate change, population growth and urbanisation, it is of common interest to foster cooperation in the area of disaster risk management in order to reduce their negative effects;

A risk-based approach to disaster management, which encompasses disaster prevention, preparedness and response, is the best way to counter the increasing threats posed by disasters;

Information sharing, communication, coordination, inter-ministerial cooperation and mutual assistance are of utmost importance, particularly when responding to disasters;

Therefore, DG ECHO and the Emergency Management Service of Georgia, hereinafter referred to as the "Sides", intend to build upon the cooperation developed via successive Prevention, Preparedness and Response to natural and man-made Disasters (PPRD East) programmes and pursue cooperation in priority sectors which could bring Georgia closer to the Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

To that effect the Sides intend to:

1. Regularly share information, knowledge, lessons learnt and good practices; where appropriate, organise joint seminars, workshops, study visits, voluntary peer reviews, expert missions and carry out trainings, in the field of disaster risk management, with regard to:

- a. Disaster Risk assessments, including for major industrial accidents involving dangerous chemicals;
- b. Disaster Risk tools, including early warning systems;
- c. Disaster Risk Management Planning;
- d. Assessments of risk management capability;
- e. Response Operations;
- f. Assessment of accidents resulting from explosions or fires;
- g. Assessment of possible environmental impacts of emergencies;
- h. Risks linked to major industrial accidents involving dangerous chemicals (SEVESO Directive);
- i. Management of risks relating to mass human gatherings due to natural and man-made disasters;
- j. Emergency numbers, drawing upon Europe's experience with emergency number 112;
- k. Other areas of mutual interest.

2. Exchange contact details and operational information, including in relation to requests for and offers of assistance, in order to respond to large scale emergencies, also in third countries.
3. Exchange information through the European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS), the European Flood Awareness System (EFAS), and the European Drought Observatory (EDO).
4. Support access to Copernicus including provision of Emergency Management Service mapping in case of disasters on land and at sea.
5. Facilitate mutual assistance in the case of major emergencies, including marine pollution, as appropriate and subject to the availability of sufficient resources.
6. Promote the training of experts' skills necessary for international deployments, subject to availability of places on the Union Civil Protection Mechanism training programme.
7. Involve on ad hoc basis observers from each Side in exercises and trainings organised by the Sides.
8. Cooperate in the following fields:
  - a. Liaise and support the development of emergency response capacities including their standardisation and interoperability, in the following areas:
    - Floods and earthquakes response;
    - Forest fire fighting;
    - Medical assistance;
    - Search and Rescue;
    - Teams for reconnaissance and intervention in dangerous conditions;
    - Canine units.
  - b. Exchange good practices in relation to the following:
    - Aerial forest fire fighting;
    - Medical aerial evacuation;
    - Search and rescue in chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) conditions, in cooperation with the Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation Centre of Excellence (CBRN CoE), as necessary;
    - Structural damage assessment following earthquakes.

c. Facilitate participation in exercises organised by both sides, as appropriate.

9. Cooperate on Host Nation Support, including in the early warning phase, in order to remove obstacles to international assistance offered through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

10. Elaborate a specific work plan for effective cooperation.

In pursuing the aforementioned cooperation, the Sides acknowledge that they can usefully assist each other and pool resources, skills and knowledge to reduce risks and losses stemming from disasters, to address mitigation and to increase disaster preparedness, according to the guiding principles, priorities and targets of the Sendai framework for disaster risk reduction 2015-2030, as well as climate change adaptation.

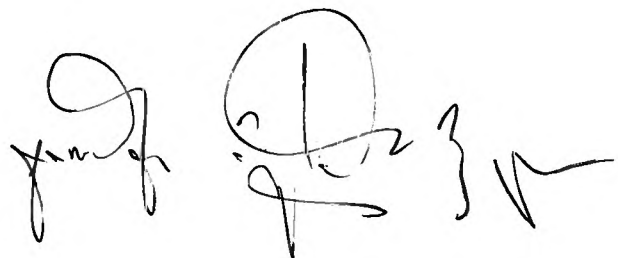
This administrative arrangement does not create any legal rights and obligations under domestic or international law. Moreover, it does not affect the implementation of the financial assistance envisaged in Article 28(2) of Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism. The intended collaboration will be implemented at all times according to the applicable laws and regulations of each Side and in line with their interests, needs, and established policies, practices and procedures. Any joint disaster risk management initiatives should be demand and needs driven. They should be established in accordance with the strategies, programmes and plans of both Sides.

Each Side bears its own costs deriving from activities undertaken under the auspices of this administrative arrangement.

Signed in two originals in English.



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Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations  
of the European Commission



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Head  
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Brussels, 13/07/2018

Tbilisi, 13/07/2018