



REPORT

OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND PRACTICAL SEMINAR ON VARIOUS TYPES OF RESCUE ACTIVITIES AND RESCUER'S TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR THE BSEC MEMBER STATES

Sochi, Krasnaya Polyana, Russian Federation, 19-20 September 2007

The Scientific and Practical Seminar on Various Types of Rescue Activities and Rescuer's Training Programmes for the BSEC Member States was held in Sochi, Krasnaya Polyana, Russian Federation, on 19-20 September 2007.

The Seminar was organized by the Ministry on Emergencies (EMERCOM) of the Russian Federation as a country-coordinator of the BSEC Working Group on Emergency Assistance.

The representatives of the Republic of Albania, Republic of Azerbaijan, Republic of Bulgaria, Hellenic Republic, Republic of Serbia, Russian Federation and Republic of Turkey took part in the Seminar. The representative of the Republic of Belarus participated in the Seminar as an Observer. (The list of participants is attached to this report as Annex 1).

On behalf of the Ministry on Emergencies of the Russian Federation, the participants were welcomed by Mr. Victor Galitsin, the Deputy Director General, Directorate General on International Activity. He emphasized the importance of the international cooperation in prevention and overcoming the emergencies and expressed readiness of the Russian Federation to make its contribution to this noble work.

Mr. Aleksei Kolpakov, Deputy Head, Department on Search and Rescue Service, made a presentation about the EMERCOM of the Russian Federation, its tasks, structure, legal basis, and modern facilities at its disposal. He noted, that since 1991 when the State Committee on Emergency Situation (transformed into the Ministry on Emergencies of the RF in 1994) was established, the state emergency service turned into a well-built system with its training centers, search and rescue (SAR) centers, modern equipment and highly qualified personnel.

Mr. Igor Nozdrev, the Head of the South Regional Rescue Service (SRSRS), informed the participants about the activities of the SRSRS that encompass SAR in any situation that may occur in the Region and beyond it. In his presentation, the special attention was paid to the training of SAR teams. He said, that the teams of the SRSRS are well-trained and include specialists in medical assistance, mountaineering, diving, speleology, chemical protection etc., that are capable to meet the challenges of various disasters, i.e. earthquakes, floods, fires, land sliding and so on.

The presentation “Types of Rescue Operations and Technologies Used” by Mr. Valeriy Bonarev, the Deputy Head of SRSRS, acquainted the participants with the SRSRS experience gained in the SAR that took place in the sea, mountains, road accidents and tourist areas. The great significance was given to the new technologies and equipment used by the rescuers.

Mrs. Tatyana Timokhova, Deputy Head of the Sector, Financial Department, informed about the special financial reserves— Special Purpose Financial Reserve and Reserve Fund of the Government of the Russian Federation. - that were established in the Russian Federation as additional source for financing the emergency situations when the basic source is not adequate.

Development of emergency service in water operations was discovered in the presentation “Providing for safety on water in the city-resort of Anapa” by Igor Filimonov, Head of Anapa SAR Team. In this regard special attention of participants was paid to the division of duties between regional and federal authorities.

In the presentation provided by Mr. Igor Zayvenko, Chief Expert on Technical Aspects of Rescue Operations, Tuapse Chamber of the Centrospas Team, emphasis was made on the Diving Training Center for special emergency situations. It was noted that the Center is unique and for the short period of its existence it trained a great number of qualified specialists for underwater rescue operations. In addition, he informed about new technologies and equipment used for operations on depth up to 500 meters. He offered the services of the Tuapse Center for training divers-rescuers from the BSEC countries.

Mr. Yevgeniy Koziy, Executive Manager of the BSEC PERMIS, informed the participants about recent developments in cooperation on emergencies of the BSEC Member States. In particular, a number of events were held in accordance with a program of activities of the Russian Federation as a country-coordinator of the BSEC Working Group on Emergency Assistance. He noted that the Additional Protocol to the Agreement among the Governments of the BSEC Participating States in Cooperation in Emergency Assistance and Emergency Response to Natural and Man-Made Disasters has entered into force. He also informed that

inaugural meeting of Liaison officers on emergencies is planned to be held in November 2007.

The participants noted the importance of entering into force of the Additional protocol to the Agreement. At the same time the representatives informed about appointment of Mr. V.Bonarev as liaison officer and Mr. A.Skantsev as alternative representative in the Network of Liaison Officers. Relevant notification will be sent to the BSEC PERMIS.

Mr. Ognian Aleksiev, Director of the National Medical Coordination Center (NMCC), Ministry of Health of the Republic of Bulgaria, informed the participants about the structure, functions and tasks of the NMCC. It was emphasized that the NMCC plays an important role in medical assistance to population in crisis situations. The Center works in close cooperation with other country's emergency agencies and it has its database, specialized divisions and developed network of early warning system. The NMCC is an operative body that makes its proposals to the Ministry of Health on elimination of emergencies, including those from terrorist actions. In 2007 the NMCC started the utilization of the Geographic Information System for coordination of medical assistance in emergency areas in real time.

Mr. Stoycho Panev made presentation about the activities of the National Protection Service Directorate, its structure, functions and tasks. The special attention was given to the SAR teams. He informed about the activities of the Bulgarian Government on liquidation of the floods in 2005 and extinguishing forest fires in 2006. Special gratitude was expressed to the crews of the Russian aircrafts that participated in the extinguishing of the mentioned fires. He also informed about a number of international exercises on emergencies that were held in recent years in Bulgaria.

Mr. Artur Pankratov informed the participants about the possibilities of the training basis which is in the disposal of the EMERCOM of Russia and which can be effectively used for training specialists of the BSEC Member States in different spheres. In this regard, he said that in the nearest future the participants of the Seminar will be informed about the possible courses and trainings on emergencies.

Ms. Tuba Atila made a presentation about the system of prevention and liquidation of emergencies in the Republic of Turkey. In particular, it was noted, that relevant ministries and agencies, acting in this field, are subordinated to the General Directorate on Emergency Management under Prime Ministry of the Republic of Turkey. The National Medical Rescue Team (NMRT) was established in Turkey to avoid mortality of people and provide assistance in emergencies. The Team is ready to provide necessary assistance in the case of emergencies in different situations. Its members have experience of work in different rescue operations in the sea, on the land and in mountains in any season of the year. NMRT holds regular training

camps. In August 2007 in Bursa such a camp was organized with participation of the representatives of Azerbaijan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine.

The participants were presented the film about the SRSRS activities. The film contained shootings from the scenes of disasters, work of SAR and equipment used in these operations.

The following training operations were demonstrated by The Rescuers' Training Center "Krasnaya Polyana"

- deployment of an airmobile hospital that can be dispatched to the emergency area and be used in a short period of time. The hospital has all necessary equipment for autonomous work;
- the operation on rescuing people with participation of trained dogs dispatched by helicopters;
- rescuing people in road accident using special pneumo-hydraulic equipment;
- rescuing and evacuation of people in mountains;
- evacuation of people using a raft boat.

The participants of the meeting shared the view that such seminars are important for exchanging experience on various types of emergency situations and they are a good basis for development of cooperation in this sphere.

They agreed to exchange information about the activities of their national bodies on emergencies. They also agreed to exchange information about the services that can be provided by their national training centers for training relevant specialists of the BSEC Member States.

The participants of the Seminar expressed their high appreciation to the Ministry on Emergencies of the Russian Federation for the excellent organization of the Seminar and warm hospitality extended to them.

The participants of the Seminar adopted the present report for submission to the next meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials of the BSEC Member States.
