Council of the European Union

Brussels, 20 November 2026
(OR. en)

16220/26

Interinstitutional File:
2025/0223 (COD)

PROCIV 219
IPCR 107
POLMIL 526
SAN 820
COCON 44
CSC 767
HYBRID 150
JAI 1474
FIN 1669
CADREFIN 463
IA 324

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
No. Cion doc.:	WK 11689/25; 11689/25 ADD 1
Subject:	Proposal for a Regulation on the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and Union support for health emergency preparedness and response - *Partial mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament*

Delegations will find in the Annex the text of the partial mandate for negotiations with the European Parliament on the above-mentioned proposal as agreed by the Permanent Representatives Committee at its meeting on 20 November 2026. Changes to the Commission proposal (doc. 11689/25 and 11689/25 ADD 1) are indicated in ***bold italic*** (new text) and ~~strikethrough~~ (deletions).[1]

[1] The [*provisions in brackets*] are excluded from the partial mandate.

ANNEX

2025/0223 (COD)

Proposal for a

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

on the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and Union support for health emergency preparedness and response, and repealing Decision No 1313/2013/EU (Union Civil Protection Mechanism)

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Articles 168(5), 196 and 322(1), point (a), thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the Court of Auditors,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee[1],

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions[2],

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,

Whereas:

[1] *OJ L..., p.
[2] *OJ L..., p.

(1) In view of the significant increase in ***recent years in the number***~~the numbers~~ and severity of natural and human-induced ~~hazards in recent years~~***disasters***, the strengthening of cooperation ***and coordination*** in the field of civil protection at Union level is necessary to create a resilient Union ~~with the capabilities required to anticipate and manage those risks and threats, independently of their nature of origin,~~ to ensure that the citizens ~~of the Union~~ enjoy adequate protection. The Union Civil Protection Mechanism ~~(the 'Union Mechanism')~~ should ~~fulfil this role by strengthening cooperation and coordination among Member States to enhance the overall ability to prevent, prepare for, and respond to~~***complement and support national civil protection actions in the areas of prevention, preparedness and response in order to protect people, the environment, animals, property, infrastructure and cultural heritage from the consequences of*** disasters***, regardless of their origin. The Union Civil Protection Mechanism shall not cover recovery after a disaster. In the case of the consequences of acts of terrorism, technological, chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear (CBRN), environmental disasters, marine pollution, threats that can lead to health emergencies, or armed conflict, the Union Civil Protection Mechanism shall cover only the preparedness and response actions in the field of civil protection*** ~~and crises~~.

~~(2) This Regulation lays down an indicative financial envelope for the Union Mechanism and the financing of health emergency preparedness and response. For the purpose of this Regulation, current prices are calculated by applying a fixed 2% deflator. Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council[3] (the 'Financial Regulation') applies to this Regulation. It lays down the rules on the establishment and the implementation of the general budget of the Union, including the rules on grants, prizes, non-financial donations, procurement, indirect implementation, financial assistance, financial instruments and budgetary guarantees.~~

~~(3) While prevention and preparedness measures are essential to enhance the resilience of the Union in facing natural and human-induced disasters, the occurrence, timing and magnitude of disasters are by nature unpredictable. Financial resources required to ensure an adequate response can vary significantly from year to year and should be made available immediately. Reconciling the budgetary principle of predictability with the~~

~~[3] Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj).~~

~~necessity to react rapidly to new needs therefore means having to adapt the financial implementation of the work programmes. Consequently, it is appropriate to authorise carry-over of unused appropriations, limited to the following year and solely devoted to response actions, in addition to the carry-over of appropriations authorised under Article 12(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.~~

~~(4) In a rapidly changing economic, social and geopolitical environment, recent experience has shown the need for a more flexible multiannual financial framework and Union spending programmes. To that effect, the funding should duly consider the evolving policy needs and Union's priorities as identified in relevant documents published by the Commission, in Council conclusions and European Parliament resolutions, while ensuring sufficient predictability for the budget implementation.~~

~~(5) In accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95[4], Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96[5] and Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939, the financial interests of the Union are to be protected through proportionate measures, including the prevention, detection, correction and investigation of irregularities and fraud, the recovery of funds lost, wrongly paid or incorrectly used and, where appropriate, the imposition of administrative sanctions. In particular, in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 and Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) may carry out investigations, including on-the-spot checks and inspections, with a view to establishing whether there has been fraud, corruption or any other illegal activity affecting the financial interests of the Union. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/1939[6], the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) may investigate and prosecute fraud and other illegal activities affecting the financial interests of the Union as provided for in Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council[7]. In accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, any person or entity receiving Union funds is to fully cooperate in the protection of the Union's financial interests, to grant the necessary rights and access to the~~

~~4 OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1–4~~
~~5 OJ L 292, 15.11.1996, p. 2–5~~
~~6 OJ L 283, 31.10.2017, p. 1–71~~
~~7 OJ L 198, 28.7.2017, p. 29–41~~

~~Commission, OLAF, the EPPO and the Court of Auditors and to ensure that any third parties involved in the implementation of Union funds grant equivalent rights.~~

~~(6)~~ ~~The protection to be ensured under the Union Mechanism should cover people, the environment and property, including housing, critical infrastructure, such as energy and transport or space infrastructure, and cultural heritage, against all kinds of natural and human-induced disasters. Reference to natural and human-induced disasters should be understood as referring to the consequences of all natural and human-induced hazards. This should include acts of terrorism, technological, radiological or environmental disasters, climate change, marine and inland water pollution, water supply disruptions and water resilience, hydrogeological instability, health emergencies, and other undefined hybrid disasters or emergencies, occurring inside or outside the Union. Those disasters require cross-sectoral coordination in situations where other Union crisis management mechanisms are also applied.~~

(7) The Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism should promote solidarity between the Member States through practical cooperation and coordination, without prejudice to the ***primary competence of*** Member States~~' primary responsibility~~ to protect people, ***public health,*** the environment***, animals,*** ~~and~~ property, ~~including~~***infrastructure, and*** cultural heritage, on their territory against ~~all~~ disasters ***regardless of their origin,*** and to provide their ~~disaster management systems~~***civil protection authorities*** with sufficient capabilities to enable them to prevent, ~~and cope adequately and in a consistent manner with,~~***prepare and respond effectively to*** disasters of a nature and magnitude that can reasonably be expected~~ and prepared for~~.

~~(8)~~ ~~To promote consistency in its international action in the field of civil protection, the Union should recognise the key role of intergovernmental organisations through strengthening policy dialogue, exchange of knowledge and best practices as disasters and crises are increasing in scale and scope globally and the risks and threats thereof are shared by the Union.~~

(9) In order to foster an integrated and comprehensive approach to disaster risk management, ~~the~~ Union action should ~~cover all priorities for action under~~***acknowledge the importance of*** the Sendai Framework~~. While structural resilience and preparedness measures are addressed horizontally and in relevant Union programmes, the Mechanism should address~~

~~them in its different phases of the~~ ***for*** Disaster ~~management cycle, namely prevention, preparedness and response, through coordinated planning and action that anticipate and mitigate risks, enhance preparedness and enable effective response while recovery and reconstruction should remain addressed in other Union instruments~~***Risk Reduction 2015-2030 and subsequent UN frameworks in this area***. ~~The Union should promote the importance of disaster prevention and the integration of preventive measures into governance and sectoral policies, with a view to reducing risks, strengthening the resilience of population, infrastructure and essential services and minimising the impact of disasters, as well as aim to further develop the Union disaster resilience goals established by Regulation (EU) 2021/836 of the European Parliament and of the Council[8]. A stronger collective operational response at Union level, together with support for the individual capabilities of Member States through capacity-building measures, is essential to ensure the skills, resources and knowledge needed to manage risks, reduce vulnerabilities and enhance resilience to future risks and threats.~~

(9a) While structural resilience and preparedness measures may be addressed horizontally and in relevant Union programmes, the Union Civil Protection Mechanism should address them in the field of civil protection and disaster risk management, namely prevention, preparedness and response. This should be done through coordinated planning and actions which analyse, identify and mitigate identified risks, to enhance preparedness and enable an effective response while recovery and reconstruction should remain addressed in other Union instruments.

(9b) The Union should aim to further develop the non-binding Union disaster resilience goals established under Decision 1313/2013 as amended by Regulation (EU) 2021/836 of the European Parliament and of the Council[9] to promote the importance of disaster prevention and the integration of preventive measures into governance and sectoral policies. These measures will help reduce risks, strengthening the resilience of the population, infrastructure and minimise the impacts of disasters.

~~8~~ ~~Regulation (EU) 2021/836 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism (OJ L 185, 26.5.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/836/oj).~~

9 Regulation (EU) 2021/836 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism (OJ L 185, 26.5.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/836/oj).

(~~17~~***9c***) Provisions should be put in place to ensure a framework for a continuous ~~ongoing~~ evolution of the ***non-binding*** Union~~'s~~ disaster resilience goals. Those goals ~~shall~~***should*** be based on current and forward-looking scenarios, including the impacts of climate change on disaster risks, data on past events and ***the use of*** cross-sectoral ~~impact analysis, with~~***scenarios.*** Particular attention ***should be*** given to vulnerable groups and communities***,*** ***including those*** living in coastal areas, ***delta regions,*** islands***, mountainous regions, overseas countries and territories,*** or other regions particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change such as sea level rise ~~and~~***,*** floods***, heat waves, droughts and wildfires***.

(9d) A stronger collective approach at Union level, together with support for the capabilities of Member States through capacity-building measures is essential to ensure the skills, resources and knowledge needed to manage risks, reduce vulnerabilities and enhance resilience to future disasters utilising an all-hazards approach. This approach should avoid unnecessary duplication of analytical reporting and risk assessment efforts. The approach should also take into account existing Union level data collection and information analysis capabilities, where relevant, including those established under the Integrated Political Crisis Response (IPCR) arrangements and other existing Union led crisis coordination frameworks, in order to avoid unnecessary institutional fragmentation.

(~~18~~***9e***) In response to the increasing frequency and severity of ~~natural and human-induced~~ disasters***, regardless of their origin***, enhancing intergenerational societal resilience is essential and a collective responsibility. It requires harnessing the collective resources of youth and civil society organisations, media, education, training and cultural institutions, scientific institutions and academia, public authorities, social partners, the private sector, local networks and communities, and citizens in anticipating, preventing, ***and*** managing~~,~~ ~~and recovering from~~ disasters ~~and crises~~***, regardless of their origin***. Effective population preparedness ~~for all, including women and groups in vulnerable situations, children, older persons, refugees, people with a minority racial or ethnic background, such as Roma, and persons with disabilities as well as tourists and those who are temporarily present in the territory of a Member State and may be exposed to cross-border risks,~~ strengthens societal resilience by ensuring that all people, irrespective of their ability, possess the knowledge, skills, and resources necessary to ***help them*** protect themselves and support others against potential risks and threats.

(~~19~~***f***) ~~As outlined in the Preparedness Union Strategy,~~ Preparedness by design ~~integrates~~***seeks to integrate*** preventive measures, risk assessment, adaptive planning, ***and*** stakeholder engagement~~, as well as security considerations~~ across Union legislation, policies and programmes, including***, where appropriate,*** in economic and social policies coordinated under the European Semester. This approach offers a proactive framework enabling all relevant stakeholders such as organisations, communities, and authorities to anticipate, ~~prevent, manage, and recover from crises~~***mitigate, and managing disasters***, regardless of their origin***, thereby assisting in the protection of people, the environment, animals, property, infrastructure and cultural heritage***. ***Preparedness by design should enable Member States to promote*** ~~By promoting~~ collaboration between public and private sectors, and the scientific community, ~~as well as by~~***including through the*** uptake of research and innovation results~~, preparedness by design strengthens the capacity to prevent and manage disruptions and ensures the protection of lives, assets, environment and the integrity of critical infrastructure~~ ***and solutions***.

(10) To ensure a comprehensive and up-to-date overview and understanding of ***all hazards associated with the disaster*** ~~the~~ risk landscape ~~on the national and appropriate sub-national level~~, Member States should regularly conduct ~~and publish assessments of risks, the information on which they should share with the Commission at least once every 5 years, or where a significant change in the risk landscape requires the updating of such assessments. Those~~ risk assessments~~, or the summaries thereof, should be used by the Commission and to produce and develop Union level disaster scenarios, plans, risks and threats assessments and risks management measures reports as necessary for a comprehensive understanding of risks affecting the Union, and the capabilities to address them. Such assessments and plans should be consistent and coordinated with other relevant~~ ***at*** national ~~and Union~~***or appropriate sub-national*** level ~~processes~~.

(10a) Member States should share their risk assessment summaries with the Commission, including in situations where, according to a Member State, a significant change in the risk landscape requires the updating of the relevant elements of the assessments, to foster the development of a shared understanding of disaster risks at Union level, identify common needs in disaster risk management capability building, promote the voluntary implementation of the non-binding Union disaster resilience goals, support evidence-based decision-making at Union level, and facilitate the exchange of best

practices. This should be without prejudice to national confidentiality rules applicable to risk assessments.

(10b) The Commission in close cooperation with Member States should analyse and use the summaries to produce and further develop Union level disaster scenarios, plans, risk assessments and risk management capability assessments as deemed necessary, for a comprehensive understanding of risks affecting the Union, and the capabilities required to address them. Such assessments and plans should utilise common terminology and be coordinated with other relevant national and Union level risk assessment processes, where possible.

(10c) The Commission should, in close cooperation with Member States, develop and provide a set of non-binding guidelines, including questionnaires and indicators, on conducting national or appropriate sub-national risk assessments to facilitate analysis, comparison and coherence at Union level.

(10d) Union-level disaster risk assessments should use an all-hazards approach to examine key vulnerabilities, particularly those which transcend national borders and are of Union wide relevance.

~~(11) While Member States are responsible for their health policies, they should prepare for and protect against serious cross-border threats to health in a spirit of European solidarity, cooperation and coordination. With a view to strengthening the capability in the Union in this respect, this Regulation should provide support in particular actions under Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 November 2022 on serious cross-border threats to health as well as under Council Regulation (EU) 2022/2372 on a framework of measures for ensuring the supply of crisis-relevant medical countermeasures in the event of a public health emergency at Union level. This Regulation should also ensure synergies with the crisis related mandates of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and the European Medicines Agency, as well as relevant national and international organisations.~~

~~(12) The Union medical countermeasures landscape still shows a dependence of the Union on third countries in ensuring the supply of raw materials, active pharmaceutical ingredients, medicinal products, medical devices and personal protective equipment needed in the Union during health crises, in particular pandemics. The Regulation should therefore~~

~~provide support to actions that foster the procurement, management, stockpiling and deployment of crisis relevant products within the Union to strengthen the strategic autonomy of the Union and ensure better a security of supply of medical countermeasures.~~

~~(13) During a public health emergency at Union level, as referred to in Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2022/2371, the demand for crisis-relevant medical countermeasures could be greater than the supply. In such a situation, surge production and manufacturing of medical countermeasures are essential. Support should be provided to actions that reserve capacity of manufacturing for crisis-relevant medical countermeasures, including the needed raw materials and ancillary supplies and components.~~

~~(14) Unlike typical procurement activities, procurement activities related to preventing possible health crisis situations from escalating to actual crisis situations require a certain level of flexibility and reactivity. Hence, the Regulation should allow adding new contracting authorities without reaching the threshold required by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 in order to avoid that a potential serious health crisis unfolds.~~

(15) Capacity building programmes as well as ***the*** uptake and sharing of research and innovation are essential aspects of cooperation in the field of civil protection~~.~~***,*** to strengthen the collective capacity to prevent, prepare for and respond to disasters, to support knowledge sharing within the civil protection community and ***the Union, supporting the Member States in the*** application of research in~~ all phases of~~ disaster risk management, and to enhance the collaboration and knowledge exchange between civil protection and disaster risk management actors, civil society organisations~~ and research community, it is necessary to maintain and further reinforce the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network (the 'Knowledge Network') established by Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/1956[10]. The Knowledge Network should build on the work of and collaborate with existing structures including civil protection practitioners.~~***„ public-private-partnerships, by universities, and*** centres of excellence~~, universities, researchers and other experts, young professionals and experienced volunteers in emergency management as well as all actors intervening in disaster risk management. The Knowledge Network should~~

~~[10] Regulation (EU) 2021/836 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism (OJ L 185, 26.5.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/836/oj).~~

~~also be strengthened in line with the Preparedness Union Strategy[11] by incorporating dedicated actions in the areas of population preparedness and public-private cooperation. The Network should be able to facilitate knowledge exchange and cooperation with international organisations and, in accordance with Member States' institutional and legal framework, cooperation with regional and local authorities, ensuring that their role, needs and capabilities are duly considered.~~

(15a) It is necessary to maintain and further reinforce the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network (the 'Knowledge Network') established by Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/1956[12], which should build on the work of, and collaborate, with existing structures including civil protection authorities and practitioners, centres of excellence, universities, research institutions, other entities and experts, young professionals and experienced volunteers in emergency management, as well as all actors intervening in disaster risk management. The Knowledge Network should also be able to facilitate knowledge exchange and cooperation with international organisations and, in accordance with Member States' institutional and legal frameworks, cooperation with regional and local authorities, ensuring that their role, needs and capabilities are duly considered.

~~(8)~~***(15b)*** To promote consistency in ~~its~~***the Union's*** international ~~action~~***engagements*** in the field of civil protection, ~~the Union~~***it*** should recognise the key role of intergovernmental organisations through strengthening policy dialogue, exchange of knowledge and best practices as disasters and crises are increasing in scale and scope globally and the risks and threats thereof are shared by the Union.

~~(16) With a view to strengthening capabilities in the Union to prevent, prepare for, respond to and manage health crises, this Regulation should provide support to actions taken in the framework of complementary mechanisms and structures established under the relevant Union crisis management instruments, considering in particular European supply chain. That support should include capacity building in health crisis response, including contingency planning and preparedness, including to climate impacts on health, preventive~~

~~11~~ ~~JOIN/2025/130 final~~

12 ***Regulation (EU) 2021/836 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2021 amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism (OJ L 185, 26.5.2021, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/836/oj).***

~~measures such as those related to vaccination and immunisation, strengthened surveillance programmes and improved coordination and cooperation.~~

~~(17)~~ ~~Provisions should be put in place to ensure a framework for a continuous ongoing evolution of the Union's Disaster Resilience Goals. Those goals shall be based on current and forward-looking scenarios, including the impacts of climate change on disaster risks, data on past events and cross-sectoral impact analysis, with particular attention given to vulnerable groups and communities living in coastal areas, islands or other regions particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change such as sea level rise and floods.~~

~~(18)~~ ~~In response to the increasing frequency and severity of natural and human-induced disasters, enhancing intergenerational societal resilience is essential and a collective responsibility. It requires harnessing the collective resources of youth and civil society organisations, media, education, training and cultural institutions, scientific institutions and academia, public authorities, social partners, the private sector, local networks and communities, and citizens in anticipating, preventing, managing, and recovering from disasters and crises. Effective population preparedness for all, including women and groups in vulnerable situations, children, older persons, refugees, people with a minority racial or ethnic background, such as Roma, and persons with disabilities as well as tourists and those who are temporarily present in the territory of a Member State and may be exposed to cross-border risks, strengthens societal resilience by ensuring that all people, irrespective of their ability, possess the knowledge, skills, and resources necessary to protect themselves and support others against potential risks and threats.~~

~~(19)~~ ~~As outlined in the Preparedness Union Strategy, preparedness by design integrates preventive measures, risk assessment, adaptive planning, stakeholder engagement, as well as security considerations across Union legislation, policies and programmes, including in economic and social policies coordinated under the European Semester. This approach offers a proactive framework enabling all relevant stakeholders such as organisations, communities, and authorities to anticipate, prevent, manage, and recover from crises, regardless of their origin. By promoting collaboration between public and private sectors, and the scientific community, as well as by uptake of research and innovation results, preparedness by design strengthens the capacity to prevent and manage disruptions and ensures the protection of lives, assets, environment and the integrity of critical infrastructure.~~

(20) Disaster risk prevention and preparedness considerations should be systematically integrated into ~~the~~ relevant policies, programmes~~,~~ and governance processes. The Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism should therefore advance the principle of preparedness by design~~, as set out in the Strategy~~, including by contributing to the development and dissemination of risk knowledge and operational experience to support ~~risk-aware~~***risk-based*** planning and decisions that enhance preparedness across sectors.

~~(21) The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the multi-sectorial nature of health crises, underscoring the importance of incorporating health considerations into a crisis management framework that includes this Regulation. Combining civil protection and health emergency preparedness and response measures within civil protection ensures a comprehensive, coordinated approach to managing disasters, ultimately enhancing resilience and safeguarding the population against a wide range of potential risks and threats. Health emergencies, such as pandemics, chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear threats, resistance to antimicrobial or health impacts of climate-related events related to the increase in Europe of vector-borne diseases, can have far-reaching impacts beyond the health sector, affecting social stability, environmental balance or the provision of essential services relying on critical infrastructure. The envisaged cross-cutting approach can prevent or mitigate the impact of health-related emergencies before they escalate into crises. A particular attention needs to be paid to populations living in institutions, such as persons with disabilities or older persons in need of long-term care, who are particularly exposed and affected to health emergencies, as evidenced by the COVID-19 crisis.~~

~~(22) While Member States are responsible for their health policies, they should protect public health in a spirit of European solidarity, cooperation and coordination. That cooperation should improve preparedness for, and prevention and control of serious cross-border threats to health. Preparedness is the key to improving resilience to future threats. Experience gained from the COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated that there is a need for further action at Union level to support cooperation and coordination among the Member States. That cooperation should improve preparedness for, and the prevention and control of, the spread of severe human infections and diseases across borders in order to combat other serious cross-border threats to health and to safeguard and improve the health and well-being of all people in the Union.~~

~~(23) Amid rapidly increasing risks and uncertainty, the Union is dedicated to bolstering resilience across various areas to effectively anticipate, endure and recover from diverse challenges and crises. In that context, the political commitment to work towards the European Civil Defence Mechanism entails a firm political engagement to make available adequate and flexible arrangements to effectively and efficiently address cross-sectoral, complex and long-lasting crises. These specific arrangements should be applied to cross-sectoral crises and also but not exclusively to situations with regard to an integrated political crisis response or a Solidarity Clause activation has been made, or which the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared a public health emergency of international concern, as well as to emergencies falling under the scope of other Union instruments that deal with sectoral emergencies, such as in internal market, consular, security, health and climate related emergencies, where the capabilities of the Union Mechanism can provide support in managing consequences of those crises.~~

~~(24) The Union should be prepared for large-scale, cross-sectoral incidents and crises, including the potential for armed aggression affecting one or more Member States. Typically, national civil authorities bear primary responsibility in most crisis situations. However, in an increasing number of cases, such as health emergencies, extreme weather events, and hybrid or cyber-attacks, civilian authorities require military support. In the event of armed aggression, military forces would need civilian assistance to ensure the continuous functioning of the state and society. Therefore, there is a need to improve interaction between civilian and military actors, without undermining their respective competences and in full cooperation with Member States. As follow-up to the Preparedness Union Strategy, the Commission and the High Representative should develop arrangements for civil-military preparedness. Those arrangements should clarify the roles, responsibilities, and priorities of Union institutions, bodies, agencies, and Member States in preparing for and responding to incidents and crises.~~

~~(25) The use of military means under civilian lead as a last resort may constitute an important contribution to disaster response. Where the use of military capacities in support of civil protection operations is considered to be appropriate, cooperation with the military should follow the modalities, procedures and criteria established by the Council or its competent bodies for making available to the Union Mechanism military capacities relevant to civil protection and should be in line with the relevant international guidelines.~~

(26) Crises often show cross-sectoral nature, impacting multiple sides of society and requiring a coordinated and integrated response from various sectors. Whether stemming from natural hazards, security or public health emergencies, these crises tend to transcend traditional boundaries and affect multiple sectors simultaneously. Rules should be established to enable the Union Mechanism to effectively support cross-sectoral crisis management in complementarity with measures and procedures existing under other Union instruments.

(27) The multifaceted nature of cross-sectoral crises demands a comprehensive and integrated approach to their management, necessitating close and efficient cooperation to effectively navigate the challenges they present. National civil protection authorities should remain the primary competent authorities supporting the Union Mechanism. At the same time, it is necessary to ensure coordination, monitoring and support of cross-sectoral operation at the Union level, in support of national efforts. For this reason, a Crisis Coordination Hub (the 'Hub') should be established. The Hub shall operate in synergy with the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) and complement its function, making use of the existing structures and expertise of the ERCC. The ERCC will continue its mandate supporting the Union Mechanism, and to provide a central point for operational coordination with Member States authorities, including entities authorised by the Member States, Union institutions and bodies, as well as Commission services. To maximise these efforts, rules should be put in place allowing the scaling up of Union support to Member State action, to accurately reflect the demands and the urgency of the needs. In order to link external action with internal crisis response more effectively and avoid duplication of efforts, the Hub should cooperate with the European External Action Service (EEAS), and in particular its Crisis Response Centre, in respect to the role and competences of the High Representative.

(28) In order to ensure coherence with relevant existing structures, the Crisis Coordination Hub will also coordinate closely with the Commission's internal security architecture, including the future establishment of the Integrated Security Operations Centre (ISOC), as announced in the Commission Communication ProtectEU: a European Internal Security Strategy[13]. The activities of the Hub will, where relevant, align with the Commission's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), communication tools, and security procedures,

13 COM(2025)148 final.

~~thereby ensuring maximum interoperability, facilitating the sharing of information, and supporting security aspects in the protection of Commission assets.~~

~~(29) Provisions of this Regulation which are addressed to Member States should be understood as being addressed also to associated countries. However, while this Regulation may complement the implementation of other Union risk management instruments in cases of cross-sectoral crises, countries associated to the Union Mechanism should not be involved unless they fall under the scope of the supported instrument.~~

~~(30) Rules should provide that requests for assistance under the Union Mechanism may be made by the affected country, whether it is a Member State or a third country, as well as by the United Nations and its agencies or an international organisation specifically identified for this purpose. Such requests for assistance should be allowed to identify the kind of civil protection or relief needed to address the emergency, including where the request is for dual-use assets.~~

~~(31) Member States, supported by the Commission, and as appropriate Union delegations in third countries, should ensure that all appropriate measures are taken for the timely transport of assistance they offer, including as regards the preparation of transport, availability and deployability of such assistance.~~

~~(32) Temporary allocation of any response capacities under the Union Mechanism should be possible for situations of increased risk of disasters in a Member State or third country. It should involve the temporary deployment of resources and response teams in anticipation of natural or human-induced hazards.~~

~~(33) In order to ensure operational readiness, in particular in wildfire risk areas during the summer season and other areas experiencing recurring seasonal risks, the Union Mechanism should enable the pre-positioning of response capacities in Member States to address those risks. This proactive measure should enhance the Union's readiness to combat recurring disasters, mitigating their devastating impact on lives, homes, and the environment. At the same time, this action should facilitate the sharing of technical and operational knowledge across various scenarios and fire contexts, reinforce interoperability, and improve the concept of host nation support for response capacities. Where those capacities and intervention teams would be required to respond to a disaster~~

during their pre-positioning, rules on response should apply, particularly as regards the cost of their operation.

(34) With rising temperatures and prolonged periods of drought, the risk of wildfires in the Union is increasing and such fires are becoming more frequent and more intense; at the same time the limited availability of specialised response capacities, including amphibious aerial forest-fire-fighting means, remains a major concern and constitutes the Union's principal operational challenge where multiple wildfires occur simultaneously. To ensure a smooth transition to the full implementation of rescEU, the Union-level reserve of capacities established by Decision (EU) 2019/420 of the European Parliament and of the Council[14], it is essential to prolong that transitional period as laid down in Decision (EU) 2023/2671 of the European Parliament and of the Council[15] until 2034, so that the Union can continue financing national aerial fire-fighting means and make them available for response operations under the Union Mechanism while the permanent rescEU aerial forest-fire-fighting fleet is being progressively established; those new aerial-fire-fighting means, financed under rescEU, are currently under development and are expected to become progressively available starting in 2028.

(35) The Union Mechanism may be used to provide civil protection support for consular assistance to Union citizens affected by disasters in third countries, if requested by the Member States whose citizens are affected by the disaster. Where possible, the Member States concerned should endeavour to coordinate such requests among themselves and with any other relevant actors to ensure the optimal use of the Union Mechanism and to avoid practical difficulties on the ground. Civil protection support for consular assistance may encompass actions such as repatriations, assisted departures and evacuations, without prejudice to other possible actions. Such support may be requested where Member States are unable to ensure a swift and effective evacuation of Union citizens using commercial options, due to the sudden nature of the emergency or the political or security situation, which may render commercial flights insufficient, unreliable, or inaccessible. Furthermore, requests may be made in situations involving multiple Member States or large-scale

---

14 Decision (EU) 2019/420 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 March 2019 amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism (OJ L 77I, 20.3.2019, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2019/420/oj).

15 Decision (EU) 2023/2671 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 November 2023 amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU to extend the rescEU transitional period (OJ L, 2023/2671, 28.11.2023, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2023/2671/oj).

~~repatriations, assisted departures, and evacuations where pooled means of transportation would provide a more efficient and cost-effective solution. The Member State of the affected citizens, or the Member State coordinating assistance for all Union citizens, may receive financial assistance under the Union Mechanism for civil protection support to consular assistance. To further promote the principle of European solidarity enshrined in this Regulation, financial assistance should be made progressive, subject to the multiple nationalities of Union citizens on board of the means of transport. Member State carrying out the consular assistance to unrepresented Union citizens in accordance with Council Directive (EU) 2015/637[16] may request that either passengers or Member States whose citizens are covered by this action, contribute to the costs related to the action at market rates. Where Member States providing such consular assistance benefit from financial assistance under the Union Mechanisms, reimbursements requested pursuant to that Directive should be taken into account in determining any contribution of the Union Mechanism. As an additional layer of civil protection assistance, rescEU capacities in the field of transport and logistics may also be used for civil protection support to consular assistance.~~

(36) ~~To enhance readability, and therefore legal certainty, the financing of adaptation costs for response capacities committed to~~ The European Civil Protection Pool (~~'ECPP'~~***ECPP***) ***and rescEU have consistently proven their added value in Union coordinated response operations. Subject to availability of financial resources, the Union*** should ~~be simplified. Additionally, higher~~***ensure*** financing ~~should be ensured~~ for operational costs incurred during deployments of ***registered*** ECPP capacities ~~registered in accordance with Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2025/704[17], in response operations under~~***and further strengthen the ECPP by financing the adaptation costs of existing capacities and, where appropriate, scaling them up and developing additional ones. Similarly,*** the

~~16~~ ~~Council Directive (EU) 2015/637 on the coordination and cooperation measures to facilitate consular protection for unrepresented citizens of the Union in third countries and repealing Decision 95/553/EC (OJ L 106, 24.4.2015, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2015/637/oj).~~

~~17~~ ~~Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2025/704 laying down rules for the implementation of Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism and repealing Commission Implementing Decisions 2014/762/EU and (EU) 2019/1310 (OJ L, 2025/704, 15.4.2025, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2025/704/oj).~~

Union ~~Mechanisms~~***should further strengthen rescEU by financing the maintenance of existing capacities and, where appropriate, developing additional ones***.

(36a) The Commission should report on the overall development of disaster risk management capabilities and response capacities at Union level, including the ECPP and rescEU, based notably on the risk assessment and risk management capability assessment, on that matter. This report should include an indicative target list of the type, quantity and proposed geographical locations of any additional capacities based on the needs identified.

(37) ***Given the latest geopolitical changes and the intensification of climate change, the use of*** rescEU has ~~consistently proven its added value in Union coordinated response operations. To ensure coherence with the Strategy and subject to availability of financial resources, the Commission should~~***happened more often than before. In order to account for the exceptional nature of rescEU and its far-reaching consequences in the*** further ~~strengthen rescEU by financing the maintenance of existing capacities and, where appropriate, scaling them up and creating additional ones.~~ development ***and strengthening of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, as well as its impact on Member States policies and organisation in a world facing more and more complex disasters, regardless of their origin, implementing powers pursuant to Article 291(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) should exceptionally be conferred on the Council for the definition of rescEU capacities. The Council implementing acts for the definition*** of rescEU capacities should ~~include all forms of acquisition such as procurement, contracting, renting or leasing, including for medical countermeasures. In this context, and in line with Union law and international commitments, the use of solutions developed or produced in the Union should be promoted in order to reinforce the Union's strategic autonomy and the resilience of critical supply chains. Under exceptional circumstances, such as when the required medical countermeasures are not defined under rescEU, for example for active pharmaceutical ingredients or investigational products, stocks could be developed outside the Union Mechanism. Experience gained during deployments in the context~~***be based on a proposal submitted by the Commission, where it considers appropriate, on the basis*** of the ~~COVID-19 pandemic, the Union's response to Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine and the recurrent wildfire seasons shows that the rules governing the~~***indicative target list of report on the disaster risk*** management ***capabilities and response capacities at Union level, that new types***~~and rapid deployment~~

of rescEU capacities ~~need to be further streamlined~~***are defined. In order*** to ensure ~~rapid response~~***a smooth transition from the framework established under Decision 1313/2013 and the framework to be established under this Regulation, the first Council implementing act should contain the capacities and the items, forming the initial composition of rescEU, as specified in Commission implementing decision (EU) 2019/570, as well as the additional rescEU capacities to be developed and sustain. When these additional rescEU capacities are identified, the Commission should, via implementing acts, define their related quality requirements.***

(38) rescEU capacities may be deployed outside the Union in ~~case a natural or human-induced hazard reaches~~***response to disasters that have*** a significant ~~scale and is of international concern. Such~~***impact on one or more Member States or their citizens.*** Deployment ~~should~~***can*** be considered ~~where the Union has an interest to respond to the emergency or where a crisis~~***if the disaster*** has the potential to impact the Union, including where the ~~crisis~~***disaster*** threatens Union citizens, ***and*** requires urgent intervention~~, and was notified under other Union instruments or international response mechanisms~~.

(39) ***Member States should strengthen cooperation with the*** private sector ~~cooperation should be further strengthened by channelling~~***to support requests for*** donations of ~~disaster relief items to~~***in-kind assistance, including utilising*** existing ***logistical capabilities, and*** capacities under rescEU~~,~~ hosted by Member States. Donations should be ~~channelled~~***channeled*** through ~~the~~ Member States ~~hosting rescEU capacities~~, subject to quality assurance before possible ~~dispatching~~***deployment***. ~~Rules should be established enabling the setting up of logistical hubs for the purpose of pooling assistance or warehouses stockpiling rescEU capacities that may be received from the private sector.~~

(39a) Within the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, rules facilitating the setting up of logistical hubs for the purpose of pooling in-kind assistance, or in relation to the stockpiling of rescEU capacities, including those that may be received from the private sector through the Member States, could be developed by the Commission, in close cooperation with Member States.

(~~34~~***39b***) With rising temperatures and prolonged periods of drought, the risk of wildfires in the Union is increasing, and such fires are becoming more frequent and more intense; at the same time the limited availability of specialised response capacities, including amphibious

aerial forest-fire-fighting means, remains a major concern and constitutes the Union's principal operational challenge where multiple wildfires occur simultaneously. To ensure a smooth transition to the full implementation of rescEU, the Union-level reserve of capacities established by Decision (EU) 2019/420 of the European Parliament and of the Council[18], it is essential to prolong that transitional period as laid down in Decision (EU) 2023/2671 of the European Parliament and of the Council[19] until 2034, so that the Union can continue financing national aerial fire-fighting means and make them available for response operations under the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism while the permanent rescEU aerial forest-fire-fighting fleet is being progressively established; those new ***permanent*** aerial-fire-fighting means, financed under rescEU, are currently under development and are expected to become progressively available starting in 2028.

(39c) In order to ensure a response that is both coordinated and rapid, decisions on deployment and demobilisation of rescEU capacities, and any decision in the event of conflicting requests, should be taken by the Commission, through the ERCC, in close coordination with the requesting Member State and the hosting Member State or the Member States owning, renting or leasing the rescEU capacities in question. The Member State owning, renting or leasing the rescEU capacities should conclude operational contracts, with the Commission specifying the terms and conditions of deploying rescEU capacities.

(39d) Under the framework of Decision (EU) 1313/2013, Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/570 defines the capacities that rescEU shall consist of. These capacities include, among others, medical stockpiling capacities, which cover stockpiling of medical countermeasures aimed at combatting serious cross-border threats to health. In addition, Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2025/704 details, among others, the rules for the deployment of rescEU capacities. These medical countermeasures, which are included in the medical stockpiling capacities forming part of rescEU ('rescEU medical stockpiling), serve in situations where capacities at national level and those pre-committed by Member States to the European Civil Protection Pool are not able to

---

18 Decision (EU) 2019/420 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 March 2019 amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism (OJ L 77I, 20.3.2019, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2019/420/oj).

19 Decision (EU) 2023/2671 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 November 2023 amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU to extend the rescEU transitional period (OJ L, 2023/2671, 28.11.2023, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2023/2671/oj).

ensure an effective response, by being inexistant or not sufficient. These medical countermeasures, when serving the preparedness and response for dealing with threats that can lead to health emergencies, should hence constitute the medical countermeasures stockpile for health emergency preparedness and response at Union level.

(39e) Medical stockpiling capacities differ from other response capacities because of their shelf-life, storage requirements and applicable regulatory frameworks. Effective preparedness may require the stockpiling of finished medical countermeasures as well as, where appropriate, ingredients, materials and products at different stages of manufacture, subject to applicable Union law. Specific rules should therefore govern medical countermeasures which are part of the rescEU medical stockpiling capacities, to support and complement Member States' preparedness for and response to threats that can lead to health emergencies.

(39f) To avoid any risk of duplication and build on synergies with the existing stockpiling processes under rescEU as part of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, the stockpiling of these medical countermeasures should continue to be carried out within rescEU under the framework of this Regulation in order to support combatting serious cross-border threats to health. For the purposes of this Regulation, 'medical countermeasure' should be understood within the meaning of Article 3, point (10), of Regulation (EU) 2022/2371, covering medicinal products for human use, medical devices, in vitro diagnostic medical devices and other goods or services necessary for the purpose of preparedness for and response to serious cross-border threats to health. Similarly, 'serious cross-border threat to health' should be understood within the meaning of Article 3, point (1), of Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 as a life-threatening or otherwise serious hazard to health of biological, chemical, environmental or unknown origin, which spreads or entails a significant risk of spreading across the national borders of Member States, and which may necessitate coordination at Union level. Such a threat constitutes the underlying hazard configuration which, upon reaching a scale and severity that endangers public health across the Union, may lead to the formal recognition of a public health emergency at Union level pursuant to Article 23 of Regulation (EU) 2022/2371, thereby triggering extraordinary emergency framework pursuant to that Regulation. Furthermore, threats to health of chemical or biological origin not falling in the scope of serious cross-border threats to health and threats to

health of radiological origin or of nuclear origin should also be covered by this Regulation. Together with serious cross-border threats to health, these threats form the overarching category of 'threats that can lead to health emergencies', for which medical countermeasures forming part of rescEU constitute essential response capacities.

(39g) Furthermore, the rules for stockpiling these medical countermeasures should take into account the specificities of health emergencies and the Union's health security framework defined in particular in Regulations (EU) 2022/2371 and (EU) 2022/2372, as well as Commission Decision of 16 September 2021 establishing the Health Emergency, Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA) (2021/C 393 I/02) ('the HERA Decision') to avoid duplication and provide legal clarity on roles and responsibilities. For that purpose, implementing powers should be granted to the Commission under this Regulation to define the quality requirements, the modalities of stockpiling, the rules on deployment, including allocation, national use, loaning or donation, as well as the procedures governing decisions of deployment, and demobilisation, including in situations of conflicting requests, applicable to these medical countermeasures within rescEU.

(39h) When preparing those implementing acts, the Commission should take due account of the opinions and expertise of the HERA Board as established in Article 4 of the HERA Decision and ensure the appropriate involvement of Member States and the relevant Union health bodies, including, as appropriate, the Health Security Committee established in Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 2022/2371, the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control established under Regulation (EC) 851/2004, the European Medicines Agency established by Regulation (EC) No 726/2004 and, where applicable, the Health Crisis Board referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2022/2372 where that Board has been established following the activation of the emergency framework under that Regulation.

(39i) In addition, when preparing those implementing acts, as well as when managing the medical countermeasures stockpile for health emergency preparedness and response at Union level, the Commission should take due account of the information, analysis and threat and risk assessments generated under the Union health security framework and other relevant Union health security processes. This evidence should inform, as appropriate, the identification of needs and capability gaps, the composition and

quantities of the stockpile, quality requirements, stockpiling modalities, and the advance definition of activation, prioritisation, allocation and deployment criteria. Due consideration should also be given to innovative and flexible preparedness approaches, sustainability, strategic effectiveness and economic efficiency.

(39j) When defining quality requirements for medical countermeasures in the medical countermeasures stockpile for health emergency preparedness and response at Union level, the Commission should consider the specific nature of such products, including that certain medical countermeasures necessary for health emergency preparedness and response may not have obtained a marketing authorisation or may consist of unfinished products, such as active pharmaceutical ingredients or critical raw materials. Appropriate safeguards should be established in the implementing acts defining the quality requirements for these products, in accordance with applicable Union law.

(39k) A request for assistance involving medical countermeasures forming part of rescEU medical stockpiling may be informed by relevant opinions, decisions, evaluations or assessments under the Union health security framework, including those of the Health Security Committee and, where applicable, the Health Crisis Board, acting within their respective mandates.

(39l) In addition, regarding the decisions on deployment and demobilisation of medical countermeasures forming part of rescEU medical stockpiling, additional consultation should be envisaged. Under Regulation (EU) 2022/2371, the Health Security Committee plays a key role in planning and coordinating, between the Commission and Member States, prevention, preparedness, and response for serious cross-border threats to health. In particular, it is tasked with adopting guidance and opinions, including on specific response measures, to support Member States in the prevention and control of such threats. Furthermore, under Regulation (EU) 2022/2372, following the activation of the emergency framework by the Council, the Health Crisis Board is established to assist and provide guidance to the Commission in ensuring the supply of crisis-relevant medical countermeasures. While those two bodies are composed of Member State representatives, are chaired by the Commission without voting rights, and operate under different mandates and timeframes, they both play a pivotal role in the planning and the implementation of the response dependent on the delivery of medical countermeasures to address serious cross-border threats to health. Therefore, when deciding on the

deployment and demobilisation of medical countermeasures forming part of the rescEU medical stockpiling, the Commission, through the ERCC, should consult both bodies within their respective remits. This should occur in two instances: where the deployment responds to a threat that can lead to health emergencies, whether or not a public health emergency at Union level has been formally recognised, or where the deployment could materially affect Union preparedness to respond to such threats. The consultation should inform the assessment of necessity, timing, allocation and the management of remaining stock of medical countermeasures forming part of rescEU medical stockpiling. This consultation aims to ensure a sustainable capacity of the Union to respond to threats that can lead to health emergencies while maintaining an effective response to a request for assistance under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and safeguarding the role of the Commission, through the ERCC, in decisions on deployment and demobilisation of rescEU capacities.

(39m) In duly justified cases of urgency, where prior consultation is not practicable without delaying the deployment of rescEU medical countermeasures necessary to address an imminent threat to life or an exceptionally rapid escalation of a threat that can lead to health emergencies, the Commission, through the ERCC, should be able to decide on deployment without prior consultation. In such circumstances, it should inform the Health Security Committee or, where applicable, the Health Crisis Board, without delay, giving the reasons for the urgency and information on the assistance deployed.

~~(40) By facilitating the continued development and enhanced integration of cross-border detection, early warning, and alert systems of significance to the Union, the Union should assist Member States in reducing the lead time required to respond to disasters and in issuing timely alerts to Union citizens. Those systems should leverage both existing and emerging information sources and infrastructures, while actively promoting the adoption of innovative technologies. Recognising that Member States hold primary responsibility for alerting their populations to ensure the effective dissemination of warnings and preparedness in the event of disasters, it is essential to reinforce their capabilities.~~

(41) To enhance the preparedness for cross-sectoral, cross-border, and Union-wide disasters, the Union~~-~~, through its Mechanism and existing Union tools, should provide support to Member States in developing and implementing ***early and*** public warning systems. The Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism should exploit, where necessary, services provided by

the ***different space components of the*** Union space systems ***referred to in [Regulation (EU) XXXX/XX establishing the European Competitiveness Fund, including specific programme for defence research and innovation]***, such as Galileo, ***and the European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (***EGNOS***)***, Copernicus and the Earth observation governmental service ***(EOGS), the Infrastructure for Resilience, Interconnectivity and Security by Satellite (IRIS2) and Governmental Satellite Communication (***~~, IRIS[2] and~~ GOVSATCOM***),*** as well as ***the*** space situational awareness ***(SSA) component*** services. The early warning ~~component of~~***sub-component of Copernicus,*** the Copernicus Emergency Management Service***, referred to in [Article 60(5), point (b), of Regulation (EU) XXXX/XX establishing the European Competitiveness Fund, including specific programmes for defence research and innovation],*** consisting of the European Flood Awareness System ***(EFAS)***, the European Forest Fire Information System ***(EFFIS)*** and the European Drought Observatory ***(EDO)*** should contribute to minimising the lead time to respond to disasters. These assets are significant Union-level tools to effectively prepare for and respond to disasters and crises both within and beyond the Union's borders.

(40***41a***) ~~By facilitating the continued development and enhanced integration of cross-border detection, early warning, and alert systems of significance to the Union,~~ The Union should assist Member States***, upon request, in minimizing*** ~~in reducing~~ the lead time required to respond to disasters and in ~~issuing~~***the*** timely ~~alerts~~***broadcasting of information*** to Union citizens ***by Member States, by facilitating the continued development of cross-border detection and early warning systems of significance to the Union. These***~~. Those~~ systems should leverage both existing and emerging information sources and infrastructures, while actively promoting the adoption of innovative technologies. ~~Recognising that~~ Member States hold primary responsibility for ~~alerting~~***notifying*** their populations ***in the event of disasters*** to ensure ~~the~~ effective ***preparedness and*** dissemination of warnings ~~and preparedness in the event of disasters,~~. It is ***nevertheless*** essential to reinforce ~~their~~***Member State*** capabilities***, including through Union support***. ***It is also important to avoid duplication of messaging at Union level that may result in conflicting information being delivered to the population.***

(41b) In the event of a disaster, upon request of a Member State, the ERCC may facilitate information sharing among concerned countries regarding the use of Galileo Emergency Warning Satellite Service and disseminate public warning messages on

behalf of that Member State via that service within its territory. Any extension to third countries that request the dissemination of public warning messages, of access to that service will be subject to the applicable provisions regarding the Union space policy component under the European Competitiveness Fund established by [Regulation (EU) XXXX/XX establishing the European Competitiveness Fund, including specific programmes for defence research and innovation].

~~(24) The Union should be prepared for large-scale, cross-sectoral incidents and crises, including the potential for armed aggression affecting one or more Member States. Typically, national civil authorities bear primary responsibility in most crisis situations. However, in an increasing number of cases, such as health emergencies, extreme weather events, and hybrid or cyber-attacks, civilian authorities require military support. In the event of armed aggression, military forces would need civilian assistance to ensure the continuous functioning of the state and society. Therefore, there is a need to improve interaction between civilian and military actors, without undermining their respective competences and in full cooperation with Member States. As follow-up to the Preparedness Union Strategy, the Commission and the High Representative should develop arrangements for civil-military preparedness. Those arrangements should clarify the roles, responsibilities, and priorities of Union institutions, bodies, agencies, and Member States in preparing for and responding to incidents and crises.~~

(41d) Given the increasing scale, complexity and cross-sectoral nature of disasters, civil-military coordination may be needed to provide an effective and efficient deployment of available resources and capabilities in the management of the consequences of a disaster on the population. To enhance the effectiveness of the response, dialogue and interaction between civilian and military actors should facilitate a mutual understanding of roles and responsibilities, procedures and constraints before a disaster occurs. In accordance with Member States' competences, civil-military coordination within the Union Civil Protection Mechanism should strengthen prevention, preparedness and response to disasters through the exchange of information and best practices, joint scenario-based analysis, including contingencies in the identification of gaps and bottlenecks, and joint training and exercises, and the development and testing of common procedures. Such an exchange of information should take place subject to applicable national confidentiality rules.

(41e) Such coordination should preserve the civilian character of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and adhere to the humanitarian principles, complement and not duplicate multilateral frameworks on military coordination, and neither establish operational coordination structures nor create obligations for Member States regarding the deployment of civilian or military capacities. It should respect Member States' sole responsibility for their national security, and participation should be limited to Member States, excluding Participating States, and remains voluntary.

(~~25~~***41f***) The use of military ~~means~~***resources in support of civil protection operations*** under civilian lead as a last resort may constitute an important contribution to disaster response ***and management of their consequences to the civilian population***. Where the use of military capacities in support of civil protection operations ***within the Union Civil Protection Mechanism*** is considered to be appropriate~~, cooperation with the military~~ ***by the Member States, on a voluntary basis, such coordination*** should ~~follow the modalities, procedures and criteria established by the Council or its competent bodies for making available to the Union Mechanism military capacities relevant to civil protection and should~~***remain focused on supporting civilian authorities and*** be in line with ***and respect Member States' competences and responsibilities in matters of national security and defence, and respect the humanitarian principles detailed in the***~~the relevant~~ international ***guidance such as the Oslo*** Guidelines***, the UN Guidelines on the use of military and civil defence assets to support United Nations humanitarian activities in complex emergencies, and the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid***.

(~~30~~***41g***) Rules should provide that requests for assistance under the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism may be made by the affected country, whether it is a Member State or a third country, as well as by the United Nations and its agencies or an international organisation specifically identified for this purpose. Such requests for assistance should be allowed to identify the kind of civil protection ***assistance*** or relief ***items*** needed to address the emergency~~, including where the request is for dual-use assets~~.

(~~31~~***41h***) Member States, supported by the Commission, and***,*** as appropriate***,*** Union delegations in third countries, should ensure~~ that~~ all appropriate measures are taken for the timely transport of assistance ~~they offer, including as regards the preparation of transport, availability and deployability of such assistance~~***offered under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism***.

(42) The Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism should consolidate and pool together the analytical and scientific capacities necessary for operational preparedness in Union-coordinated response under a Scientific and Technical Advisory Facility ~~(STAF)~~. This facility should act as a supporting pillar ~~for~~***of*** the ERCC~~, the Hub and~~ ***for*** Member States. ~~STAF~~***The Scientific and Technical Advisory Facility*** should provide expert analysis as well as scientific and technical insights, contributing to enhanced operational preparedness, analysis and situational awareness. This initiative should adopt a service-oriented, all-hazards and ~~cross-sectorial~~***cross-sectoral*** approach to anticipate, prepare for and ~~address~~***respond to*** disasters ~~and crises~~, complementing the research and development work of the Commission in-house science and knowledge service (Joint Research Centre).

(~~35~~***42a***) ***In recognition of Union solidarity,*** the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism may be used to provide civil protection support for consular assistance to Union citizens affected by disasters ***or other types of crisis situations*** in third countries, if requested by the Member States whose citizens are affected ~~by the disaster~~. Where possible, the Member States concerned should endeavour to coordinate such requests among themselves and with any other relevant actors to ensure the optimal use of the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism and to avoid practical difficulties on the ground. ~~Civil protection support for~~ Consular ~~assistance may encompass actions such as repatriations, assisted departures and evacuations, without prejudice to other possible actions. Such~~ support may be requested ***through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism*** where Member States are unable to ensure a swift and effective evacuation of Union citizens using ***regular*** commercial options, due to the sudden nature of the emergency or the political or security situation, which may render commercial flights insufficient, unreliable, or inaccessible. Furthermore, requests may be made in situations involving multiple Member States or large-scale repatriations, assisted departures, and evacuations where pooled means of transportation would provide a more efficient and cost-effective solution. The Member State of the affected citizens, or the Member State ~~coordinating~~***providing consular*** assistance ~~for all~~***to*** Union citizens ***from other Member States***, may receive financial assistance under the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism for civil protection support to consular assistance. To further promote the principle of European solidarity enshrined in this Regulation, financial assistance should be ~~made progressive~~***scaled***, subject to the multiple nationalities of Union citizens on board of the means of transport. ***When*** Member ~~State carrying out the~~***States carry out*** consular assistance to unrepresented Union citizens ~~in accordance with~~ Council

Directive (EU) 2015/637[20] ~~may request that either passengers or Member States whose citizens are covered by this action, contribute to the costs related to the action at market rates~~***applies***. Where Member States providing such consular assistance benefit from financial assistance under the Union ~~Mechanisms~~***Civil Protection Mechanism***, reimbursements requested pursuant to that Directive should be taken into account in determining any contribution of the Union ~~Mechanism~~***funding under this Regulation***. As an additional layer of ~~civil protection~~ assistance, rescEU capacities in the field of transport and logistics may also be used ***as a last resort*** for civil protection support to consular assistance.

~~(44) Recognising the importance of fostering international cooperation in the field of civil protection, and without prejudice to rules governing the association of third countries to the Union Mechanism, it is essential for the Commission to engage in coordinated efforts with third countries having similar objectives in disaster risk management and civil protection. That should allow the Commission to align policy priorities and coordinate operations with national authorities of third countries designated as strategic partner countries.~~

(~~49~~***42c***) Where assistance under the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism contributes to a Union humanitarian response ***in third countries***, particularly in complex emergencies, actions receiving financial assistance under this Regulation should adhere to the humanitarian principles and the principles on the use of civil protection and military resources set out in the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid. These actions should also take into consideration other humanitarian emergency response funded by the Union, ensuring alignment with established guidelines and objectives. ~~The Union Mechanism should replace the Union Civil Protection Mechanism established by Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council[21].~~

(43) In recent years, the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism***, as established under Decision 1313/2013,*** has been activated repeatedly to conduct medical evacuations from disaster-

---

[20] Council Directive (EU) 2015/637 on the coordination and cooperation measures to facilitate consular protection for unrepresented citizens of the Union in third countries and repealing Decision 95/553/EC (OJ L 106, 24.4.2015, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2015/637/oj).

~~[21] Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 924, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2013/1313/oj).~~

affected ~~third~~ countries ~~whose health-care systems were overwhelmed~~***in urgent and critical situations***, notably in response to Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, the humanitarian crisis in Gaza***, the Hantavirus outbreak on the MV Hondius*** and, following the nightclub ~~fire~~***fires*** in North Macedonia ***and Switzerland***, ensuring the safe transfer and treatment of patients in Member States and ~~other countries associated to the Union Mechanism that~~***Participating States, who*** volunteered to provide such support. Therefore, in ***these*** large-scale operations ***and if requested by a Member State***, the Union should support ~~series of~~ actions ~~allowing to coordinate the~~***enabling the effective coordination and*** transfer of patients from the requesting ~~country~~***countries*** to the treating Member ~~State;~~***States in a timely manner.*** Such actions ~~can~~***may*** include deployment of ~~an~~ assessment ~~team, and short term~~***teams, and short-term*** transit ~~in a~~***to*** local medical ~~facility~~***facilities*** or specifically established medical evacuation ~~related hub~~***hubs***; therefore, common rules should specify which activities are considered part of ~~a~~ medical evacuation ~~operation~~***operations*** and the conditions and procedures for setting up and operating hubs dedicated to facilitating medical ~~evacuation~~***evacuations***.

(~~33~~***43a***) In order to ensure operational readiness~~, in particular in wildfire risk areas during the summer season and other areas~~ ***in Member States*** experiencing recurring seasonal risks ***such as wildfires***, the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism should enable the ~~pre-positioning~~***programmed prepositioning*** of response capacities in Member States to address those risks. This proactive measure should enhance the Union's readiness to combat recurring disasters, mitigating their devastating impact on ~~lives, homes, and~~***people, public health,*** the environment***, animals, property, infrastructure and cultural heritage***. At the same time, this ~~action~~***measure*** should facilitate the sharing of technical and operational knowledge across various scenarios ~~and fire contexts~~, reinforce interoperability, and improve the concept of Host Nation Support for response capacities. ***Programmed prepositioning should be established in advance through consultation between the ERCC and the host Member State, including with regards to Host Nation Support arrangements. All financial implications should be clearly defined, including for situations*** where those capacities ~~and intervention teams would be~~***are*** required to respond to a disaster during their ~~pre-positioning~~***programmed prepositioning***, ***where*** rules ~~on~~***regarding*** response should apply, particularly as regards the cost of their operation.

(~~32~~***43b***) ~~Temporary allocation~~***Tactical deployment*** of any response capacities under the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism ***following a request for assistance,*** should be ~~possible~~***considered***

by the Commission, in consultation with Member States, for situations of ~~increased~~***imminent*** risk of ~~disasters~~***a disaster*** in a Member State***, or in exceptional circumstances in a*** ~~or~~ third country. It ~~should~~***may*** involve the ~~temporary~~ deployment of resources and response teams in anticipation of ~~natural or human-induced hazards~~***the consequences of a disaster, regardless of its origin***.

~~(26) Crises often show cross-sectoral nature, impacting multiple sides of society and requiring a coordinated and integrated response from various sectors. Whether stemming from natural hazards, security or public health emergencies, these crises tend to transcend traditional boundaries and affect multiple sectors simultaneously. Rules should be established to enable the Union Mechanism to effectively support cross-sectoral crisis management in complementarity with measures and procedures existing under other Union instruments.~~

(~~27~~***43d***) ***Crises are often cross-sectoral in nature, impacting multiple sectors across society, requiring a coordinated and integrated response from various sectors. Whether stemming from natural or human-induced hazards, these crises also tend to have transboundary effects.*** The multifaceted nature of cross-sectoral crises demands a comprehensive and integrated approach to their management, necessitating close and efficient cooperation to effectively navigate the challenges they present. ~~National civil protection authorities should remain~~***Responding to cross-sectoral crises is a matter of coordination and decision-making at political level. Member States have*** the primary ~~competent authorities supporting~~***competence in the management of crises and in matters of defence, and sole responsibility for national security.*** The Union ~~Mechanism. At the same time, it is necessary to ensure coordination, monitoring and~~***may*** support ***national efforts to manage the consequences*** of cross-sectoral ~~operation at the Union level, in support of national efforts~~***crises***. For this reason, ~~a Crisis Coordination Hub (the 'Hub')~~***an Analytical and Support Cell*** should be ~~established. The Hub shall operate in synergy with~~***part of*** the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) ~~and complement its function, making use of the existing structures and expertise of the ERCC. The ERCC will continue its mandate supporting the Union Mechanism, and to provide a central point for operational coordination with Member States authorities, including entities authorised by the Member States, Union institutions and bodies, as well as Commission services. To maximise these efforts, rules should be put in place allowing the scaling up of Union support to Member State action, to accurately reflect the demands and the urgency of the needs~~. In order to link external action with internal crisis response more effectively and

avoid duplication of efforts, the ~~Hub~~***Analytical and Support Cell*** should cooperate with the European External Action Service (EEAS), and in particular its Crisis Response Centre, in respect to the role and competences of the High Representative.

(43e) The establishment of the Analytical and Support Cell under this Regulation should be understood as complementary to, and not as a substitute for, the political coordination and decision-making role of the Council. While this Regulation enables the Analytical and Support Cell to provide timely and coherent analytical, technical and operational contributions to Union crisis response and to better support Member States, it should respect the institutional balance, Member States' prerogatives and the Council's role as the institution with policy-making and coordinating functions pursuant to Article 16 of the Treaty on European Union, and should be without prejudice to and complement the IPCR arrangements. To this end, the enhanced operational capacity of the Analytical and Support Cell should actively support and facilitate the exercise of the Council's political coordination role at Union level and the Member States primary competence in crisis management. The Analytical and Support Cell's technical and operational activities, however valuable, should not be interpreted as diminishing the need for political coordination at Union level, nor should the absence of IPCR activation be read as authorising the Analytical and Support Cell to assume a broader coordinating role than foreseen under this Regulation or as constituting a parallel decision-making structure to that of the IPCR. The tasks of the Analytical and Support Cell should not include diplomatic, military matters, law enforcement and political tasks, as well as gathering and producing intelligence.

~~(28) In order to ensure coherence with relevant existing structures, the Crisis Coordination Hub will also coordinate closely with the Commission's internal security architecture, including the future establishment of the Integrated Security Operations Centre (ISOC), as announced in the Commission Communication ProtectEU: a European Internal Security Strategy[22]. The activities of the Hub will, where relevant, align with the Commission's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), communication tools, and security procedures, thereby ensuring maximum interoperability, facilitating the sharing of information, and supporting security aspects in the protection of Commission assets.~~

~~[22] COM(2025)148 final.~~

~~(23) Amid rapidly increasing risks and uncertainty, the Union is dedicated to bolstering resilience across various areas to effectively anticipate, endure and recover from diverse challenges and crises. In that context, the political commitment to work towards the European Civil Defence Mechanism entails a firm political engagement to make available adequate and flexible arrangements to effectively and efficiently address cross-sectoral, complex and long-lasting crises. These specific arrangements should be applied to cross-sectoral crises and also but not exclusively to situations with regard to an integrated political crisis response or a Solidarity Clause activation has been made, or which the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared a public health emergency of international concern, as well as to emergencies falling under the scope of other Union instruments that deal with sectoral emergencies, such as in internal market, consular, security, health and climate related emergencies, where the capabilities of the Union Mechanism can provide support in managing consequences of those crises.~~

(43h) The Analytical and Support Cell should have permanent tasks, such as monitoring, collecting and analysing cross-sectoral information, supporting the development and sustainment of shared situational awareness, and early warning notifications. Given that setting strategic priorities for cross-sectoral analysis touches upon Member States' sole responsibility regarding national security and primary competence in crisis management, which includes the handling of sensitive information-sharing, uniform conditions for guiding the Analytical and Support Cell's permanent tasks require direct steering at the highest political level. Therefore, implementing powers pursuant to the Article 291(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) should exceptionally be conferred to the Council for the provision of strategic priorities and guidance to the permanent, situational awareness tasks of the Analytical and Support Cell.

(43i) When fulfilling its tasks, the Analytical and Support Cell should promptly notify the Council, via the General Secretariat of the Council, of early indications leading to a potential cross-sectoral crisis. This would allow the Presidency of the Council of the European Union to assess whether timely policy coordination and response at Union political level is required. The Presidency may subsequently decide to activate the IPCR in accordance with the IPCR Decision. Where the IPCR is activated, the Analytical and Support Cell should serve as the primary coordination point for Commission contributions to the IPCR process, ensuring rapid and coherent input provided to timely

policy coordination and response at Union political level including by facilitating access to relevant sectoral expertise, and relevant sectoral experts may be invited to attend the informal roundtables of the IPCR convened by the President of the Council of the European Union in accordance with Article 7(4) of IPCR Decision. The Analytical and Support Cell may also be tasked to provide technical and operational support in cross-sectoral crises in the IPCR roundtables or proposals for action.

(43j) In exceptional and duly justified cases where the IPCR has not been activated, the Council should also be able to task the Analytical and Support Cell to provide certain technical and operational support. Therefore, implementing powers pursuant to Article 291(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) should exceptionally be conferred to the Council to task the Analytical and Support Cell to provide technical and operational support to the management of the consequences of cross-sectoral crises for which the IPCR has not been activated.

(43k) The IPCR web platform referred to in Article 9 of the Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993 (the 'IPCR Decision') serves as a key tool for the IPCR and electronic hub between relevant and authorised stakeholders in the EU and national crisis management communities. It is available even without the activation of the IPCR in accordance with Article 4 of the IPCR Decision. To avoid duplication and ensure synergies between Union crisis response or risk management mechanisms, the IPCR web platform should also serve as the electronic platform for exchanges of information and activities of the Analytical and Support Cell, including, where appropriate, prior to the activation of the IPCR, to support early notification and shared situational awareness. Pursuant to Article 9(2) of the IPCR Decision, access to that platform is restricted to persons designated by relevant stakeholders, namely the General Secretariat of the Council (for the Council and European Council), Member States, the Commission, the EEAS (for the High Representative) and the relevant Union agencies.

(43l) In compliance with Union law, the Analytical and Support Cell should ensure that any applicable purpose limitation, linked to cross-sectoral information that it receives from the Commission and, as appropriate, from the EEAS, including notifications about disasters and crises under other Union instruments, is respected.

(43m) This Regulation is without prejudice to the prerogatives and obligations of the Commission for the security of its personnel, assets and information, governed through a comprehensive framework, on the basis primarily of Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/443 on Security in the Commission and Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444 on the security rules for protecting EU classified information.

~~(29) Provisions of this Regulation which are addressed to Member States should be understood as being addressed also to associated countries. However, while this Regulation may complement the implementation of other Union risk management instruments in cases of cross-sectoral crises, countries associated to the Union Mechanism should not be involved unless they fall under the scope of the supported instrument.~~

~~(44) Recognising the importance of fostering international cooperation in the field of civil protection, and without prejudice to rules governing the association of third countries to the Union Mechanism, it is essential for the Commission to engage in coordinated efforts with third countries having similar objectives in disaster risk management and civil protection. That should allow the Commission to align policy priorities and coordinate operations with national authorities of third countries designated as strategic partner countries.~~

~~(2)~~***(44a) [***This Regulation lays down an indicative financial envelope for the Union Mechanism and the financing of health emergency preparedness and response. For the purpose of this Regulation, current prices are calculated by applying a fixed 2% deflator.***]*** Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council[23] (the 'Financial Regulation') applies to this Regulation. It lays down the rules on the establishment and the implementation of the general budget of the Union, including the rules on grants, prizes, non-financial donations, procurement, indirect implementation, financial assistance, financial instruments and budgetary guarantees.

~~(4)~~***(44b)*** In a rapidly ~~changing~~***evolving*** economic, social and geopolitical environment, recent ~~experience has shown~~***experiences have demonstrated*** the need for a more flexible ***Union*** multiannual financial framework and Union spending programmes. To that effect, the funding should duly consider the evolving policy needs and ***the*** Union's priorities as

---

[23] Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 September 2024 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L, 2024/2509, 26.9.2024, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2024/2509/oj).

identified in ~~relevant documents published by the Commission, in~~ Council conclusions and ~~European Parliament resolutions~~***relevant Commission documents***, while ensuring ~~sufficient predictability for the budget implementation~~***that adoption of and any subsequent adaptation of the work programmes remains subject to adequate oversight by Member States through the relevant committee procedure under this Regulation***.

(44c) In line with the 'preparedness by design' approach under the 2028–2034 multiannual financial framework, actions financed by the Union funding under this Regulation should be implemented in close synergy and complementarity, while avoiding duplication and double funding, with other Union programmes and instruments contributing to resilience, disaster risk management and the consequence management of disasters, such as the European Competitiveness Fund established under Regulation (EU) [2028/XXXX] [ECF Regulation], Horizon Europe established under Regulation (EU) [2028/XXXX] [Horizon Europe Regulation], and Global Europe established under Regulation (EU) [2028/XXXX] [Global Europe Regulation]. In particular, national and regional reforms and structural investments supporting long-term disaster prevention, climate adaptation, resilient healthcare systems and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction are supported primarily through the National and Regional Partnership Plans established under Regulation (EU) [2028/XXXX] [NRPP Fund Regulation], which are informed by Member States' national risk assessments. To reinforce operational coherence, Member States are also able, in accordance with that Regulation, to mobilise the flexibility reserves embedded within their National and Regional Partnership Plans to respond to shocks at national level, or to transfer shared-management resources voluntarily to the Union funding under this Regulation to be implemented by the Commission for their benefit in accordance with this Regulation.

(~~22~~***44d***) While Member States are responsible for their health policies, they should protect public health in a spirit of European solidarity, cooperation and coordination. ~~That cooperation should improve preparedness for, and prevention and control of serious cross-border threats to health.~~ Preparedness is the key to improving resilience to future threats ***to health***. Experience gained from the COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated that there is a need for further action at Union level to support cooperation and coordination among the Member States. That cooperation should improve preparedness for, and the prevention and control of, the spread of severe human infections and diseases across borders in order to combat

other serious cross-border threats to health and to safeguard and improve the health and well-being of all people in the Union.

(11*44e*) ~~While Member States are responsible for their health policies, they should prepare for and protect against serious cross-border threats to health in a spirit of European solidarity, cooperation and coordination. With a view to strengthening the capability in the Union in this respect,~~ This Regulation should provide ***financial*** support ~~in particular~~***to*** actions ***of operational nature foreseen*** under Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 November 2022 on serious cross-border threats to health as well as under Council Regulation (EU) 2022/2372 on a framework of measures for ensuring the supply of crisis-relevant medical countermeasures in the event of a public health emergency at Union level. ~~This Regulation~~ ***This Union funding*** should ~~also ensure synergies with the crisis related mandates of the European Centre for Disease~~***include support for knowledge and capacities for*** prevention ~~and Control and the European Medicines Agency~~***, preparedness and response and for activities such as tools or capacities needed for surveillance***, ***early warning, modelling, forecasting and risk and threat assessments, strengthened supply readiness of medical countermeasures*** as well as ~~relevant national and international organisations~~***support to EU level coordination, stockpiling of medical countermeasures, capacity building and strengthening skills and knowledge of health emergency stakeholders***.

(44f) The 2021-2027 EU4Health programme established by Regulation (EU) 2021/522 has made significant contributions in key areas of prevention of, preparedness for and response to threats that can lead to health emergencies within the meaning of this Regulation, among others. In order to build on the progress made, relevant actions previously eligible for funding under the EU4Health programme would continue to be eligible under this Regulation when such actions fall under scope of specific activities under this Regulation. Such specific activities under this Regulation would complement other specific activities supporting health emergency prevention, preparedness and response, which are to be financed under Regulation (EU) [XXX] [European Competitiveness Fund] and Regulation (EU) [XXX] [Horizon Europe]. Such other specific activities under those Regulations cover actions to foster the development, production capacity, manufacturing and industrial deployment of medical countermeasures, as well as support to European Reference Laboratories in Public Health or for prevention, preparedness and response planning at national and EU level.

(~~12~~*44g*) The Union medical countermeasures landscape still shows a dependence of the Union on third countries in ensuring the supply of raw materials, active pharmaceutical ingredients, medicinal products, medical devices and personal protective equipment needed in the Union during health crises, in particular pandemics. ***As mentioned in the Communication of the Commission "Preparing the EU for the next health crisis: a Medical Countermeasures Strategy" [add footnote COM(2025) 529], the European Union and the world remain exposed to a wide range of growing health threats for which medical countermeasures often remain scarce or unavailable. This*** ~~The~~ Regulation should therefore provide support to actions that foster the procurement, management, stockpiling and deployment of crisis relevant products within the Union to strengthen the strategic autonomy of the Union and ensure better a security of supply of medical countermeasures.

~~(16) With a view to strengthening capabilities in the Union to prevent, prepare for, respond to and manage health crises, this Regulation should provide support to actions taken in the framework of complementary mechanisms and structures established under the relevant Union crisis management instruments, considering in particular European supply chain. That support should include capacity building in health crisis response, including contingency planning and preparedness, including to climate impacts on health, preventive measures such as those related to vaccination and immunisation, strengthened surveillance programmes and improved coordination and cooperation.~~

(~~13~~*44i*) During a public health emergency at Union level, as referred to in Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2022/2371, the demand for crisis-relevant medical countermeasures could be greater than the supply. In such a situation, surge production and manufacturing of medical countermeasures are essential. Support should be provided– to actions that reserve capacity of manufacturing for crisis-relevant medical countermeasures, including the needed raw materials and ancillary supplies and components.

(44j) This Regulation is without prejudice to governance structures, crisis coordination mechanisms, missions and tools established under Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 on serious cross-border threats to health, Council Regulation (EU) 2022/2372 of 24 October 2022 on a framework of measures for ensuring the supply of crisis-relevant medical countermeasures in the event of a public health emergency at Union level, Regulation (EC) 851/2004 establishing the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control and Regulation (EU) 2022/123 on the reinforced role of the European Medicines

Agency, as well as the Commission Decision of 16 September 2021 establishing the Health Emergency, Preparedness and Response Authority (HERA).

~~(21) The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the multi-sectorial nature of health crises, underscoring the importance of incorporating health considerations into a crisis management framework that includes this Regulation. Combining civil protection and health emergency preparedness and response measures within civil protection ensures a comprehensive, coordinated approach to managing disasters, ultimately enhancing resilience and safeguarding the population against a wide range of potential risks and threats. Health emergencies, such as pandemics, chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear threats, resistance to antimicrobial or health impacts of climate-related events related to the increase in Europe of vector-borne diseases, can have far-reaching impacts beyond the health sector, affecting social stability, environmental balance or the provision of essential services relying on critical infrastructure. The envisaged cross-cutting approach can prevent or mitigate the impact of health-related emergencies before they escalate into crises. A particular attention needs to be paid to populations living in institutions, such as persons with disabilities or older persons in need of long-term care, who are particularly exposed and affected to health emergencies, as evidenced by the COVID-19 crisis.~~

(44l) The Union funding under this Regulation should be open for participation of third countries where this is in the interest of the Union. To this extent, the Union may allow for association to the specific objectives of the Union funding under this Regulation of third countries, where relevant international agreements are in force with that third country and in accordance with the conditions laid down therein. Association to the Union funding under this Regulation of a third country should only be allowed either via association to all the civil protection specific objectives, excluding the civil - military coordination objective, of the Union funding under this Regulation, which are in turn implemented through actions undertaken under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, or via association to all the specific objectives of the Union funding under this Regulation pertaining to health emergency preparedness and response. The third countries should also include the category of European micro-states (the Principality of Andorra, the Principality of Monaco, the Republic of San Marino and the Vatican City State). Association to the Union funding under this Regulation should be subject to a fair balance of contribution and benefits of the third country and ensure the protection of the financial and security interests of the Union. When deciding on the participation

of third countries to the Union funding under this Regulation, the respective prerogatives of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission under Article 218 TFEU are to be observed.

(44m) In order to ensure transparency, in line with the principle of sincere cooperation, the Commission has to inform the Council of the negotiation of any arrangements determining the specific terms and conditions for the participation of a third country to the Union funding under this Regulation and transmit the signed texts to the Council without delay.

(44n) Third countries associated to all the civil protection specific objectives of Union funding, which are open to them under this Regulation and which does not include the civil - military coordination objective, should be entitled to participate in the activities of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism. This participation should be in accordance with the objectives, requirements, criteria, procedures and deadlines for those activities laid down in this Regulation and should not entail any voting rights in the decision-making instances of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism. It should be subject to the conditions laid down in the specific international agreement covering the association of the third country to all the civil protection specific objectives of Union funding, which are open to them under this Regulation and which does not include the civil - military coordination objective, including the obligation to contribute financially to that Union funding. For the purposes of this Regulation, such third countries should be referred to as 'Participating States'. With regard to Participating States under Decision 1313/2013 and their respective international agreements concluded with the Union to participate in the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, the different provisions in this Regulation seek to facilitate the smooth transition of their status under Decision 1313/2013 to a corresponding status under this Regulation while minimising the risk of any operational disruption.

~~(14) Unlike typical procurement activities, procurement activities related to preventing possible health crisis situations from escalating to actual crisis situations require a certain level of flexibility and reactivity. Hence, the Regulation should allow adding new contracting authorities without reaching the threshold required by Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 in order to avoid that a potential serious health crisis unfolds.~~

(~~47~~*44p*) Pursuant to Article 85(1) of Council Decision (EU) 2021/1764[24], persons and entities established in overseas countries and territories are eligible for funding subject to the ruled objectives of the Programme and possible arrangements applicable to the Member State to which the relevant overseas country or territory is linked.

~~(3)~~***(44q)*** While prevention and preparedness measures are essential to enhance the resilience of the Union in facing ~~natural and human-induced~~ disasters***, regardless of their origin***, the occurrence, timing and magnitude of disasters are by nature unpredictable. Financial resources required to ensure an adequate response can vary significantly from year to year and should be made available immediately. Reconciling the budgetary principle of predictability with the necessity to react rapidly to new needs therefore means having to adapt the financial implementation of the work programmes. ***/***Consequently, it is appropriate to authorise carry-over of unused appropriations, limited to the following year and solely devoted to response actions, in addition to the carry-over of appropriations authorised under Article 12(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.***/***

(~~48~~***44r***) ***/***The Union Mechanism is to be implemented in accordance with Regulation (EU) [XXX]* of the European Parliament and of the Council [performance regulation] which establishes the rules for the expenditure tracking and the performance framework for the budget, including rules for ensuring a uniform application of the principles of 'do no significant harm' and gender equality referred to in Article 33(2), points (d) and (f), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 respectively, rules for monitoring and reporting on the performance of Union programmes and activities, rules for establishing a Union funding portal, rules for the evaluation of the programmes, as well as other horizontal provisions applicable to all Union programmes such as those on information, communication and visibility.***/***

~~(5)~~***(44s)*** In accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Council Regulation (EC,

---

24 Council Decision (EU) 2021/1764 of 5 October 2021 on the association of the Overseas Countries and Territories with the European Union including relations between the European Union on the one hand, and Greenland and the Kingdom of Denmark on the other (Decision on the Overseas Association, including Greenland) (OJ L 355, 7.10.2021, p. 6, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2021/1764/oj).

Euratom) No 2988/95[25], Council Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96[26] and Council Regulation (EU) 2017/1939, the financial interests of the Union are to be protected through proportionate measures, including the prevention, detection, correction and investigation of irregularities and fraud, the recovery of funds lost, wrongly paid or incorrectly used and, where appropriate, the imposition of administrative sanctions. In particular, in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013 and Regulation (Euratom, EC) No 2185/96 the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) may carry out investigations, including on-the-spot checks and inspections, with a view to establishing whether there has been fraud, corruption or any other illegal activity affecting the financial interests of the Union. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/1939[27], the European Public Prosecutor's Office (EPPO) may investigate and prosecute fraud and other illegal activities affecting the financial interests of the Union as provided for in Directive (EU) 2017/1371 of the European Parliament and of the Council[28]. In accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, any person or entity receiving Union funds is to fully cooperate in the protection of the Union's financial interests, to grant the necessary rights and access to the Commission, OLAF, the EPPO and the Court of Auditors and to ensure that any third parties involved in the implementation of Union funds grant equivalent rights.

(45) In order to ensure uniform conditions for the implementation of this Regulation through the relevant implementing acts, implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council[29].

(46) The examination procedure should be used for the adoption of the relevant implementing acts given that those acts implement acts of general scope.

(46a) In accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011, each Member State should be represented in the committee, and decide on the composition of its delegation. Such delegation can include, inter alia, health experts or experts from the civil protection

---

25 OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 1–4
26 OJ L 292, 15.11.1996, p. 2–5
27 OJ L 283, 31.10.2017, p. 1–71
28 OJ L 198, 28.7.2017, p. 29–41
29 Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by the Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2011/182/oj).

authorities of Member States, or other experts from competent authorities within the Member States, which hold the relevant expertise and knowledge for a specific issue presented to the committee or for the matters covered by the relevant committee's configurations. In addition, the committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 established under this Regulation should, where appropriate, convene in configurations, gathering the expertise and knowledge relevant for the matters to be considered by this committee's configurations. In particular, these matters should have regard to the specific objectives of the Union funding provided under this Regulation when reflected in the draft work programme implementing such Union funding or the adoption of draft implementing acts pertaining to the functioning of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

~~(47) Pursuant to Article 85(1) of Council Decision (EU) 2021/1764[30], persons and entities established in overseas countries and territories are eligible for funding subject to the ruled objectives of the Programme and possible arrangements applicable to the Member State to which the relevant overseas country or territory is linked.~~

~~(48) The Union Mechanism is to be implemented in accordance with Regulation (EU) [XXX]* of the European Parliament and of the Council [performance regulation] which establishes the rules for the expenditure tracking and the performance framework for the budget, including rules for ensuring a uniform application of the principles of 'do no significant harm' and gender equality referred to in Article 33(2), points (d) and (f), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 respectively, rules for monitoring and reporting on the performance of Union programmes and activities, rules for establishing a Union funding portal, rules for the evaluation of the programmes, as well as other horizontal provisions applicable to all Union programmes such as those on information, communication and visibility.~~

~~(49) Where assistance under the Union Mechanism contributes to a Union humanitarian response, particularly in complex emergencies, actions receiving financial assistance under this Regulation should adhere to the humanitarian principles and the principles on the use~~

~~[30] Council Decision (EU) 2021/1764 of 5 October 2021 on the association of the Overseas Countries and Territories with the European Union including relations between the European Union on the one hand, and Greenland and the Kingdom of Denmark on the other (Decision on the Overseas Association, including Greenland) (OJ L 355, 7.10.2021, p. 6, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2021/1764/oj).~~

~~of civil protection and military resources set out in the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid. These actions should also take into consideration other humanitarian emergency response funded by the Union, ensuring alignment with established guidelines and objectives. The Union Mechanism should replace the Union Civil Protection Mechanism established by Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council[31].~~

(50) ***The Union Civil Protection Mechanism under this Regulation should replace the Union Civil Protection Mechanism established by Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council.*** Decision 1313/2013/EU should therefore be repealed,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

TITLE I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

~~Chapter 1~~
~~Subject matter, scope and definitions~~

Article 1

Subject matter

1. This Regulation provides for the Union Civil Protection Mechanism***, which shall promote solidarity among Member States and aims to facilitate cooperation and coordination between Member States and*** ~~(the 'Union Mechanism') and lays down~~ the Union ***in the field of civil protection. The Union Civil Protection Mechanism shall complement and*** support ~~for health emergency~~***national civil protection actions in the areas of prevention,*** preparedness and response~~. It sets out objectives, budget for the period 2028-2034, the forms of~~ ***in order to protect people, the environment, animals, property, infrastructure and cultural heritage from the consequences of disasters, regardless of their origin. The***

~~[31] Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 924, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2013/1313/oj).~~

Union ~~funding and the rules for providing such funding~~***Civil Protection Mechanism shall not cover recovery after a disaster. In the case of the consequences of acts of terrorism, technological, chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear (CBRN), environmental disasters, marine pollution, threats that can lead to health emergencies, or armed conflict, the Union Civil Protection Mechanism shall cover only the preparedness and response actions in the field of civil protection***.

Title II of this Regulation lays down ***the rules on the functioning of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism regarding actions on prevention, preparedness and response to disasters, in the field of civil protection,*** in particular:

(a) disaster prevention and preparedness actions in the Member States,

(b) actions relating to the mobilisation and deployment of experts and European Union Civil Protection Teams ('EUCP Teams') to provide advice on prevention and preparedness, and to support coordination in the response, in Member States or third countries, following a request for assistance in accordance with Article 28,

(c) cooperation on training and exercises, and on the sharing of knowledge, expertise and lessons learnt under the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network,

(d) actions aimed at supporting the response to imminent or ongoing disasters, or to the immediate adverse consequences of a disaster, in Member States or third countries, following a request for assistance in accordance with Article 28, and

(e) rules on the functioning and the prerogatives of the Emergency Response Coordination Centre ('ERCC') within the Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

Measures carried out pursuant to Title II of this Regulation shall take into account the special needs of outermost regions of the Union with regard to disaster prevention, preparedness and response actions.

Response under Title II of this Regulation shall take into account the special needs of the overseas countries and territories of the Union.

The Commission and the Member States shall promote gender equality and foster diversity and inclusiveness.

~~(a) rules on the functioning of the Union Mechanism including specific measures on prevention, preparedness and response,~~

~~(b) rules on the functioning of the Emergency Response Coordination Centre ('ERCC') as the Union Mechanism's coordinating body,~~

~~(c) rules on the establishment of the Crisis Coordination Hub ('the Hub') as the overall structure facilitating situational awareness and operational cross-sectoral preparedness and coordination,~~

~~(d) support measures for health emergency preparedness and response.~~

1a. This Regulation also establishes Union support for the consequence management of cross-sectoral crises, in particular by facilitating preparedness, shared situational awareness and technical and operational support.

1b. This Regulation also establishes Union funding in the field of civil protection, in the management of the consequences of cross-sectoral crises that may impact on the Union or its citizens, and in health emergency prevention, preparedness and response [for the period 2028-2034] and lays down the objectives of that Union funding, its budget [for the period 2028-2034], the forms of Union support and the rules for providing such support.

1c. This Regulation is without prejudice to:

(a) the primary competence of the Member States in the field of civil protection and in the management of the consequences of a cross-sectoral crisis, including the development, sustainment and deployment of national resources,

(b) the primary competence of Member States in the area of health emergency preparedness and response and the application of other Union acts in that area. In particular, it applies alongside other Union acts laying down specific rules on preparedness, response or risk management relating to crises, including Regulations (EU) 2022/2371 and (EU) 2022/2372 which concern the area of health emergency preparedness and response. Specifically for this area, the respective tasks, mandates, and missions of the Health Security Committee (HSC) as referred to in articles 4, 10 and 21 of Regulation (EU) 2022/2371, of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) as referred to in

Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 851/2004 and of the Health Crisis Board as referred to in Article 5 of Council Regulation (EU) 2022/2372 remain unaffected by this Regulation.

(c) the sole responsibility of each Member State over its national security as provided for in Article 4(2) TEU, and the right of each Member State to determine what matters are relevant to its defence, including military capabilities and resources, which shall remain unaffected by this Regulation,

(d) the prerogatives of the Council of the European Union, in particular policy-making and coordinating functions, including via the EU Integrated Political Crisis Response (IPCR), whose arrangements are established in Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993 and which enable timely coordination and response at Union political level for crises originating inside or outside the Union,

(e) the prerogatives of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission, ('the High Representative') in the external dimension of crises, including missions and operations on the Common Security and Defence Policy conducted pursuant to Section 2 of Title V of the Treaty on European Union, as well as Head of the European Defence Agency in accordance with Council Decision (CFSP) 2015/1835 of 12 October 2015 defining the statute, seat and operational rules of the European Defence Agency,

(f) other Union crisis response or risk management mechanisms.

1d. The exchange of information under this Regulation shall not entail the supply of information the disclosure of which Member States would consider to be contrary to their essential security interests.

1e. The Commission shall protect classified information shared under this Regulation in accordance with the security rules set out in Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444. Where applicable, each Member State shall ensure a level of protection for EU classified information equivalent to the security rules set out in Council Decision 2013/488/EU.

~~*Article 2*~~

~~Scope~~

~~1.~~ ~~This Regulation shall aim to ensure the protection of people, environment and property, cultural heritage, against all kinds of natural and human-induced disasters, including serious cross-border threats to health.~~

~~2.~~ ~~This Regulation shall enable cross-sectoral coordination in situations where other Union crisis response or risk management mechanisms are applied. The provisions of the Regulation shall be without prejudice to the High Representative's competences in the external dimension of crises, including missions and operations conducted under the Common Security and Defence Policy.~~

~~3.~~ ~~This Regulation shall not affect obligations under existing legal acts of the Union or under existing international agreements nor the Commission competences on security of the Commission personnel, assets and information. It shall be applied without prejudice to and in complementarity with other legal acts of the Union laying down specific rules on response or risk management relating to crises, including health emergency preparedness and response.~~

~~4.~~ ~~Title II of this Regulation lays down the rules for:~~

~~(a)~~ ~~prevention and preparedness actions in the Member States,~~

~~(b)~~ ~~actions in third countries, relating to the mobilisation and dispatch of experts and European Union Civil Protection Teams ('EUCP Teams') that provide advice on prevention and preparedness measures, as well as cooperation on training, and sharing of knowledge and experience under the Knowledge Network, and~~

~~(c)~~ ~~actions to assist with the response to an imminent disaster or immediate adverse consequences of a disaster in the Member States or third countries, following a request for assistance in accordance with Article 28.~~

~~5.~~ ~~Title III of this Regulation lays down rules for Union support for health emergency preparedness and response, in particular for the implementation of Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 and of the Regulation (EU) 2022/2372.~~

~~6. The establishment of stockpiles referred to in Title III shall be made in accordance with Article 21, except for medical countermeasures that are not defined as rescEU.~~

~~7. Where applying the prevention, preparedness and response measures under this Regulation, the special needs of isolated, outermost and other regions or islands of the Union in terms of prevention, preparedness and response.~~

~~8. Response under this Regulation shall take into account the special needs of the overseas countries and territories in terms of response.~~

Article 3

Definitions

For the purpose of this Regulation, the following definitions apply:

(1) 'disaster' means ~~a~~***any*** situation, regardless of its origin, which has or may have a severe impact on people, public health, ***the*** environment, ~~critical~~***animals, property,*** infrastructure ~~or property, including~~***, and*** cultural heritage;

(2) '***cross-sectoral*** crisis' means ~~any ongoing or imminent~~***a*** disaster ***of exceptional scale*** which has ~~an~~***a serious*** impact ***on or the***~~or a~~ potential to ***seriously*** impact– multiple sectors simultaneously ~~without prejudice to the meaning of crisis in Article 2, point (22), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 applicable in procurement procedures~~***with a long-lasting or potentially long-lasting consequences on the Union***;

~~(3) 'sector' means a specific area of interlinked societal, governmental and economic activity, in particular health, environment, transport, energy, security, and other areas of activity vulnerable to disasters.~~

(4) 'assistance' means experts, modules, other response capacities or technical assistance and support teams, together with their equipment~~ and~~***,*** in-kind assistance, including relief materials or supplies, ~~as well as offers by Union institutions, agencies and bodies and~~***or*** other capabilities needed to mitigate the immediate consequences of a disaster ~~or a crisis~~***following a request for assistance in accordance with Article 28***;

(4a) 'response' means actions taken following a request for assistance under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism in accordance to Article 28 in the event of an imminent or

ongoing disaster, or in the response to threats that can lead to health emergencies, or in the response to a cross-sectoral crisis, with a view to addressing its immediate adverse consequences, including actions to save lives, protect property, the environment, animals, infrastructure and cultural heritage, and excluding law enforcement, intelligence, defence, or other measures involving the use of force;

(5) 'preparedness' means a state of readiness and capability of human and material ~~means~~***resources***, structures, systems, communities and organisations ~~enabling them to ensure~~***, to enable*** an effective ***and*** rapid response, ~~obtained as a result of action~~***resulting from actions*** taken in advance;

(6) 'prevention' means actions aimed at reducing risks or mitigating potential adverse consequences of ~~a disaster for people, public health, the environment and property~~***disasters***, including ~~cultural heritage~~***public awareness and education, knowledge management, risk assessment, and risk management planning. This is without prejudice to national competencies and does not include actions undertaken in other policy areas, such as intelligence, forensics, interdiction, detection or other activities intended to prevent, avoid or stop imminent acts of terrorism and other security threats***;

(7) 'Union disaster resilience goals' means ***non-binding*** objectives established by the Commission in ~~cooperation~~***consultation*** with Member States in the ~~area~~***field*** of civil protection to support prevention and preparedness actions ~~for the purpose of~~***and to further develop response capacities with a view to*** improving the capacity of the Union and ~~its~~ Member States to withstand ***and respond to*** the effects of ~~a disaster~~***disasters*** which ~~causes or is~~***cause or are*** capable of causing transboundary effects***, without prejudice to the primary competence of Member States in disaster risk management and national preparedness planning***;

(8) 'Common Emergency Communication and Information System' (CECIS) means a web-based platform developed and maintained by the Commission ***for the purpose of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism*** that facilitates ***a secure and*** real-time exchange of information between Member States and the ERCC~~.~~***;***

(9) 'early warning' means the timely and effective provision of information ~~that allows~~***including through detection and analysis of data to enable*** action to be taken to

avoid or reduce risks and the adverse impacts of a disaster, and to facilitate preparedness for an effective response;

(9a) 'public warning systems' means infrastructure, services and arrangements used for the timely broadcast of information to the public regarding imminent or ongoing disasters, including those which are causing, or capable of causing, transboundary effects, including recommendations for action;

(10) 'module' means ~~a self-sufficient and autonomous predefined task- and needs-driven arrangement of Member States' capabilities or a mobile operational team of the Member States, representing~~ a combination of human and material ~~means that can be described in terms of its capacity for intervention or by the task(s) it is able to undertake~~***resources, which is self-sufficient and autonomous***, and for which ~~minimal~~***minimum*** technical requirements ~~were~~***have been*** defined ***when committed to the European Civil Protection Pool referred to in Article 20***;

(11) 'technical assistance and support team' ('TAST') means the human and material resources ~~assigned by one or more Member States~~***needed*** to fulfil logistical and ***other tasks in*** support ~~tasks~~***of the European Union Civil Protection Teams, referred to in Article 33, following a request for assistance in accordance with Article 28***;

~~(12) 'intervention team' means a specialised group composed of trained personnel and equipped with resources to respond swiftly and effectively to the consequences of disasters, not pre-committed to the European Civil Protection Pool or established as part of rescEU;~~

(12a) 'other response capacity' means a combination of human and material resources, representing either a self-sufficient, autonomous, deployable and predefined task-driven and needs-driven arrangement of Member States' capabilities or a mobile operational team, which can be characterised in terms of its capacity for intervention or of one or several tasks it is able to undertake, for which no minimum technical requirements are defined to be included in the European Civil Protection Pool referred to in Article 20, 'other response capacities' may also include relief items;

(13) 'European Union Civil Protection Team' ('EUCP Team') means a team composed of experts and, where necessary, a TAST, that is selected and deployed by the ERCC***, following a request for assistance in accordance with Article 28,*** under terms of reference

~~related to a~~***, based on that*** request***, regarding either*** ~~for~~ prevention or preparedness expertise***,*** or an emergency response ~~in the context of an ongoing request for assistance~~;

~~(14) 'dual-use' means assets and capacities to be deployed in civil and military context;~~

(14a) 'civil-military coordination' means the structured dialogue and interaction between civilian and military actors aimed at fostering a mutual understanding of their respective mandates, roles, and responsibilities within the framework of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, focusing on the provision of complementary support and capabilities that military actors may make available to assist civil protection authorities in preparedness for and in the consequence management of disasters, in pursuit of the general objectives of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism referred to in Article 12a;

~~(15) 'risk assessment' means the overall cross-sectoral process of risk identification, risk analysis, and risk evaluation undertaken at national or appropriate sub-national level;~~

~~(16) 'risk management capability' means the ability of a Member State or its regions to reduce, adapt to or mitigate risks (impacts and likelihood of a disaster), identified in its risk assessments to levels that are acceptable in that Member State. Risk management capability is assessed in terms of the technical, financial and administrative capacity to carry out adequate risk assessments, risk management planning for prevention and preparedness, and risk prevention and preparedness measures;~~

(17) 'Host Nation Support' means any ~~action undertaken in the~~ preparedness and response ~~phases by the country receiving or sending assistance, or by the Commission,~~***actions*** to remove ***all*** foreseeable obstacles ~~to~~***in receiving, sending or facilitating the transiting of*** international assistance offered through the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism~~. It includes support from Member States to facilitate the transiting of this~~ ***following a request for*** assistance ~~through their territory~~***in accordance with Article 28***;

(17a) 'logistical hub' means a facility established under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism to enable the pooling of assistance from several Member States or rescEU and its subsequent deployment, in line with operational needs;

(18) 'logistical support' means the ***provision of*** essential equipment or services required for response capacities to perform their tasks ***following a request for assistance in accordance with Article 28***, including the establishment of logistical hubs ***where pooling is required***;

(19) ‘medical evacuation’ means a series of coordinated actions ~~allowing for~~***following a request for assistance in accordance with Article 28, enabling the*** organised transport of ~~individuals~~***patients*** in need of medical care ~~from disaster-affected areas to~~***, and, where*** appropriate***, their companions, to suitable*** medical facilities~~,~~ either in a Member State ~~and in case of Union citizens also in~~***or*** third countries ***and their subsequent return, on a voluntary and on a case by case basis, after treatment***;

(20) ‘medical evacuation hub’ means a ~~transit~~***temporary*** facility ***for medical evacuation*** established under the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism ~~that temporarily receives~~***following a request for assistance in accordance with Article 28 and in compliance with the law of the host country, which may provide medical triage, patient stabilisation or, where necessary, continuous 24/7 care or act as a transfer centre for*** evacuated patients and***, where appropriate,*** their ~~accompanying persons~~***companions***, ~~provides medical triage, patients’ stabilisation and continuous (24/7) care, and if necessary organises their transport~~ under the coordination of the ERCC, ***for transfer*** to healthcare facilities in a Member State~~; the medical evacuation hub comprises~~ ***or a third country, and which may comprise of*** the physical site, ~~its~~ medical and logistical personnel, ~~the~~ equipment ~~and~~***,*** support services ***and administrative staff*** necessary to ensure the safe ~~hand-over~~***transfer and handover*** of patients from the requesting State to the ~~country offering~~***State providing*** medical treatment ***and, on a voluntary and on a case by case basis, their subsequent return after treatment, where appropriate with their companions***;

(21) ‘operational costs’ means all ~~the~~ costs ***associated with the deployment, operational actions and demobilisation of a response*** ~~of running a~~ capacity ***under the ECPP referred to in Article 20, rescEU referred to in Article 21,*** or ~~deploying~~ an expert or EUCP Team ***referred to in Article 33,*** during ~~an operation. Such costs may include costs related to personnel~~***their deployment, including, where applicable***, international and local transport, logistics, security, consumables ~~and~~***,*** supplies, maintenance, ***safety and welfare measures,*** as well as ***any*** other costs necessary ~~to ensure~~***for*** the effective ~~use of such capacities~~***conduct of the operation, whether incurred during the deployment or before the deadline for submission of the final mission report by the EUCP Team***;

~~(22) ‘transport costs’ means costs related to the movement of transport and logistical resources to the place indicated by the requesting Member State, third country or organisation, including the costs of all services, fees, logistical, handling costs and other transport needs~~

~~related to a response, fuel and possible accommodation costs as well as other indirect costs such as taxes, duties in general and transit costs;~~

(23) '***third country*** associated ~~country~~***to the Union funding under this Regulation***' means a third country that ~~has signed~~***is a party to*** an agreement with the Union ***that associates this third country to the Union funding***~~to participate in actions~~ under ***Title IIIa of*** this Regulation ~~under the same conditions as Member States. Reference to Member States shall be construed as including associated States, unless otherwise specified~~***in accordance with Article 34f***;

~~(24) 'medical countermeasures' means medical countermeasures within the meaning of Article 3, point (10), of Regulation (EU) 2022/2371;~~

(25) '~~serious cross-border~~ threats ***that can lead*** to health ***emergencies***' means ~~threats referred to in Article 3(1) of Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 as well as radiological and nuclear threats.~~***:***

(a) a serious cross-border threat to health as defined in Article 3, point (1), of Regulation (EU) 2022/2371, including threats of biological, chemical, environmental or unknown origin as referred to in Article 2, point (1), of that Regulation, whether or not such a threat gives rise to a public health emergency at Union level formally recognised by the Commission in accordance with Article 23 of that Regulation, or;

(b) a threat to health of chemical or biological origin not falling within the scope of point (a);

(c) a threat to health of radiological or nuclear origin;

(~~24~~***25a***) 'medical ~~countermeasures~~***countermeasure***' means ~~medical countermeasures within the meaning of Article 3, point (10), of Regulation (EU) 2022/2371;~~***:***

(a) a medicinal product for human use as defined in Directive 2001/83/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council,

(b) a medical device as defined in Article 2, point (1), of Regulation (EU) 2017/745 of the European Parliament and of the Council, read in conjunction with Article 1(2) and Article 1(6), point (a), of that Regulation,

(c) an in vitro diagnostic medical device as defined in Article 2, point (2), of Regulation (EU) 2017/746 of the European Parliament and of the Council, and

(d) any other goods or services that are necessary for the purpose of preparedness for and response to threats that can lead to health emergencies;

~~Chapter 2~~

~~Objectives and financial provisions~~

~~*Article 4*~~

~~**Objectives**~~

~~1. The general objective of this Regulation shall be to strengthen cooperation between the Union and the Member States to prevent, prepare for and respond to all kinds of natural and human-induced disasters with a view to consequence management, and serious cross-border threats to health, that may occur inside or outside the Union, as well as situations where they impact several sectors simultaneously.~~

~~2. The general objective referred to in paragraph 1 shall be pursued through the following specific objectives:~~

~~(a) strengthen the understanding and anticipation of disaster risks and threats, including those linked to climate change and public health, and work proactively to prevent or mitigate their potential impacts; foster prevention and preparedness; and enhance collaboration between civil protection, health and other relevant authorities;~~

~~(b) facilitate, notably through the Knowledge Network, capacity building at Union and Member State level, in particular by fostering and increasing the uptake and use of research and innovation results in disaster and crisis, by providing and conducting capacity building programmes such as training and exercises, peer reviews, deployment of experts and EUCP Teams that provide advice on prevention and preparedness measures, as well as other expertise, as well as technical and financial assistance to support strategies, plans and investments, foster prevention, preparedness and resilience;~~

~~(c) enhance preparedness at Member State and Union level, including all levels of society, to respond to disasters, in particular (i) with the support of the ERCC and the Hub, and their communication and information structures for coordination and situational awareness among authorities of the Member States and existing EU crisis management structures, (ii) by supporting the development and maintenance of effective early warning systems to detect and communicate imminent threats of disasters, allowing for timely action to be taken to prevent or mitigate impacts, (iii) by developing and maintaining response capacities, strengthening their interoperability and considering their potential dual use in case of crisis, (iv) by promoting the integration of disaster risk prevention and preparedness considerations into policies and financial frameworks at national and Union level, with the aim of strengthening long-term resilience, (v) by facilitating preparedness and resilience among all actors and stakeholders, including all levels of government, civil and military authorities, civil society, the private sector, and the provision of vital societal functions with a view to strengthening overall population preparedness and societal resilience;~~

~~(d) facilitate rapid and efficient response inside the Union, including in the countries referred to in Article 9(1), as well as outside of the Union, following a request for assistance in accordance with Article 28;~~

~~(e) to support Member States' and Union preparedness and response to cross-sectoral crises, in particular by upscaling assistance to address their intensity and impact, as well as by supporting response to crises initiated under other Union crisis response or risk management instruments where required, including through the Hub, and by supporting the cooperation and coordination between relevant civil and military actors, in particular by supporting the establishment of comprehensive civil-military preparedness arrangements;~~

~~(f) to enhance Member States' and Union efforts in health emergency preparedness and response by:~~

~~(i) strengthening the capability for prevention, preparedness and rapid response to serious cross-border threats to health, in particular by supporting health~~

~~security policies and solutions, improving data collection, early warning and surveillance systems, and~~

~~(ii) improving the supply of medical countermeasures by enhancing their availability and accessibility of medical countermeasures, in particular through reservation capacities, procurement, stockpiling and deployment, as well as~~

~~(iii) coordination actions and strengthening capacity building.~~

~~*Article 5*~~

~~EU civil-military preparedness and cooperation~~

~~The Commission shall work jointly with the High Representative to:~~

~~(a) contribute to the development of measures to enhance civil-military preparedness and coordination of response within the Union, in consultation with the Member States;~~

~~(b) develop arrangements to clarify roles and responsibilities and lay down priorities for preparing and responding to disasters and crises within the Union as well as Union-wide scenarios to form the basis of Union-level training and exercises, best practices, including standard operating procedures, and mechanisms for effective cooperation and communication in crisis scenarios.~~

~~*Article 6*~~

~~Budget~~

~~1. The indicative financial envelope for the implementation of the Regulation for the period 2028-2034 is set at EUR 10 675 000 000 in current prices.~~

~~2. Budgetary commitments for activities extending over more than one financial year may be broken down over several years into annual instalments.~~

~~3. Appropriations may be entered in the Union budget beyond 2034 to cover the expenses necessary and to enable the management of actions not completed by 2034.~~

~~4. The financial envelope referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article and the amounts of additional resources referred to in Article 7 may also be used for technical and~~

~~administrative assistance for the implementation of the Regulation, such as preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities, corporate information technology systems and platforms, information and communication activities, including corporate communication on the political priorities of the Union, and all other technical and administrative assistance or staff related expenses incurred by the Commission for the management under this Regulation.~~

~~5.~~ ~~In addition to Article 12(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, commitment and payment appropriations that have not been used by the end of the financial year for which they were entered in the annual budget shall be automatically carried over and may be respectively committed and paid up to 31 December of the following year. The carried-over appropriations shall be used solely for response actions. The carried-over appropriations shall be the first appropriations to be used in the following financial year.~~

~~*Article 7*~~

~~Additional resources~~

~~1.~~ ~~Member States, Union institutions, bodies and agencies, third countries, international organisations, international financial institutions, or other third parties, may make additional financial or non-financial contributions under this Regulation. Additional financial contributions shall constitute external assigned revenue within the meaning of Article 21(2), points (a), (d), or (e) or Article 21(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.~~

~~2.~~ ~~Resources allocated to Member States under shared management may, at their request, be made available under this Regulation. The Commission shall implement those resources directly or indirectly in accordance with Article 62(1), points (a) or (c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509. They shall be additional to the amount referred to in Article 6(1) of this Regulation. Those resources shall be used for the benefit of the Member State concerned. Where the Commission has not entered into a legal commitment under direct or indirect management for additional amounts thus made available under this Regulation, the corresponding uncommitted amounts may, at the request of the Member State concerned, be transferred back to one or more respective source programmes or their successors.~~

Article 8

Alternative, combined and cumulative funding

1. This Regulation shall be implemented in synergy with Union programmes. An action that has received a Union contribution from another programme may also receive a contribution under this Regulation. The rules of the relevant Union programme shall apply to the corresponding contribution, or a single set of rules may be applied to all contributions and a single legal commitment may be concluded. If all Union contributions are provided based on eligible cost, the cumulative support from the Union budget shall not exceed the total eligible costs of the action and may be calculated on a pro-rata basis in accordance with the documents setting out the conditions for support.

2. Award procedures under this Regulation may be jointly conducted under direct or indirect management with Member States, Union institutions, bodies and agencies, third countries, international organisations, international financial institutions, or other third parties ('partners to the joint award procedure'), provided the protection of the financial interests of the Union is ensured. Such procedures shall be subject to a single set of rules and lead to the conclusion of single legal commitments. For that purpose, the partners to the joint award procedure may make resources available to the Union Programme in accordance with Article 7 of this Regulation, or the partners may be entrusted with the implementation of the award procedure, where applicable in accordance with Article 62(1), point (c), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509. In joint award procedures representatives of the partners to the joint award procedure may also be members of the evaluation committee referred to in Article 153(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.

Article 9

Associated third countries

1. The association under this Regulation may be opened to the following third countries through full of partial association, in accordance with the objectives laid down in Article 4 and in accordance with the relevant international agreements or any decisions adopted under the framework of those agreements and applicable to:

   (a) members of the European Free Trade Association which are members of the European Economic Area, as well as European micro-states;

~~(b) acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates;~~

~~(c) European Neighbourhood Policy countries;~~

~~(d) other third countries.~~

~~2. The association agreements for participation under this Regulation shall:~~

~~(a) ensure a fair balance as regards the contributions and benefits of the third country associated under this Regulation;~~

~~(b) lay down the conditions of participation under this Regulation, including the calculation of financial contributions, consisting of an operational contribution and a participation fee and its general administrative costs;~~

~~(c) not confer any decision-making power under this Regulation;~~

~~(d) guarantee the rights of the Union to ensure sound financial management and to protect its financial interests;~~

~~(e) where relevant, ensure the protection of security and public order interests of the Union.~~

~~For the purposes of point (d), the third country shall grant the necessary rights and access required under Regulations (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 and (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013, and guarantee that enforcement decisions imposing a pecuniary obligation on the basis of Article 299 of the Treaty, as well as judgements and orders of the Court of Justice of the European Union, are enforceable.~~

~~*Article 10*~~

~~**Implementation and forms of Union funding**~~

~~1. This Regulation shall be implemented in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, under direct management or under indirect management with entities referred to in Article 62(1), point (c), of that Regulation.~~

~~2. Union funding may be provided in any form in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, in particular grants, prizes, procurement and non-financial donations.~~

3. Direct grants may be awarded by the Commission to Member States without a call for proposals for actions under the specific objectives referred to in Article 4(2) in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.

4. Grants under the specific objective referred to in Article 4(2) may be used in combination with financing from the European Investment Bank, banks in the Union or associated countries or from other development or public financial institutions, as well as in combination with financing from private sector finance institutions and from public-sector or private-sector investors, including through public-public or public-private partnerships.

5. Where Union funding is provided in the form of a grant, funding shall be provided as financing not linked to costs or, where necessary, simplified cost options, in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509. Funding may be provided in the form of actual eligible cost reimbursement only where the objectives of an action cannot be achieved otherwise.

6. For the purposes of Article 153(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, the evaluation committee may be composed partially or fully of independent external experts.

Article 11

Eligibility

1. Eligibility criteria shall be set to support achievement of the objectives laid down in Article 4(2), in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 and shall apply to all award procedures under this Regulation.

2. In award procedures for direct and indirect management, one or more of the following legal entities may be eligible to receive Union funding:

(a) entities established in a Member State;

(b) entities established in an associated third country;

(c) international organisations;

~~(d) other entities established in non-associated third countries where the funding of such entities is essential for implementing the action and contributes to the objectives laid down in Article 4(2).~~

~~3. In addition to Article 168(2) and (3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, associated third countries referred to in Article 9(1) of this Regulation may, where relevant, participate in and benefit from any procurement mechanisms set out in Article 168(2) and (3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509. Non-associated third countries may participate in the procurement procedures set out in Article 168(2) and (3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 if it is necessary to achieve the objectives referred to in Article 4, and subject to the agreement of all participating countries.~~

~~4. Award procedures affecting security or public order, in particular concerning strategic assets and interests of the Union or its Member States, shall be restricted in accordance with Article 136 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.~~

~~5. In award procedures for grants, actions shall not be eligible for funding where those actions or parts thereof, are already fully financed from other public or private sources, except contributions from the Union in the context of synergy actions referred to in Article 8.~~

~~6. The work programme referred to in Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 or the documents related to the award procedure may further specify the eligibility criteria set out in this Regulation or set additional eligibility criteria for specific actions.~~

~~*Article 12*~~

~~**Work programme**~~

~~The Regulation shall be implemented by work programmes referred to in Article 110 Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.~~

TITLE II

UNION CIVIL PROTECTION *MECHANISM*

Article 12a

General Objectives of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism

1. In order to improve the effectiveness of systems for the prevention, preparedness and response to disasters regardless of their origin, the Union Civil Protection Mechanism shall promote solidarity among Member States through cooperation and coordination in the field of civil protection, without prejudice to the primary competence of the Member States to provide their civil protection authorities with sufficient capabilities to enable them to prevent, prepare and respond efficiently and effectively to disasters of a nature and magnitude that can reasonably be expected.

2. The protection to be ensured by the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, shall cover primarily people, public health, the environment, animals, property, infrastructure, and cultural heritage from the consequences of disasters, regardless of their origin. In the case of the consequences of acts of terrorism, chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear disasters (CBRN), environmental disasters, marine pollution, threats that can lead to health emergencies and armed conflict, the Union Civil Protection Mechanism shall cover only preparedness and response actions in the field of civil protection.

3. Association of a third country to the Union funding under this Regulation in accordance with Article 34f(4), (5) and (6), where applicable, shall entail participation in the activities of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism in accordance with the objectives, requirements, criteria, procedures and deadlines provided for in this Title. This participation shall be in accordance with the specific conditions laid down in the agreement between the Union and the third country associated to the Union funding under this Regulation pursuant to Article 34f. For the purposes of those activities, such a third country shall be referred to as a 'Participating State'.

4. When reference is made to Member States under Chapters 1 to 4 of this Title, Participating States shall be included in the considered activities, except where otherwise provided.

Article 12b

Competent authorities for the Union Civil Protection Mechanism

To ensure the effective functioning of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism under this Regulation, Member States shall appoint the competent authorities and inform the Commission accordingly.

Chapter 1
Risk Assessment and Risk Management Planning

Article 13

Union disaster resilience goals

The Commission, in ***close*** cooperation with Member States, shall further develop ***non-binding*** Union disaster resilience goals in the field of civil protection, and adopt recommendations to define them as a ***non-binding*** common baseline to ~~support prevention and preparedness actions. Those~~***anticipate and withstand the effects of future disasters, which cause or are capable of causing transboundary effects. These*** goals shall be based on current and forward-looking scenarios, including on space data ***and information*** from Copernicus, and those concerned with the impacts of climate change on disaster risks, data on past events and cross-sectoral impact analysis ***and follow a risk-driven and all-hazards approach***, with particular attention given to vulnerable groups. When developing Union disaster resilience goals, the Commission shall take into account recurrent disasters that ~~hit~~***affect*** Member States***, and may*** ~~and~~ suggest ***specific measures*** that Member States ***may take on a voluntary basis*** ~~take specific measures,~~ including any measures ~~to~~***that may*** be implemented with the use of ***available*** Union ~~funds~~***funding***, to strengthen resilience to such disasters. ***The implementation of Union disaster resilience goals shall be voluntary and Member States who implement them may make information available to the Commission in that regard.***

Article 14

National risk assessment and risk management planning

In order to promote an effective and coherent approach to ***the*** prevention ***of*** and preparedness ***for disasters*** within the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism, Member States shall:

(a) further develop disaster risk assessments at national or appropriate sub-national level ~~and ensure coordination and consistency with other relevant risk assessment processes as well as public availability of their non-sensitive results to support population risk awareness and preparedness~~***, using an all-hazards approach. The methodology, including scope and indicators, of such assessments shall remain the responsibility of Member States, who retain full discretion regarding the sharing of vulnerabilities identified in those assessments***;

(aa) promote coordination and consistency with other national and sub-national risk assessment processes and may make available to the public non-sensitive results to support population risk awareness and preparedness in accordance with national law and practices;

(b) further develop the assessment of disaster risk management capability at national or appropriate sub-national level;

(c) further develop ~~and refine~~ disaster risk management planning at national or appropriate ~~subnational~~***sub-national*** level, including ~~as regards~~***with regard to*** cross-border collaboration and risks with the potential for transboundary effects, ~~taking into account the Union disaster resilience goals and ensure~~***promoting*** coordination and consistency with other relevant planning processes~~.~~***, and considering, where appropriate, the non-binding Union disaster resilience goals referred to in Article 13;***

(d) in line with international commitments~~,~~ improve the collection and dissemination of disaster loss ***and damage*** data at national or appropriate sub-national level, including by ~~better~~ utilising space data***, while promoting interoperability with existing national and Union databases and avoiding duplication of existing information collection processes***.

Article 15

Sharing of national risk management information

~~To foster the development of a shared understanding of disaster risks and threats at Union level, identify common needs in disaster risk management capability building, support the implementation of the Union disaster resilience goals, and facilitate the exchange of good practices, the~~ Member States, without prejudice to national rules and procedures, shall make available to the Commission a summary in accordance with the guidelines referred to in Article 16(2), by ~~31 December 2028~~***[OJ:***

1 year from the entry into force of this Regulation] and at least once every ~~5~~***4*** years thereafter***, or whenever, according to the Member State concerned, a significant change in the risk landscape requires the updating of the relevant elements of the assessments in addition to the 4 year cycle obligations. The relevant elements that shall be summarised and made available to the Commission are the following***:

(a) risk assessments at national or appropriate sub-national level, including assessment of risks or disasters with the potential for transboundary effects;

(b) assessment of disaster risk management capabilities ~~and response capacities~~ at national or appropriate sub-national level;

(c) ***where relevant, on a voluntary basis, information regarding*** activities supporting the implementation of the Union disaster resilience goals;

(d) ***where relevant, on a voluntary basis, associated gaps and*** investment needs***, identified in national civil protection capabilities regarding*** ~~in~~ disaster risk management ***prevention and preparedness actions, that may***~~that require, or could~~ benefit ***in funding*** from~~, support under the relevant~~ Union Instruments~~.~~ ***used to support any application for relevant funding through the appropriate Union instruments;***

(da) on a voluntary basis and where available, losses and damages resulting from disaster events, while taking into account other international and EU framework obligations.

Article 16

Union level action on risk assessment and risk management planning

1. To enhance the understanding of disaster risks facing the Union***, support evidence-based decision-making at Union level*** and inform coordinated preparedness, and based on the summaries referred to in Article ~~16~~***15*** and considering any other available cross-sectoral data, including space data, on ***the*** identification of ***disaster*** risks, including at Union level, ~~as well as the work of the Knowledge Network,~~ the Commission***, in close cooperation with Member States,*** shall:

   (a) produce***, by [OJ: 2 years from the entry into force of this Regulation] and*** at least once every ~~5~~***4*** years ***thereafter,*** a report providing ~~a cross-sectoral~~***an all-hazards*** overview ~~of natural and human-induced~~***and analysis of*** disaster risks***, regardless of***

their origin, that the Union faces, and the progress made in the implementation of ***actions by Member States referred to in*** Article 14 and the ***non-binding*** Union disaster resilience goals referred to in Article 13;

(b) ***on the basis of the report referred to in point (a), and in close cooperation with Member States,*** establish and ~~regularly~~ review ***at least every 4 years*** disaster scenarios at Union level for prevention, preparedness and response;

(c) produce***, by [OJ: 2 years from the entry into force of this Regulation] and*** at least once every ~~5~~***4*** years ***thereafter***, a report on ***disaster risk management capabilities and*** response capacities ~~and relevant capabilities~~ at Union level, ***including ECPP and rescEU capacities, and any***~~and~~ remaining gaps in relation to ~~response capacities at national or appropriate sub-national level as referred to in Article 15, point (b), while taking into account~~***the*** relevant capacity goals***, and the scenarios referred to in point (b)*** ~~and performance targets~~. The report shall ~~also~~ provide an overview of the budgetary and cost developments relating to response capacities ~~and an assessment of the need for further development of those capacities.~~***;***

(ca) report periodically to the Council on the progress made in the implementation of points (a) and (c) above, and share the reports referred to in points (a) to (c) with the Member States.

2. The Commission shall develop***, review*** and update, ~~together~~***in close cooperation*** with the Member States ***by [OJ 3 months after entry into force]***, ***a set of non-binding*** guidelines***, including questionnaires and indicators, where appropriate, for the preparation*** ~~on the submission~~ of the summary referred to in Article 15***, which shall include provision for the protection of sensitive data by Member States***.

3. ***Where a Member State frequently requests assistance through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism for similar types of disasters,*** the Commission ~~may request~~***in agreement with*** that Member ~~States provide additional information on specific prevention and preparedness measures related to risks leading to regularly occurring or particularly impactful disasters, and if appropriate~~***State may***:

(a) propose the deployment of experts ***or a EUCP Team referred to in Article 33*** to provide advice on prevention and preparedness measures ***in an advisory capacity***; or

(b) make ***non-binding*** recommendations to strengthen the level of prevention and preparedness in the Member State concerned***, including through opportunities to make use of available Union funding***. The Commission and that Member State shall keep each other informed about any measures taken following such recommendations.

Chapter 2
Capacity building and preparedness

~~*Article 17*~~

~~**Capacity building tools**~~

~~The Commission shall support Member States to enhance their capacity in dealing with risks by providing access to tools such as training and exercises programmes, technical and financial assistance, peer reviews, deployment of experts and EUCP Teams that provide advice on prevention and preparedness measures and other provision of expertise, learning and knowledge sharing, and support to uptake of research and innovation results in disaster risk management.~~

Article 18

Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network

1. The ***Union Civil Protection*** Knowledge Network shall ***serve as the knowledge capacity of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and support collaboration and initiatives with relevant civil protection and disaster risk management actors at both the national and Union levels to*** aggregate, process***,*** and disseminate knowledge and information relevant to the Union ~~Mechanism and to support collaborative initiatives of~~ Civil Protection ~~and disaster risk management actors within the Union, including civil society organisations, local and regional authorities, private sector and the research community and based on a multi-hazard approach~~***Mechanism***.

1a. The information shared within the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network shall be provided on a voluntary basis and shall only be used for the purpose referred to in paragraph 1. The entity sharing the information shall indicate if it cannot be made public.

2. The Commission shall, through the ***Union Civil Protection*** Knowledge Network, take due account of the ***knowledge and*** expertise available in the Member States, ~~including across all levels of government,~~ at Union level~~,~~ at the level of international organisations and ~~entities, at the level of~~***, when appropriate, in*** third countries and ~~at the level of~~***other relevant*** organisations ~~active on the ground~~.

~~3. The Commission and the Member States shall promote gender-balanced and inclusive participation in the establishment and the functioning of the Knowledge Network.~~

~~4. The Commission shall, through the Knowledge Network, support coherence of planning and decision-making processes by facilitating the continuous exchange of knowledge and information involving all areas of activity under the Union Mechanism.~~

~~5. The Commission shall, through the Knowledge Network, support Member States in raising disaster risk awareness of the population.~~

~~10~~***5a***. The~~–~~ ***Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network shall be governed by a Board composed of representatives from each Member State and the Commission. The Board shall advise the Commission on the functioning of the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network ensuring that its overall purpose and main objectives are fulfilled in accordance with this Article. The Commission shall, by means of an implementing act, specify the*** organisation of the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network ~~shall be laid down in an~~***. That*** implementing act ***shall be*** adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

6. The Commission, through the ***Union Civil Protection Knowledge*** Network, shall ~~in particular~~:

(a) ***support Member States to*** strengthen ~~the~~***their*** collective capacity to prevent, prepare ***for*** and respond effectively to ***the consequences of*** disasters ~~and to support~~***, to exchange*** knowledge ~~sharing and learning, as well as~~***, and*** to promote investment in disaster risk management ***initiatives***. This includes:

(i) ***support the implementation of technical and*** ~~the set-up and management of~~ financial assistance programmes in order to enhance ***disaster*** risk management and knowledge sharing***, including peer reviews,*** and to encourage the development of investments and plans for prevention and preparedness; ***and***

(ii) ~~the set-up and management of a~~***manage and review the*** training and exercise ~~programme, and an~~***programmes, and the*** exchange of experts programme for civil protection and disaster ~~and crisis~~***risk*** management personnel covering ~~the~~ prevention, preparedness and response. The programmes shall focus on and encourage the exchange of best practices ***and lessons learnt*** in the field of civil protection~~,~~ ***and*** disaster ~~and crisis~~***risk*** management, and include***, where relevant, advisory missions,*** joint courses ***with the United Nations and other relevant entities***. The exchange of ~~expertise~~***experts*** in the ~~area of~~***field of civil protection and*** disaster ~~and crisis~~***risk*** management ~~shall~~***may*** include exchanges of professionals and experienced volunteers. The training and ~~exercises and the~~***exercise, and*** exchange of experts programmes shall aim to strengthen ***knowledge sharing and increase*** cooperation and coordination ~~between~~***among*** Member States***,*** and the Commission***,*** in the field of civil protection~~,~~ ***and*** disaster ~~and crisis~~***risk*** management ~~and~~***,*** to enhance the coordination, compatibility and complementarity of capacities referred to in Articles 20 and 21, and to improve the competence of experts as referred to in Article 33~~;~~**.**

~~(iii) the set-up and management of programmes for the provision and exchange of expertise.~~

~~8.~~***(aa)*** ~~The Commission shall~~ strengthen cooperation on ***training,*** capacity building, uptake ~~of~~***on*** research and innovation ~~results, and shall~~ promote the sharing of knowledge and experience~~,~~ between the ~~Network~~***Union Civil Protection Mechanism*** and international organisations and third countries ***in the field of civil protection and disaster risk management***, in particular ~~in order to contribute to meeting international commitments, particularly those in~~ the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030***, and if relevant, successor United Nations instruments***.

(b) ***promote and*** strengthen the ***sharing and*** dissemination ~~and uptake~~ of ***Union funded*** research and innovation ~~results in all phases of~~ ***solutions, including through innovation procurement and public-private partnerships, by universities, and centres of excellence within Member States in the field of*** civil protection and disaster risk management, ~~and stimulating interaction between research and innovation results, the private sector, and Member~~***to assist in the identification and application where deemed appropriate of*** state ~~authorities~~***of the art technologies***.

(c) collect and ~~manage the~~***analyse,*** lessons learnt from ***all*** civil protection ***and disaster risk management*** actions ~~conducted within the framework of~~***, such as training, exercises, and response activities inside and outside*** the Union ~~Mechanism~~, including ~~aspects from the entire disaster management cycle, to provide a broad basis for learning processes and knowledge development~~***exploring synergies with humanitarian response mechanisms***. This shall include:

~~(i)~~***(ca) support Member States and collaborate with other relevant organisations in*** monitoring, analysing and evaluating***,*** all the relevant civil protection ***and disaster risk management*** actions ~~within~~***under*** the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism~~;~~***.***

(cb) develop methods and tools for gathering, analysing, promoting and implementing the lessons learnt referred to in point (c) of this paragraph. This shall include promoting the implementation of lessons learnt in order to obtain an experience-based foundation for the development and improvement of prevention, preparedness and response activities.

~~(ii) promoting implementation of lessons learnt in order to obtain an experience-based foundation for the development of activities within the disaster management cycle; and~~

~~(iii) developing methods and tools for gathering, analysing, promoting and implementing lessons learnt.~~

~~This action shall include, where appropriate, lessons learnt from interventions outside the Union with regard to exploiting links and synergies between assistance provided under the Union Mechanism and humanitarian response;~~

(d) ***promote, develop and*** maintain an online platform serving the ***Union Civil Protection*** Knowledge Network to support and facilitate the implementation of the different tasks referred to in points (a), ***(aa), (b), (c), (ca) and (cb)*** ~~(b) and (c)~~.

(da) support coherence of planning and decision-making processes by facilitating the continuous exchange of knowledge and information pertaining to the activities of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, without prejudice to the competences of the Member States.

(db) support Member States in their efforts to raise and promote awareness of disaster risk reduction and disaster risk management, preparedness and active involvement of the population, including by facilitating the exchange of Member States' best practices, while respecting the primary competence of the Member States and the policies implemented by them in these areas.

(dc) submit annual written reports to the Member States on the work of the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network.

6a. The Commission may, through the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network, support Member States in their efforts to enhance population awareness, including awareness of actions to be taken during public warning activations across the Union, especially those with transboundary effects.

~~7. When carrying out the tasks set out in paragraph 1, the Commission shall take particular account of the needs and interests of Member States facing disaster risks of a similar nature, as well as of the need to strengthen the protection of biodiversity and cultural heritage.~~

~~8. The Commission shall strengthen cooperation on capacity building, uptake of research and innovation results, and shall promote the sharing of knowledge and experience, between the Network and international organisations and third countries, in particular in order to contribute to meeting international commitments, particularly those in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.~~

~~9. The Network shall also promote the operational uptake of Union-funded innovative solutions, and support Member States in identifying and applying state-of-the-art technologies and approaches, including through innovation procurement and public-private partnerships.~~

~~10. The organisation of the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network shall be laid down in an implementing act adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).~~

Article 19

General preparedness actions

1. Member States shall, on a voluntary basis, develop ***and maintain*** response capacities ***to meet identified capacity gaps and support needs under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, including*** in accordance with Articles 20 and 21***, and with due consideration to their national circumstances and capabilities***.

1a. Modules and other response capacities under the European Civil Protection Pool shall be made up of the capacities and personnel of one or more Member States and shall:

(a) be able to perform pre-defined tasks in the areas of response in accordance with established international guidelines and therefore be able to:

(i) be dispatched at very short notice following the acceptance of an offer of assistance through the ERCC; and

(ii) work self-sufficiently and autonomously for a given period of time;

(b) be interoperable with other modules and response capacities of a similar function;

(c) undertake training and exercises in order to meet the interoperability and quality requirements;

(d) be operated under the direction of a person designated by the sending Member State, who is responsible for the module or other response capacity deployed; and

(e) coordinate with other Union bodies, offices and agencies, and/or international institutions, in particular the United Nations, where deemed appropriate.

~~2. The Commission shall support Member States in raising disaster risk awareness of the population.~~

3. At the request of a Member State, the Commission may support and coordinate ~~stand-by allocation~~***programmed pre-positioning*** of response capacities ~~and intervention teams~~***on a voluntary basis***, including for training, exercises, exchange of knowledge and improving interoperability of capacities and ~~intervention~~***response*** teams.

4. Member States may, ~~subject to appropriate security safeguards~~***on a voluntary basis and in accordance with national law***, provide information ***through the Common Emergency Communication and Information System (CECIS)*** about relevant military response capacities ~~that~~***which*** could be ~~used as part of the~~***considered as*** assistance ***available*** through the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism~~, such~~ as ***a last resort, for example,*** transport***, engineering*** and logistical or medical support. ***In the event of deployment, Member States' military response capacities shall remain under their command and control and may be withdrawn, when the sending Member State deems it appropriate, without prior consultation or agreement In this case, the sending Member State shall inform the Commission and the requesting Member State as soon as possible.***

5. Member States shall provide to the Commission ***all*** relevant information on the experts, modules and other response capacities that they make available for assistance through the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism and update this information when necessary ***on CECIS***.

6. Member States shall take ~~the~~ appropriate preparedness actions to facilitate Host Nation Support. ***The Commission shall support Member States in fulfilling this task by updating and promoting non-binding guidelines and other practical tools on Host Nation Support, in close cooperation with Member States, taking into consideration operational experience and lessons learnt.***

7. The Commission shall***, by means of implementing acts,*** award medals to recognise and honour longstanding commitment and extraordinary contributions to the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism~~. The award of medals shall be made in accordance with the~~***, in all the areas of disaster risk management. Those*** implementing acts ***shall be*** adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

~~8. Without prejudice to Article 9, the Commission may coordinate policy priorities, as well as, where necessary, coordinate operational activities, with the national authorities of a third country, designated as strategic partner country, that has aligned objectives in the field of civil protection, or with which the Union has concluded security and defence agreement.~~

Article 20

European Civil Protection Pool

1. The European Civil Protection Pool (ECPP)***, which is the principal pillar of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism response capacities,*** shall consist of a pool of voluntarily ~~committed~~***pre-committed civil protection*** response capacities of ~~the~~ Member States and include modules, other response capacities, categories of experts and technical assistance and support teams (TAST). ***These contributions shall be flexible and adaptable, reflecting the specific needs and capabilities of each Member State, with a view to ensuring a complementary and effective response capacity at Union level.*** The Commission shall***, by means of implementing acts,*** lay down rules for the identification of Member States experts, modules and other response capacities as well as ***quality and*** operational requirements for the functioning and interoperability of modules and deployment ~~in an~~***.*** ***Those*** implementing ~~act~~***acts shall be*** adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

2. The assistance provided by a Member State through the ECPP shall be complementary to existing capacities in the requesting Member State, without prejudice to the primary responsibility of Member States for disaster prevention***, preparedness*** and response on their territory.

3. ~~On the basis of identified risks and any existing scenario-building as referred to in point (b) of Article 16(1),~~ The Commission shall, by means of implementing acts, define the types and specify the number of ~~key~~ response capacities required for the ECPP ('response capacity goals')***, based on identified risks, existing capacities, and identified gaps, as referred to in Article 16(1)(c)***. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

4. The Commission, in ***close*** cooperation with the Member States, shall monitor progress towards the ***civil protection*** response capacity goals set out in the implementing acts referred to in paragraph 3~~,~~ and identify potentially significant ***civil protection*** response capacity gaps***,*** in the ECPP. Where such gaps have been identified, the Commission shall examine whether the necessary ***civil protection*** capacities are available to the Member States outside the ECPP. The Commission ~~shall encourage~~***may support*** Member States to address significant ***civil protection*** response capacity ***needs and*** gaps in the ECPP, in

~~accordance with~~***view of the response capacity goals and*** the report referred to in point (c) of Article ~~17(1)~~***16(1)***.

5. ***The Commission shall,*** by means of an implementing act***, establish and manage a process for certification and registration of the civil protection response capacities that the Member States make available to the ECPP. This implementing act shall be*** adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2)~~, the Commission shall establish and manage a process for certification and registration of the response capacities that the Member States make available to the ECPP and define the quality and interoperability requirements of the response capacities~~.

6. Member States shall on a voluntary basis identify, commit and register the ***civil protection*** response capacities which they offer to the ECPP~~, including relevant military capacities that could be used as part of assistance~~. The registration of multinational modules provided by two or more Member States shall be undertaken jointly by all the Member States concerned.

7. The response capacities that Member States ~~make available for~~***have registered in*** the ECPP shall remain available for national purposes at all times.

8. ***Civil protection*** response capacities that Member States ~~make available for~~***have registered in*** the ECPP ~~shall be available~~***may be deployed upon request*** for response operations under the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism following ~~a request for~~***the acceptance of an offer of*** assistance through the ERCC. The ultimate decision on their deployment shall be taken by the Member States which registered the ***civil protection*** response capacity concerned. Where domestic emergencies, force majeure or, in exceptional cases, serious reasons prevent a Member State from making those response capacities available in case of a specific disaster ***and following a formal request for their deployment***, that Member State shall inform the Commission as soon as possible by referring to this Article.

9. In the event of deployment, Member States' ***civil protection*** response capacities shall remain under their command and control and can be withdrawn~~, upon consultation with the Commission,~~ where domestic emergencies, force majeure or, in exceptional cases, serious reasons prevent a Member State from keeping those response capacities available. ***In such a scenario, the Member State shall inform the Commission and the requesting country.*** The coordination among the different ***civil protection*** response capacities shall be

facilitated ~~where appropriate by the Commission~~ through the ERCC in accordance with Article 25.

9a. Member States and the Commission shall inform the public about the response operations involving the ECPP.

Article 21

rescEU

1. rescEU shall provide assistance ~~to complement the~~***as a last resort in the area of civil protection and in overwhelming situations where*** overall existing ~~response~~ capacities at national level and those ~~committed~~***pre-committed*** by Member States to the ~~ECPP or fulfil operational needs~~***European Civil Protection Pool are not, in the circumstances, able*** to ensure an effective ~~and rapid~~ response to requests for assistance ~~made in accordance with~~***by the affected State, as referred to in*** Article 28 ***('rescEU capacities')***. ***rescEU capacities shall be acquired, rented, leased, otherwise contracted by or donated to the Member States. These capacities shall be hosted by the Member States.***

rescEU capacities shall cover areas including (i) aerial forest-firefighting, (ii) response to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear incidents, (iii) emergency medical response, (iv) transport and logistics, (v) medical stockpiling, which covers medical countermeasures, including the stockpile referred to in Article 34a(1) ('rescEU medical stockpiling'), (vi) medical aerial evacuation, (vii) shelter and (viii) emergency energy supply.

rescEU shall neither replace the disaster response capacities of the Member States nor the ECPP, but rather complement and support them based on risk assessment and risk management planning.

~~2. The Commission shall, by means of implementing acts, define the response capacities rescEU shall consist of, based, among other things, on Union risk assessments in accordance with Article 16(1), taking into account identified and emerging risks and overall capacities and gaps at Union level. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).~~

2a. Based on the target list of additional capacity types included in the report referred to in paragraph 1(c) of Article 16, the Commission shall, where appropriate, submit a

proposal to the Council for an implementing act defining the additional rescEU capacities to be developed and sustained.

2b. The Council, acting by a qualified majority, may amend the Commission's proposal referred to in paragraph 2a and adopt the amended text by means of an implementing act.

2c. The first Council implementing act referred to in paragraph 2b shall contain:

(a) the initial composition of rescEU (with the capacities and the items they include), as specified in Commission implementing decision (EU) 2019/570,

(b) the additional rescEU capacities to be developed and sustained.

3. ~~rescEU capacities shall~~***Medical countermeasures within the stockpile referred to in Article 34a(1) may*** be acquired~~, rented, leased, otherwise contracted by or donated to the Member States~~ ***through advance purchase and supply agreements, manufacturing-capacity reservations, contracts with manufacturers or contract development and manufacturing organisations, and ever-warm or other readily available production capacities***.

4. rescEU capacities~~, as defined by means of implementing acts adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2),~~ may be rented, leased or otherwise contracted by the Commission ***as services*** to the extent necessary to address the gaps in the area of transport and logistics.

5. ~~In~~***On*** duly justified ~~cases~~***imperative grounds*** of urgency***, when the Union needs to respond promptly to a disaster which has or is capable of having significant impact***, the Commission may ~~acquire, rent, lease or otherwise contract capacities determined by means of~~***adopt immediately applicable*** implementing acts~~ adopted in accordance with the urgency procedure referred to in Article 35(2)~~. Such implementing acts shall:

(a) determine the necessary type and quantity of material means and any necessary enabling support services, already defined as rescEU capacities; and/or

(b) define additional material means~~ and any necessary~~ enabling support services as rescEU capacities and determine the necessary type and quantity of those capacities.

Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the urgency procedure referred to in Article 35(2c).

5a. In the cases referred to in paragraph 5, rescEU capacities, defined in the implementing acts referred to in paragraph 5, may:

(a) be acquired, rented, leased, otherwise contracted by the Member States, or

(b) in case they are services, be rented, leased or otherwise contracted by the Commission.

6. ~~rescEU capacities shall be hosted by the Member States or the Commission.~~ The Commission and the Member States shall, where appropriate, ensure an adequate geographical distribution of rescEU capacities ***in line with the Union level risk assessment referred to in Article 16(1) and the threat and risks assessments carried out in accordance with the Union's health security framework***.

7. The Commission shall define quality requirements, by means of implementing acts, for ~~the respons~~***rescEU*** capacities ~~forming part of rescEU, in consultation with the Member States~~***, except the stockpile referred to in Article 34a(1)***. The quality requirements shall be based on established international standards, where such standards already exist. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

8. rescEU capacities may only be used for national purposes~~, including dual-use capacities,~~ when not being used or needed for response ***by Member States under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism***.

8a. rescEU capacities may be tactically deployed in exceptional circumstances where there is an imminent risk to a Member State and capacities from the requesting Member State or the ECPP in the circumstances are unavailable or deemed inappropriate to effectively deal with the imminent risk in a timely manner. This request for assistance in accordance with Article 28, and its response, shall be made in close coordination with the ERCC, the requesting and hosting Member States.

9. ***The Commission shall, by means of implementing acts, specify the way*** rescEU capacities***, except the stockpile referred to in Article 34a(1),*** shall be used, including for

deployment, national use, loaning or donations~~, including for managing rescEU~~ ***as well as their sustainable management and*** strategic ~~reserves, in accordance with~~***developments. Those*** implementing acts ***shall be*** adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

10. rescEU capacities shall be available for response ***under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism*** following a request for assistance ~~through the ERCC~~ in accordance with Article 28~~. The decision on their deployment and demobilisation, and any decision in the event of conflicting requests, shall be taken by the Commission,~~ through the ERCC~~, in close coordination with the requesting Member State and the Member State hosting the response capacity~~.

10a. The decision on the deployment and demobilisation of rescEU capacities, and any decision in the event of conflicting requests, shall be taken by the Commission, through the ERCC, in close coordination with the requesting Member State and the Member State hosting the response capacity.

10b. In addition to paragraph 10a, the decision on the deployment and demobilisation of rescEU medical stockpiling, and any decision in the event of conflicting requests, shall be taken by the Commission, through the ERCC, in consultation with the Health Security Committee established in Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 and, where applicable, the Health Crisis Board referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2022/2372 where that Board has been established following the activation of the emergency framework under that Regulation, in the following situations:

(a) where the deployment of the medical countermeasures forming part of the resEU medical stockpiling is intended to respond to a threat that can lead to health emergencies , irrespective of whether a public health emergency at Union level has been formally recognised in accordance with Article 23 of Regulation (EU) 2022/2371;

(b) where the deployment of the medical countermeasures forming part of the resEU medical stockpiling could materially affect the Union's preparedness to respond to a threat that can lead to health emergencies, taking into account the minimum level of required capacity, where established, the anticipated availability and adequacy of remaining medical countermeasures within the relevant therapeutic

or prophylactic timeframe, and relevant risk assessments generated under the Union's health security framework. The consultation shall address, as appropriate, the necessity and timing of deployment, proposed allocation and implications for Union preparedness.

10c. By way of derogation from paragraph 10b, in duly justified cases of urgency, where the consultation under paragraph 10b is not practicable without delaying the deployment of medical countermeasures forming part of rescEU medical stockpiling necessary to address an imminent threat to life or an exceptionally rapid escalation of a threat that can lead to health emergencies, the Commission, through the ERCC, may decide on the deployment without prior consultation. In such cases, it shall inform the Health Security Committee or, where appropriate, the Health Crisis Board without delay, providing the reasons for the urgency and the information on the assistance deployed.

10d. The Commission shall, by means of implementing acts, specify the rules for decisions on deployment and demobilisation of rescEU capacities, except the stockpile referred to in Article 34a(1), as well as decisions in the event of conflicting requests referred to in paragraph 10. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

11. Where rescEU capacities consist of equipment or consumable goods, the Commission, through the ERCC ***and in consultation with the requesting Member State and the Member State hosting the response capacity***, may decide to either donate or loan the offered rescEU capacities.

12. The ***requesting*** Member State***,*** on the territory of which rescEU capacities are deployed***,*** shall be responsible for directing response operations. In the event of deployments outside the Union, Member States ***or, where applicable, the Commission,*** hosting rescEU capacities shall ~~be responsible for ensuring that~~***facilitate the integration of*** rescEU capacities~~ are fully integrated~~ into the overall response.

13. In the event of deployment, the Commission shall, through the ERCC, agree with the requesting Member State on the operational deployment of rescEU capacities. The requesting Member State shall ~~facilitate~~***ensure*** operational coordination of its own capacities and rescEU activities during operations.

14. The coordination of the ~~different response~~***rescEU*** capacities shall be facilitated, where appropriate, by the Commission through the ERCC ***in accordance with Articles 25 and 32(1)***.

15. Member States shall be informed of the operational status of rescEU capacities through CECIS.

16. ***Without prejudice to paragraph 17, and*** subject to the operational needs within Member States, rescEU capacities may be deployed in response to disasters ~~and crises~~ outside the Union that have a significant impact on ~~the Union or on~~***one or more*** Member States or ~~are of an international concern~~***their citizens***.

17. When rescEU capacities are deployed in third countries~~, in specific cases,~~ Member States may refuse to deploy their own personnel ***or may withdraw personnel already deployed, in specific cases, including when security reasons are identified by the Member State hosting the rescEU capacity.*** ~~, in accordance with the implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).~~

17a. The Commission shall, by means of implementing acts, define the rules for Member States to refuse the deployment of their own personnel. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

17b. rescEU capacities shall not be subject to automatic registration in any pooling mechanism established under another Union act, including the Solidarity Pool referred to in Article 35 of Regulation (EU) [OJ: Military Mobility Regulation]. rescEU capacities shall not be deployed pursuant to any provision under that Regulation.

17c. This Article shall apply to the stockpile referred to in Article 34a(1) subject to the rules specified in the implementing acts referred to in Article 34a(2).

17d. When submitting the draft work programmes referred to in Article 34k to the committee referred to in Article 35(1), the Commission shall submit the following accompanying documents:

(a) an overview of the stocks of rescEU capacities to the committee referred to in Article 35(1)(a);

(b) an overview of the medical countermeasures forming part of rescEU medical stockpiling and an overview of the stockpile referred to in Article 34a to the committee referred to in Article 35(1)(c).

Article 22

rescEU transitional

1. Until ***31 December*** 2034, Union support may be provided to cover 75 % of the costs necessary to ensure rapid access to national capacities corresponding to those defined in ~~accordance with~~***the implementing acts referred to in*** Article ~~21(2)~~***21(2b)***.

2. The capacities referred to ***in*** paragraph 1 shall be designated as rescEU capacities until the ~~end of the~~ date referred to therein.

3. By way of derogation from Article 21***(10)***, the decision on the deployment of the capacities referred to in ~~the~~ paragraph 1 shall be taken by the Member State that made them available as rescEU capacities. In ~~case~~***cases*** of domestic emergencies, force majeure or, in exceptional cases, ***when*** serious reasons prevent a Member State from making those capacities available for a specific disaster, that Member State shall inform the Commission as soon as possible by referring to this Article.

Article 23

~~Anticipation and~~ Early warning

1. ***While acknowledging that the provision of early warning systems is a Member State's competence,*** the Commission, in ***close*** cooperation with Member States, shall undertake the following actions to ***support and*** enhance***, at national and Union levels,*** ~~anticipation and~~ early warning capabilities, building on the Union space capabilities provided by Copernicus, Galileo and where necessary, other space services***, and exploring and making use of, where appropriate and in consultation with Member States, complementary solutions offered by the private sector***:

   (a) ***Support Member States in the development of their national systems, to*** further improve cross-border detection and early warning systems of Union interest to mitigate the ~~immediate~~ effects of disasters;

(b) ~~integrate and enhance existing~~***support Member States in integrating or reinforcing*** cross-border detection and early warning systems ***in their national systems*** using ~~a multi-hazard~~***multi hazard*** approach, with the objective of minimising lead time in response;

(c) maintain and further develop capabilities for situational awareness and analysis ***of disasters***;

(d) monitor disasters and, where relevant, assess climate change impacts, ~~providing~~***and upon a request, provide*** advice grounded in scientific knowledge;

(e) ~~translate~~***support Member States in translating*** scientific data into ~~actionable~~ operational information;

(f) create, maintain, and advance European scientific partnerships addressing all hazards~~, thereby~~ ***with the potential of causing disasters,*** promoting ***where deemed appropriate by the Member States*** the interconnection between national early warning ~~and alert~~ systems, and potentially linking such systems with the ERCC and relevant IT systems;

(g) support the efforts of Member States and mandated international organisations by providing scientific knowledge, innovative technologies, and expertise for the development of their early warning systems, including through the Knowledge Network.

2. A Scientific and Technical ***Advisory*** Facility shall ~~pool~~***bring*** together existing initiatives, programmes, tools, and ~~services, such as Copernicus~~***space*** services~~, to contribute with~~ ***providing*** scientific and technical expertise to ***support*** operational preparedness, analysis and situational awareness of the ~~Hub, the~~ ERCC and***, upon request, of*** the Member States***,*** in order to ~~anticipate~~***prevent***, prepare for and respond to ***the consequences of*** disasters ~~and crises~~ following ~~a~~ service-oriented, all-hazards and ~~cross-sectorial~~***cross-sectoral*** approaches.

3. ~~Where~~***A Member State may request the assistance of the*** emergency services ~~are~~ provided by Galileo and EGNOS, Copernicus, IRIS2 and GOVSATCOM or Space Situational Awareness, ~~each Member State may decide to use them~~***through the national competent authorities***.

Article 24

Public warning systems

1. The Commission shall ~~cooperate~~***coordinate*** with Member States to support***, and where requested to do so by the Member State, explore the feasibility of integrating*** ~~the integration of~~ the Galileo Emergency Warning Satellite Service into ***the*** national public warning systems ***of that Member States, while respecting their exclusive national competence in crisis communication, and ensuring the confidentiality and protection of sensitive information provided by the Member State concerned***.

~~2. The Commission shall support Member States in enhancing population preparedness and awareness about ongoing alerts across the Union.~~

3. In the event of a ***disaster, including those which cause or are capable of causing*** transboundary ~~disaster~~***effects***~~, the Hub and~~ the ERCC may facilitate information sharing among concerned countries regarding the use of Galileo Emergency Warning Satellite Service. Based on a request by a Member State, ~~the Hub~~ and ***in accordance with national law,*** the ERCC may disseminate ***public warning messages*** on behalf of that Member State~~, public warning messages~~ via Galileo Emergency Warning Satellite Service within ~~that Member State~~***its territory***.

~~4. The Commission shall establish procedures for utilising the Galileo Emergency Warning Satellite Service to assist third countries that request such service.~~

~~5. The public warning messages referred to in paragraph 3 may take into account Unions' Space Situational Awareness services, in particular space surveillance and tracking services.~~

Article 25

Emergency Response Coordination Centre

1. The ERCC***, as the 24/7 operational capacity of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism,*** shall enhance common situational awareness of risks ~~falling under the scope of this Regulation, as well as 24/7 operational capacity,~~ and serve the Member States and the Commission in pursuit of the objectives ~~of this Regulation~~***referred to in Article 12a***.

2. The ERCC shall work in close cooperation with national civil protection authorities and the relevant Union institutions and bodies.

3. The ERCC shall in particular coordinate, monitor and support in real-time the response ~~at~~***under the*** Union ~~level~~***Civil Protection Mechanism to the consequences of disasters***.

4. The ERCC shall have access to operational, analytical~~,~~ ***and*** monitoring~~,~~ ***information. The ERCC shall also have*** information management and communication capabilities, and shall be equipped to receive and process EU classified information, to address ~~a broad range~~***the consequences*** of disasters within and outside the Union.

5. Member States shall designate ~~contact~~***civil protection*** points ***of contact*** for the functioning of the ERCC and inform the Commission accordingly. The interaction of the ERCC with Member ~~State~~***States***'~~s~~ ***points of*** contact ~~points~~ shall be defined by means of an implementing act adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

*Article ~~5~~**25a***

EU civil-military ~~preparedness and cooperation~~*coordination*

~~The Commission shall work jointly with the High Representative to:~~

~~(a) contribute to the development of measures to enhance civil-military preparedness and coordination of response within the Union, in consultation with the Member States;~~

~~(b) develop arrangements to clarify roles and responsibilities and lay down priorities for preparing and responding to disasters and crises within the Union as well as Union-wide scenarios to form the basis of Union-level training and exercises, best practices, including standard operating procedures, and mechanisms for effective cooperation and communication in crisis scenarios.~~

2. In order to support preparedness for, and in response to disasters, the Commission, in close cooperation with Member States and, where appropriate, the High Representative, may support civil-military coordination within the Union in the context of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism by:

(a) facilitating the exchange of information, subject-matter expertise, lessons learnt and best practices,

(b) conducting joint scenario-based analysis and voluntary discussions, and

(c) conducting joint training and exercises.

3. The activities referred to in paragraph 2 shall:

(a) preserve the civilian character of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and adhere to the humanitarian principles,

(b) complement and not duplicate multilateral frameworks on military coordination,

(c) neither establish operational coordination structures nor create obligations for Member States regarding the deployment of civilian or military assets or capacities.

4. By [OJ: 12 months after entry into force], the Commission, in close cooperation with the Member States and the EEAS and taking into account the specificities of national military capabilities, shall submit to the Council a report mapping best practices for civil-military coordination within the Union Civil Protection Mechanism. This report shall be drawn up, classified, handled, and transmitted in accordance with the applicable security rules for protecting EU classified information, in particular Council Decision 2013/488/EU and Commission Decision (EU, Euratom) 2015/444.

5. Participation in the activities referred to in this Article shall exclude Participating States and be on a voluntary basis for Member States.

6. The Civil-Military Coordination Group is established to assist and provide advice and recommendations to the Commission for the activities referred to in paragraphs 2 and 4. It shall be composed of representatives of the Member States, the Commission, and the EEAS. Each Member State shall decide on the composition of its delegation which can include experts from civil protection authorities and the military. The group shall be chaired by a representative of the Member State holding the rotating presidency of the Council. The secretariat shall be ensured by the Commission. Only Member States shall have voting rights.

~~*Article 26*~~

~~**Crisis Coordination Hub**~~

~~1. Without prejudice to Article 25, a Crisis Coordination Hub (the Hub) is hereby established. The Hub shall build upon the structure and the capabilities of the ERCC, including its analytical and scientific capabilities, situational awareness, and 24/7 operational capacity for cross-sectoral crises.~~

~~2. The Hub shall closely cooperate with the EEAS Crisis Response Centre in the external dimension of cross-sectoral crises, with respect to its roles and competences.~~

~~3. The Hub shall anticipate and monitor risks connected to cross-sectoral crises, including producing regular operational-outlook briefings on cross-sectoral and all-hazard risks.~~

~~4. The Hub shall ensure coordination with relevant national authorities, as designated in accordance with paragraph 5, Commission services, Union institutions and bodies, and provide support in situations referred to in Article 29(1).~~

~~5. Member States shall designate contact points for the functioning of the Hub and inform the Commission accordingly.~~

Chapter 3

Response

Article 27

Notifications of disasters

1. In the event of a disaster ~~within the Union, or of~~***, or*** an imminent disaster, which causes or is capable of causing transboundary effects, the Member State in which the disaster occurs or is likely to occur shall, without delay, notify the potentially affected Member States and***,*** ***where the effects are potentially significant,*** the Commission***. The Commission shall inform Member States through the CECIS platform of the information received***. The notification to the Commission shall not be required where the obligation ~~of notification~~***to notify*** has already been addressed under other Union legislation, under the Treaty

establishing the European Atomic Energy Community or under existing international agreements.

2. In the event of a disaster ~~within the Union~~, or of an imminent disaster, which is likely to result in a request for assistance from one or more Member States, the Member State in which the disaster occurs or is likely to occur shall, without delay, notify the Commission ***through CECIS,*** that a possible request for assistance through the ERCC can be expected, in order to enable the Commission, as appropriate, to inform the other Member States and to activate its competent services.

3. ~~The notifications referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall, as appropriate, be made through CECIS.~~ The Commission shall***, by means of implementing acts,*** define the components of CECIS as well as the organisation of information sharing through CECIS ~~by means of an~~***.*** ***Those*** implementing ~~act~~***acts shall be*** adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

~~4. The Hub shall ensure an appropriate framework for receiving the notifications about crises, received by the Commission through other Union instruments.~~

Article 28

Request for assistance

1. When a disaster occurs or is imminent, the affected Member State or third country may request assistance through the ERCC. The request shall be as specific as possible~~. It may include in particular a request for modules, intervention teams, disaster relief items and equipment, logistical resources, transport resources, and any other resources~~***, detailing the immediate needs of the requesting country***. The Commission shall***, by means of implementing acts,*** lay down the operational procedures for ***the*** response to disasters ~~by means of an~~***. These*** implementing ~~act~~***acts shall be*** adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

~~2. In exceptional circumstances, and in the absence of a request for assistance by a third country affected by a disaster, a Member State may, on humanitarian grounds, request the activation of the Union Mechanism. Implementation of Union Mechanism shall be in accordance with the applicable rules of international law (including consent (explicit or implicit) of the affected country). The overall response shall be in coordination with the~~

~~United Nations and its agencies, and have in place an effective acceptance of offers and delivery of assistance.~~

3. When the affected country is a third country, assistance may also be requested by the United Nations and its agencies, or a relevant international organisation, on behalf and with agreement of the affected country. The Commission shall identify relevant international organisations by means of ~~an~~***implementing acts. Those*** implementing ~~act~~***acts shall be*** adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2)~~.~~

4. A request for assistance shall lapse after a maximum period of 90 days, unless new elements justifying the need for continued or additional assistance are provided to the ERCC**.**

~~5. Scientific and technical advisory facility (STAF) shall combine the existing analytical and scientific capabilities, including those offered by the ERCC, necessary for response. An affected country may ask the ERCC to activate STAF, including the services provided by the EU Space capabilities and get access to space derived data.~~

6. Upon receiving a request for assistance, the Commission shall, through the ERCC, ***without delay,*** as appropriate ~~and without delay~~:

   (a) forward the request to ~~the~~***points of*** contact ~~points~~ of Member States;

   (b) collect and analyse information on the situation, ***taking into consideration information validated by the affected Member State,*** with the goal of generating common ***situational*** awareness ~~of the situation and the~~***, including*** response ~~to the situation~~***efforts***, and disseminate that information directly to ~~the~~***points of contact of*** Member States;

   (c) facilitate the coordination and delivery of assistance, if necessary, through the presence on site of ~~an expert~~***experts*** or EUCP ~~Team~~***Teams***, and additional necessary supporting and complementary action;

   (d) advise on the type of assistance necessary to mitigate the consequences of a disaster;

   (e) make recommendations in consultation with the affected Member State or third country, for the provision of assistance through the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism, and invite Member States to deploy capacities and facilitate the

coordination of the required assistance. ~~Where the requesting country is a Member State, it shall take the appropriate actions to facilitate host nation support for the incoming assistance in line with the recommendation on Host Nation Support.~~

7. Where the affected country is a third country, the Commission shall:

(a) liaise with the affected country on technical details, such as the precise needs for assistance, the acceptance of offers and the practical arrangements for the local reception and distribution of assistance***, informing the Member States through CECIS***;

(b) liaise with or support the United Nations and its agencies, and cooperate with other relevant actors that contribute to the overall relief effort, to maximise synergies, seek complementarities and avoid duplication and gaps;

(c) liaise with all relevant actors, in particular in the closing phase of the assistance, to facilitate a smooth handover.

8. Any Member State to which a request for assistance is addressed through the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism shall promptly determine whether it is able to ~~render~~***offer*** the assistance required and inform the ERCC of its decision ~~to offer assistance~~ through CECIS, indicating ~~its~~***the*** scope and terms ***to be accepted by the requesting country***. The ERCC shall keep Member States informed.

8a. The deployment of experts and EUCP Teams to a requesting country shall be made in accordance with Article 33 and the deployment of response capacities of the Member States in accordance with Article 20.

9. ~~Interventions~~***Assistance*** outside of the Union under this Article may be conducted either as ~~an~~ autonomous assistance ~~intervention~~***by the Union*** or as a contribution to ~~an intervention~~***assistance*** led by an international organisation. The Union ***Civil Protection Mechanism*** coordination shall be fully integrated with the overall coordination provided by United Nations and its agencies and shall respect their leading role. ~~In the case of human-induced disasters or complex emergencies,~~ The Commission ***and the Member States*** shall ensure consistency with the European Consensus on Humanitarian Aid, and respect for humanitarian principles.

10. The Commission and the Member States shall identify and promote synergies between civil protection assistance and humanitarian aid funding provided by the Union and Member States in the planning of response operations for humanitarian crises outside the Union.

11. Coordination of assistance to third countries ~~made through~~***supported by*** the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism shall affect neither bilateral contacts and assistance between Member States and the affected country, nor cooperation between Member States and the United Nations and other relevant international organisations. Such bilateral contacts and assistance may also be used to contribute to the coordination ~~through~~***supported by*** the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism and ~~transmission~~***to transmit information*** to the ERCC ~~of information~~ about any bilateral contacts and assistance delivered to the affected country.

12. ***In exceptional circumstances,*** assistance may be offered by ~~other~~***the relevant*** Union institutions, agencies~~,~~ and bodies***,*** and coordinated as part of ***the*** response under this Article.

~~*Article 29*~~

~~**Support to cross-sectoral crises**~~

~~1.~~ ~~The Hub may be used to provide support to cross-sectoral crises where:~~

~~(a)~~ ~~response is initiated under other Union risk management instruments;~~

~~(b)~~ ~~in cases referred to in Article 2 (1), point (b) of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993~~[~~32~~]~~;~~

~~(c)~~ ~~in cases referred to in Article 4 of Council Decision 2014/415/EU~~[~~33~~]~~;~~

~~(d)~~ ~~support is requested by the Council;~~

~~32~~ ~~Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993 of 11 December 2018 on the EU Integrated Political Crisis Response Arrangements (OJ L 320, 17.12.2018, p. 28, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2018/1993/oj).~~

~~33~~ ~~2014/415/EU: Council Decision of 24 June 2014 on the arrangements for the implementation by the Union of the solidarity clause (OJ L 192, 1.7.2014, p. 53, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2014/415/oj).~~

~~(e) in cases of public health emergency at Union level in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2022/2371 or WHO declaration of health emergencies of international concern.~~

~~2. In the cases referred to in paragraph 1, the Union support to response may cover up to 100% of the costs to reflect the scale and the impact of the crisis.~~

~~3. In the cases referred to in paragraph 1, the Commission may procure or award grants to Member States for the procurement of material means and any necessary enabling service needed to complement assistance under the Union Mechanism.~~

~~4. When the Union Mechanism provides support to response or the Hub facilitates the response initiated under other Union risk management instruments, the scope of application of those instruments shall be considered for determining the inclusion of associated countries in relation to the actions under this Chapter.~~

Article 30

Consular assistance

1. In exceptional circumstances, the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism may be used to provide civil protection support to consular assistance to Union citizens in disasters in third countries if requested by the ***competent authority of the*** Member State concerned.

~~2. The civil protection support to consular assistance shall reflect solidarity among Member States and include in particular repatriation, evacuation, and assisted departures, as well as other relief actions.~~

3. Union support may be scaled taking into account the plurality of nationalities of Union citizens covered by the action in question.

4. The Member State carrying out the consular assistance action may request that either passengers or Member States whose citizens are covered by the action in question, contribute to the costs related to the action. Where ***a Member State provides*** assistance ~~is provided~~ to ***a*** Union citizen holding the nationality of a Member State which is not represented in a third country ~~as set out in~~***according to*** Article 6 of Directive (EU) 2015/637, Articles 14 and 15 of that Directive shall apply.

Chapter 4
Union support to response

Article 31

Union support to response

1. The Commission shall support ***the deployment of Member States*** response ~~referred to in~~***capacities in accordance with*** Article 32 by:

   (a) providing and sharing information on equipment~~ and on~~***,*** transport and logistical resources that Member States decide to make available, ~~with a view to~~***and where necessary,*** facilitating the pooling of such ~~equipment or transport and~~***resources, or facilitating the establishment of operational*** logistical ~~resources~~***and medical evacuation hubs***;

   (b) assisting Member States ~~to identify~~***in identifying and accessing*** transport***, if considered relevant by the Member State providing assistance***, logistical resources and equipment that may be available from other sources, including the commercial market, ~~and facilitating their access to such resources~~***through the Commission, such as transport services procured from private or other entities***;

   (c) ***upon request, assisting Member States by*** financing transport and logistical resources, ***and those available from other sources,*** including ~~military resources~~***the commercial market***, as well as operational ~~cost~~***costs*** necessary for ensuring a rapid response, including where transport and logistical resources are requested by the affected country. ***Operational costs shall also include, refurbishment and repatriations of deployed capacities once they are demobilised.***

2. ***Response*** actions ***of Member States*** referred to in Article 32 shall be eligible for Union support to response only if the following criteria are met:

   (a) a request for assistance has been made in accordance with Article 28;

   (b) the additional transport and logistical resources are necessary for ensuring the effectiveness of response;

(c) the assistance corresponds to the needs identified by the ~~ERCC and is delivered in accordance with~~***requesting country and the ERCC, and takes into account*** the recommendations ~~given~~***issued*** by the ERCC on the technical specifications, quality, timing and modalities for delivery;

(d) the assistance has been accepted by a requesting country, directly or through the United Nations or its agencies, or a relevant international organisation, ***identified in accordance with Article 28(3)*** under the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism; and

(e) the assistance complements, for disasters in third countries, any overall Union humanitarian response.

3. When a Member State requests ~~the Commission to contract transport services~~***support in accordance with paragraph 2***, the Commission shall request partial reimbursement of the costs according to the ~~funding~~***co-financing*** rates set out in ***the*** Annex ~~I~~.

Article 32

Response

1. In order to promote an effective response, the Commission shall assist the Member ~~States~~***State*** offering assistance by:

(a) ~~identifying and accessing equipment,~~***providing*** transport ~~and~~***,*** logistical resources and ~~services in the form of access to the commercial market or other sources through the Commission, such as transport services~~***equipment that may be available or*** procured from private or other entities, ~~and facilitating their access to such resources~~***including the commercial market, if requested***;

(b) ~~providing and~~ sharing information on equipment, transport and logistical resources and services in the form of pooling with other Member States, and facilitating the establishment and maintenance of logistical hubs ~~facilitating pooling~~;

(c) supporting the transport of spontaneously offered assistance not pre-committed to the ECPP;

(d) facilitating the actions ~~allowing~~ for ***the establishment and operation of*** medical evacuation hubs and the conducting of medical evacuation;

(e) ~~preparation~~***preparing*** for the mobilisation and deployment of experts and EUCP Teams;

~~(f) preparation for the mobilisation and deployment of intervention teams;~~

~~(g) developing and maintaining a surge capacity through a network of trained experts of Member States;~~

(h) ~~temporary pre-positioning and coordination of response capacities in situations of increased risk, and following the~~ ***developing, upon*** request ~~of a~~***, a strategy with the requesting*** Member State ~~or a third country~~***for the tactical deployment in the response to an imminent disaster, following a request for assistance in accordance with Article 28***, and taking ~~into account the~~***an*** assessment of ~~the Commission~~***needs into account***;

(i) ~~stand-by allocations~~***supporting programmed prepositioning*** of response capacities during periods ~~and in areas experiencing~~***of*** increased ~~or~~***and*** recurring seasonal ~~risks~~***risk***, and following the request of a Member State ***for such prepositioning and in close consultation with Member States hosting these capacities***;

(j) ***facilitating the*** transport of assistance needed in environmental disasters in which the 'polluter pays principle' applies, to which the following conditions shall apply:

(i) the Union financial support for the transport of assistance is requested by the affected or assisting Member State based on a duly justified needs assessment;

(ii) the affected or assisting Member State, as appropriate, takes all necessary steps to request and obtain compensation from the polluter, in accordance with all applicable international, Union or national legal provisions;

(iii) upon receiving compensation from the polluter, the affected or assisting Member State, as appropriate, shall immediately reimburse the Union.

In the event of an environmental disaster, which does not affect a Member State, the actions referred to in points (i), (ii), (iii), shall be carried out by the assisting Member State.

(k) undertaking additional necessary supporting and complementary action ***at the request of a Member State*** in order to facilitate the coordination of response in the most effective way.

2. In the case of transport operations of Member States from the pooling point to the final destination, a Member State shall take the lead in requesting Union support in the form of grant or facilitation of access to resources and services needed, for the entire operation.

3. Costs relating to paragraph 1, points (h) and (i), shall not be eligible ***for Union support*** when covered by Host Nation Support.

~~4. In the event of an environmental disaster as referred to in paragraph 1, point (j), which does not affect a Member State, the actions referred to in points (j) shall be carried out by the assisting Member State.~~

~~5. The Commission may complement the transport and logistical resources provided by Member States by providing additional resources necessary for ensuring a rapid response.~~

6. The Commission may facilitate ***the*** response by developing cartographical material for the swift deployment and mobilisation of resources, bearing in mind especially the particularities of cross-border regions for multi-country transboundary risks.

~~7. The Commission shall lay down rules on the deployment of experts and EUCP Teams in an implementing act adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).~~

8. When ~~a Member State requests the Commission to contract transport services, the Commission shall request partial reimbursement~~***the Union financial assistance referred to in this Article does not cover 100 % of costs, the remaining amount*** of the costs ~~according to the funding rates set out in Annex I~~***shall be borne by the requesting country of the assistance, unless otherwise agreed with the Member State offering assistance***.

Article 33

Deployment of experts and EUCP Team

1. At the request of a Member State, a third country, the United Nations or its agencies or a relevant international organisation identified in accordance with Article 28(3), the

Commission***, in consultation with Member States,*** may select~~, appoint and provide~~ ***and*** support ~~in~~ the deployment of ~~individual expert~~***experts*** or EUCP Teams ~~composed of experts~~ nominated by Member States ~~to provide advice on prevention or preparedness measures, or to support a common assessment of the situation and needs, facilitate coordination of assistance or provide technical advice~~.

1a. The experts or EUCP Teams may provide advice on prevention or preparedness measures, support a common assessment of the situation and needs, facilitate coordination of assistance or provide technical advice.

2. The Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism and the capabilities of the ~~Hub may~~***ERCC shall*** be used to provide support ~~to~~***for*** the deployment of experts or EUCP Teams in cases where ~~the Union Mechanism is providing~~***a Member State or a third country has requested such*** support ~~in cases referred to in Article 29. Experts from the Commission and from other Union institutions, agencies, including the EU Health Task Force established in accordance with point (a) of Article 11 of Regulation (EC) No 851/2004~~[~~34~~]~~, and bodies of the Union may be integrated in the team in order to support the EUCP Team and facilitate liaison with the Hub. Experts dispatched by UN agencies or other international organisations may be integrated in the team in order to strengthen cooperation and facilitate joint assessments.~~

2a. Experts from the Commission and from the relevant Union institutions, agencies, as well as the EU Health Task Force established in accordance with point (a) of Article 11 of Regulation (EC) No 851/2004[35], and bodies of the Union, may be integrated into EUCP Teams to support their mandate.

2b. Experts deployed by UN agencies or other international organisations may be integrated into EUCP Teams in order to strengthen cooperation and facilitate joint assessments.

3. Where operational effectiveness so requires, the Commission, in close cooperation with Member States, may facilitate the involvement of additional experts, through their

---

~~34~~ ~~Regulation (EC) No 851/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 establishing a European Centre for disease prevention and control, OJ L 142, 30.4.2004, p. 1–11.~~

35 Regulation (EC) No 851/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 establishing a European Centre for disease prevention and control, OJ L 142, 30.4.2004, p. 1–11.

deployment, and technical and scientific support, and reach back to specialist scientific, emergency medical***, psychological*** and sectoral expertise.

4. The procedure for the selection and appointment of experts shall be the following:

(a) Member States shall nominate ***Union Civil Protection Mechanism trained*** experts~~, under their responsibility~~, who can be deployed as members of EUCP Teams;

(b) the ~~Commission~~***ERCC*** shall select the experts and the leader for those teams on the basis of their ***profiles,*** qualifications and experience, including the level of the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism training undertaken, previous experience of missions under the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism and other ***national and*** international relief work; the selection shall also be based on other criteria, including language skills, to ensure that the team as a whole has the skills needed in the specific situation;

(c) the Commission shall select experts and team leaders for the mission in agreement with their nominating Member State;

~~(d) the Commission shall notify Member States of additional expert support provided in accordance with paragraph 3.~~

4a. The Commission shall, through the ERCC, support experts and EUCP Teams that have been selected, appointed or deployed under this Article in the preparation of a security and safety plan, by sharing its own security assessment and by providing a security briefing as part of the mission briefing. The Commission shall support the experts and EUCP Teams in the preparation of additional mitigation measures and other necessary measures before or during deployment.

(a) The Commission and Member States shall share the responsibility for the safety and security of experts and EUCP Teams deployed in accordance with this Article.

(b) The Commission shall lay down rules on the deployment of experts and EUCP Teams in implementing acts. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

~~5. Where experts or EUCP Teams are dispatched, they shall facilitate coordination between Member States' response capacities and liaise with the competent authorities of the~~

~~requesting country. The ERCC shall maintain close contact with the expert teams and provide them with guidance and logistical support.~~

~~6.~~ ~~The Commission shall, through the ERCC, support experts and EUCP Teams that have been selected, appointed or deployed under this Article in the preparation of a security and safety plan, by sharing its own security assessment and by providing a security briefing as part of the mission briefing. The Commission shall support the experts and EUCP Teams in the preparation of additional mitigation measures and other necessary measures before or during deployment.~~

Title IIa
UNION SUPPORT TO CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT IN CROSS-SECTORAL CRISES

Article ~~26~~33a

~~Crisis Coordination Hub~~*The Analytical and Support Cell of the ERCC in the consequence management of cross-sectoral crises*

1. Without prejudice to Article 25~~, a Crisis Coordination Hub (the Hub) is hereby established. The Hub shall build upon the structure~~ and the ~~capabilities~~***role*** of the ERCC ***in pursuing the objectives of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism referred to in Article 12a, the***~~,~~ ~~including its~~ Analytical and ~~scientific capabilities,~~***Support Cell as part of the ERCC ('the Cell') shall facilitate*** situational awareness~~,~~ and***, when tasked in accordance with Article 33c, technical and*** ~~24/7~~ operational ~~capacity for~~***support in the consequence management of*** cross-sectoral crises. ***The tasks of the Cell under this Title IIa shall not include diplomatic, military matters, law enforcement, and political tasks, as well as the gathering and production of intelligence.***

2. The Cell, which is part of the ERCC, shall:

(a) comply with the Council's political and strategical direction at all times, in particular in accordance with Articles 33b and 33c.

~~2.~~***(b)*** ~~The Hub shall~~ closely ~~cooperate~~***coordinate*** with the EEAS Crisis Response Centre in the external dimension of cross-sectoral crises, ***where appropriate*** with respect to its

roles ~~and~~, competences ***and functions, and shall not duplicate the activities of the EEAS, such as, but not exclusively, activities pertaining to military and intelligence***.

(c) support and contribute to the IPCR, whose arrangements are established in Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993. To this end, the Cell shall not duplicate the IPCR and its supporting elements, which includes notably roundtables, ISAA capability and the IPCR web platform, and its networks, respectively referred to in Articles 7, 8 and 9 of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993.

(d) for the purpose of point (c), closely coordinate with the Council, via the General Secretariat of the Council.

~~3. The Hub shall anticipate and monitor risks connected to cross-sectoral crises, including producing regular operational-outlook briefings on cross-sectoral and all-hazard risks.~~

~~4. The Hub shall ensure coordination with relevant national authorities, as designated in accordance with paragraph 5, Commission services, Union institutions and bodies, and provide support in situations referred to in Article 29(1).~~

~~5. Member States shall designate contact points for the functioning of the Hub and inform the Commission accordingly.~~

Article 33b

Analytical Tasks of the Cell

1. The Cell, which is part of the ERCC, shall conduct the following analytical tasks to identify emerging crises and provide timely, evidence-based support for Union-level decision-making, to aid in the consequence management of cross-sectoral crises. The Cell shall:

(a) monitor on a 24/7 basis utilising the situational awareness tools available to the ERCC;

(b) collect and analyse cross-sectoral information already available to the Commission and, as appropriate, from the EEAS, which is relevant to the consequence management of cross-sectoral crises;

(c) on the basis of the information collected under (b), support the development and sustainment of situational assessments, including operational outlook briefings and scenario-based analyses, upon a request from a Member State to the Cell:

(i) for all matters relating to the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, through the national civil protection contact points under Article 25(5); or

(ii) for all matters relating to the support to cross-sectoral crises, through the IPCR contact points. The requesting Member State shall also inform the General Secretariat of the Council of its request. The requesting Member State shall validate the requested assessment on the events occurring on its territory before its publication in the IPCR web platform.

(d) In case of full activation of the IPCR as well as activation in information sharing mode referred to in Article 2(1)(b) and Article 2(1)(a) of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993, contribute to the Integrated Situation Awareness and Analysis (ISAA) support capability referred to in Article 8 of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993, under the lead ISAA service within the meaning of paragraph 5 of that Article, and also facilitate the swift preparation and distribution of ISAA reports to authorised users. The Cell may also be invited during IPCR roundtables referred to in Article 2(2)(b) of that Decision or in the proposals for actions referred to in Article 7(4) of that Decision, where applicable, to provide additional analytical support.

2. The Cell shall, as soon as possible and systematically:

(a) notify Member States and the relevant Union agencies, through the IPCR web platform referred to in Article 9 of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993 of its ongoing and planned analysis and of the validated assessments and outputs referred to in paragraph 1;

(b) notify the Council, via the General Secretariat of the Council, of early indications about the potential consequences of an ongoing or emerging cross-sectoral crisis,

in order to facilitate a timely assessment of the need for coordination and response at Union political level for crises in accordance with Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993 and the IPCR Standard Operating Procedures referred to in Article 11 of that Decision. Dedicated Standard Operating Procedures shall be developed for these notifications.

3. By [OJ Office: 6 months from the entry into force of this Regulation] the Commission shall submit a proposal to the Council for an implementing act outlining strategic priorities and guidance for the tasks of the Cell referred to in Article 33b. The proposal shall also identify the Union crisis response and risk management mechanisms for the Cell to liaise with and draw information from. The Council may amend the proposal and shall adopt the Council implementing act, acting by qualified majority.

4. Based on the outcomes of the analytical tasks of the Cell referred to in the first subparagraph of Article 33b and the risk assessment activities referred to in Article 16, the Commission shall submit to the Council a proposal to update the Council implementing act referred to in paragraph 3 at least every two years from the entry into force of that Council implementing act. The Council may amend the proposal and shall adopt the subsequent Council implementing acts, acting by qualified majority.

Article 33c

Technical and Operational Support

1. In case of full activation of the IPCR as well as activation in information sharing mode referred to in Article 2(1)(b) and Article 2(1)(a) of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993, the Cell may be invited, during the roundtables referred to in Article 2(2)(b) of that Decision or in the proposals for actions referred to in Article 7(4) of that Decision, to:

(a) provide additional analytical support to IPCR, and may also provide technical and operational support, when tasked, to relevant identified stakeholders for the response to this given crisis, without replacing or duplicating existing Union crisis response or risk management mechanisms.

(b) support where appropriate, other Union crisis response or risk management mechanisms, with a view to complementing their activities and contributing to an effective Union response.

2. The Cell shall report back to the IPCR roundtables referred to in Article 2(2)(b) of that Decision without undue delay regarding the implementation of the tasks that were assigned and, if relevant, the state of play of Union financial support provided in accordance with Article 33e.

3. In the absence of full activation or activation in information sharing mode of the IPCR referred to in Article 2(1)(b) and (a) of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993, when the Commission identifies that an emerging or ongoing cross-sectoral crisis is occurring or is likely to occur, then the Commission may submit to the Council a proposal for an implementing act tasking the Cell in order to provide technical and operational support to the management of the consequences of that given situation.

The proposal shall set out at least:

(a) the crisis triggering the tasking of the Cell,

(b) the duration of the assignment of the Cell,

(c) the scope of the technical and operational support to be provided by the Cell,

(d) the way in which the Commission would report back to the Council on the activities under this assignment.

4. In the event that the Commission considers that the reasons for tasking the Cell remain valid, it shall submit to the Council a proposal for a Council implementing act to extend the duration of the assignment of the Cell.

5. The Council may amend the proposals referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 and shall adopt the Council implementing acts referred to in paragraphs 4 and 5, acting by qualified majority.

6. The Cell shall report to the Council or one or several of its relevant preparatory bodies at least once per semester on its activities, including the nature and amount of financial support provided in accordance with Article 33e.

Article 33d

Information management

1. *The Cell shall use information already available to the Commission and, as appropriate, from the EEAS, including information shared by Member States through existing channels, in accordance with rules applying to these channels. If applicable, it may also use the information specified in the Council implementing acts referred to in Article 33b(2) and (3).*

2. *In case of full activation of the IPCR as well as activation in information sharing mode referred to in Article 2(1)(b) and Article 2(1)(a) of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993, the Cell may also issue requests for information through the ISAA capability, referred to in Article 8 of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993. The information collected through this pathway shall be included in the ISAA reports prepared for this specific IPCR activation.*

3. *The outcomes of the tasks of the Cell referred to in Articles 33b and 33c shall be shared with the Council and the Member States through the IPCR web platform referred to in Article 9 of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993, and the points of contact referred to in Article 25(5).*

4. *The Cell shall inform Member States through the IPCR web platform after being informed by other Union crisis response or risk management mechanisms about a significant worsening of a situation.*

5. *In carrying out its tasks, the Cell shall ensure the appropriate handling and sharing of information in compliance with applicable Union law, including rules on confidentiality, data protection, trade and business secrets, and the protection of sensitive and classified information. The Cell shall respect the conditions attached to information provided by Member States, in particular where such information relates to national security or other essential national interests.*

6. *The Cell shall neither request information from Member States security and intelligence services, nor duplicate established channels to collect and process information from those services.*

7. In order to ensure that information handled by the Cell is protected appropriately according to its level of sensitivity, taking into account the principle of aggregation of information, the Commission shall develop security classification guides with the assistance of security experts designated by the Member States.

8. The Cell may only disseminate information to the following stakeholders, through the IPCR web platform referred to in, and in accordance with, Article 9 of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993:

(a) the points of contact referred to in Article 25(5),

(b) relevant stakeholders referred to in Article 9(2) of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993,

(c) other stakeholders, only if explicitly authorised during the roundtables referred to in Article 2(2)(b) of Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993, or in the proposals for actions referred to in Article 7(4) of that Decision, or if explicitly authorised by the Council implementing act referred to in Article 33b(4).

In the absence of the authorisation referred to in point (c), and when the Cell supports other Union crisis response or risk management mechanisms involving third countries, any such dissemination shall be carried out exclusively by the respective mechanisms, in accordance with the conditions and safeguards of those mechanisms, and shall be strictly limited to the specific components falling within the mandate of those specific mechanisms.

Article ~~29~~33e

***Union financial* support ~~to~~*in* cross-sectoral crises**

1. ~~The Hub may be used to provide~~***Union financial*** support to ***the management of the consequences of*** cross-sectoral crises***, which shall be provided from the Union funding under Title IIIa for actions meeting the specific objectives of Article 34b(2), point (e), shall only be provided if the following criteria are met*** ~~where~~:

(a) the financial support relates to the provision of technical and operational support in the management of the consequences of cross-sectoral crises; and

~~(a)~~***(b)*** ~~response is initiated~~***a request for assistance has been made*** under ~~other~~***the*** Union ~~risk management instruments;~~***Civil Protection Mechanism in accordance with Article 28.***

~~(b)~~***2.*** ~~in cases~~***The IPCR roundtables,*** referred to in Article ~~2 (1), point (b) of~~ ***2(2) of*** Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993[36]~~;~~***, shall discuss the proposed provision of this Union financial support in the given cross-sectoral crisis. This discussion needs to be undertaken on the basis of the necessary supporting information provided by the Commission detailing the purpose of the funding to be provided and the other possible sources of Union funding other than the Union funding under Title IIIa that may be used to support the management of consequences of cross-sectoral crises.***

~~(c) in cases referred to in Article 4 of Council Decision 2014/415/EU[37];~~

~~(d) support is requested by the Council;~~

~~(e) in cases of public health emergency at Union level in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2022/2371 or WHO declaration of health emergencies of international concern.~~

~~2. In the cases referred to in paragraph 1, the Union support to response may cover up to 100% of the costs to reflect the scale and the impact of the crisis.~~

~~3. In the cases referred to in paragraph 1, the Commission may procure or award grants to Member States for the procurement of material means and any necessary enabling service needed to complement assistance under the Union Mechanism.~~

~~4. When the Union Mechanism provides support to response or the Hub facilitates the response initiated under other Union risk management instruments, the scope of application of those instruments shall be considered for determining the inclusion of associated countries in relation to the actions under this Chapter.~~

~~36~~ ~~Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1993 of 11 December 2018 on the EU Integrated Political Crisis Response Arrangements (OJ L 320, 17.12.2018, p. 28, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2018/1993/oj).~~

~~37~~ ~~2014/415/EU: Council Decision of 24 June 2014 on the arrangements for the implementation by the Union of the solidarity clause (OJ L 192, 1.7.2014, p. 53, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2014/415/oj).~~

TITLE III
HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

Article 34

~~Health emergency~~*Specific activities related to the prevention of,* preparedness *for,* and response *to health emergencies*

1. ***When establishing the work programmes referred to in Article 34k, the specific objective set out in Article 34b(2), points (f) and (g), may be implemented through specific activities*** ~~The Commission shall support Member States in strengthening capabilities for the prevention of, preparedness for, and response to serious cross border threats to health~~, in particular ~~through~~:

(a) supporting data ~~collection,~~***and*** information ***collection and*** exchange, early warning and surveillance ~~systems~~;

(b) enhancing the availability***, affordability*** and accessibility of medical countermeasures, including ~~through~~ procurement~~,~~ ***and*** capacity reservations***,*** as well as ~~their~~ stockpiling ~~and~~***for the stockpile referred to in Article 34a, through cost-effective management, including rotation,*** deployment***, and distribution, aiming for synergies and complementarities with national stocks***;

(c) ***supporting coordination actions, including joint actions, and*** capacity building ***through strengthening knowledge and skills, training and exercises***;

(d) ~~support~~***supporting*** actions for the development, implementation and monitoring ***of health security policies***, including through cooperation between national authorities and with stakeholders, and the development and deployment of the necessary tools and infrastructures, including ~~IT~~***digital*** infrastructures.

2. ***A non-exhaustive list of eligible actions meeting the specific objectives of point (f) and (g) of Article 34b(2) is presented under Section 6 of the Annex.***

Article 34a

Stockpiling of medical countermeasures for Health Emergency Preparedness and Response at Union level

1. In order to strengthen the prevention of, preparedness for, and response to threats that can lead to health emergencies, the medical countermeasures which are included in the rescEU medical stockpiling capacities referred to in Article 21(1) and serve to prepare and respond to threats that can lead to health emergencies shall constitute the medical countermeasures stockpile for public health emergency preparedness and response at Union level.

2. Based on relevant threat and risk assessments and other relevant information generated under the Union health security framework, the Commission shall, by means of implementing acts, define for the medical countermeasures stockpile referred to in paragraph 1:

(a) The quality requirements, including, where appropriate, medical countermeasures at different stages of production or manufacture. This may include unfinished products, such as active pharmaceutical ingredients or critical raw materials, subject to applicable Union law.

(b) The modalities for stockpiling, including, where appropriate, requirements relating to storage, inventory management, rotation and replenishment.

(c) the rules governing the use of the medical countermeasures, including national use, loan or donation, as well as their sustainable management and strategic development. Donations shall be authorised by the Commission after consulting the Health Security Committee established in Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 and, where applicable, the Health Crisis Board referred to in Article 5 of Regulation (EU) 2022/2372 where that Board has been established following the activation of the emergency framework under that Regulation. Those rules shall be based on the risk assessments, health threat prioritisations and other health threat information and assessments identified and developed under the Union health security framework as defined under Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 and other relevant Union acts and take into account existing Union and national stockpiles, manufacturing capacities, supply chain vulnerabilities, regulatory and clinical

considerations, deployment strategies, logistical requirements and available financial resources.

(d) the rules for decisions on deployment and demobilisation, as well as in the event of conflicting requests, in accordance with Article 21(10b).

In particular, the criteria for the assessment of whether overall existing capacities of medical countermeasures at national level and those pre-committed by the Member State to the European Civil Protection Pool are not, in the circumstances, able to ensure an effective response to requests for assistance in accordance with Article 28 in case of a threat that can lead to health emergencies and would lead to a decision to deploy the medical countermeasures referred to in paragraph 1, may cover the anticipated availability and adequacy of medical countermeasures within the relevant therapeutic or prophylactic timeframe of the considered threat that can lead to a health emergency.

3. When preparing the implementing acts referred to in paragraph 2, the Commission shall ensure coherence with the Union's health security framework, avoid duplication with other Union acts, ensure the appropriate involvement of Member States and relevant Union health bodies, and ensure complementarities and synergies with other rescEU capacities in accordance with Article 21(1) and with national medical countermeasures stockpiles, where appropriate.

4. The implementing acts referred to in paragraph 2 shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

Title IIIa
UNION FUNDING

*Article ~~4~~**34b***

Objectives

1. The general objective of ***Union funding established under this Chapter***~~this Regulation~~ shall be to~~ strengthen cooperation between the Union and the Member States to prevent, prepare for and respond to all kinds of natural and human-induced disasters with a view to consequence management, and serious cross-border threats to health, that may occur inside~~

~~or outside the Union, as well as situations where they impact several sectors simultaneously.~~***:***

(a) strengthen cooperation between the Union and the Member States to support and complement Member State actions to prevent, prepare for and respond to disasters regardless of their origin with a view to civil protection consequence management, which may occur inside or outside the Union,

(b) strengthen cooperation between the Union and the Member States to prevent, prepare for, and respond to threats that can lead to health emergencies, that may occur inside or outside the Union,

(c) support cooperation in the management of the consequences of crises which impact several sectors simultaneously.

2. The general objective referred to in paragraph 1 shall be pursued through the following specific objectives:

(a) strengthen the understanding and anticipation of ~~disaster~~ risks ~~and threats, including those linked to climate change and public health~~***emanating from disasters regardless their origin***, and work proactively to prevent or mitigate their potential impacts; foster prevention ~~and preparedness~~; and enhance collaboration between civil protection, health***, environmental,*** and other relevant authorities;

(b) facilitate~~, notably through the Knowledge Network,~~ capacity building at ***the*** Union and Member State level, in particular ***through the Union Civil Protection Knowledge Network, as well as*** by fostering and increasing the uptake and use of ***scientific*** research and innovation results in ***civil protection and*** disaster ~~and crisis~~***risk management***~~, by~~ providing and conducting capacity building programmes such as training and exercises, peer reviews, ~~deployment~~***and deploying*** of experts and EUCP Teams that provide advice on prevention and preparedness measures, ~~as well as~~ other expertise, ~~as well as~~***and*** technical and financial assistance to support strategies, plans and investments, ***and*** foster ***civil protection*** prevention~~,~~ ***and*** preparedness ~~and resilience~~;

(c) enhance preparedness at ***the*** Member State and Union level~~, including all levels of society,~~ to respond to disasters ***regardless of their orgin***, in particular ~~(i) with the~~

~~support of the ERCC and the Hub, and their communication and information structures for coordination and situational awareness among authorities of the Member States and existing EU crisis management structures, (ii) by supporting the development and maintenance of effective early warning systems to detect and communicate imminent threats of disasters, allowing for timely action to be taken to prevent or mitigate impacts, (iii) by developing and maintaining response capacities, strengthening their interoperability and considering their potential dual use in case of crisis, (iv) by promoting the integration of disaster risk prevention and preparedness considerations into policies and financial frameworks at national and Union level, with the aim of strengthening long-term resilience, (v) by facilitating preparedness and resilience among all actors and stakeholders, including all levels of government, civil and military authorities, civil society, the private sector, and the provision of vital societal functions with a view to strengthening overall population preparedness and societal resilience;~~***:***

(i) by supporting the ERCC, including its situational awareness, resource support, and communication capabilities, to support and facilitate coordination among Member State authorities,

(ii) by supporting the development and maintenance of early warning and public warning systems to detect and communicate potential hazard occurrences, thus allowing for timely action to prevent disasters or mitigate the impacts of hazards, without prejudice to Member State legislation,

(iii) by supporting the development and maintenance of response capacities and strengthening their interoperability, without prejudice to the primacy of the responsibilities of Member States in the development and sustainment of response capacities,

(iv) by promoting the integration of disaster risk prevention and preparedness considerations in policies and financial frameworks at the national and Union level, with the aim of strengthening long-term resilience and building European capabilities, and

(v) by enhancing disaster risk preparedness and resilience in the field of civil protection among all actors and stakeholders, including all levels of

government and society, with a view to strengthening overall population preparedness and societal resilience,

(vi) by supporting civil-military coordination.

(d) facilitate rapid and efficient response ~~inside the Union, including in the countries referred to in Article 9(1), as well as outside of the Union,~~ following a request for assistance in accordance with Article 28;

(e) ~~to support~~***strengthen*** Member States' and Union ~~preparedness and response to~~***support to the management of the consequences of*** cross-sectoral crises, in particular by ~~upscaling assistance to address their intensity and impact, as well as by supporting response to crises initiated under other Union crisis response or risk management instruments where required, including through the Hub, and by supporting the cooperation and coordination between relevant civil and military actors, in particular by supporting the establishment of comprehensive civil-military preparedness arrangements~~***strengthening shared situational awareness, providing technical and operational support***;

(f) ~~to enhance~~***support the*** Member States' and ***enhance the*** Union***'s*** efforts in ~~health emergency~~***strengthening prevention of,*** preparedness ***for,*** and response ***to threats that can lead to health emergencies falling under Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 and other relevant Union law*** by:

(i) strengthening the capability for prevention ***of***, preparedness ***for, and timely*** ~~and rapid~~ response to ~~serious cross-border~~ threats ***that can lead*** to health~~, in particular by supporting health security policies and solutions, improving data collection, early warning and surveillance systems, and~~ ***emergencies in accordance with relevant Union law;***

(ii) improving the supply of medical countermeasures ***to prepare for, and respond to threats that can lead to health emergencies*** by enhancing their ***affordability,*** availability and accessibility ~~of medical countermeasures, in particular through reservation capacities, procurement, stockpiling and deployment, as well as~~***; and***

(iii) ~~coordination actions and~~ strengthening capacity building.

(g) facilitate response to an emergence or development of a threat that can lead to health emergencies falling under Regulation (EU) 2022/2371 and other relevant Union law.

Article ~~6~~34c

***/*Budget**

1. The indicative financial envelope for the implementation of the Regulation for the period 2028-2034 is set at EUR 10 675 000 000 in current prices.

2. Budgetary commitments for activities extending over more than one financial year may be broken down over several years into annual instalments.

3. Appropriations may be entered in the Union budget beyond 2034 to cover the expenses necessary and to enable the management of actions not completed by 2034.

4. The financial envelope referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article and the amounts of additional resources referred to in Article ~~7~~***34d*** may also be used for technical and administrative assistance for the implementation of the Regulation, such as preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities, corporate information technology systems and platforms, information and communication activities, including corporate communication on the political priorities of the Union, and all other technical and administrative assistance or staff related expenses incurred by the Commission for the management under this Regulation.

5. In addition to Article 12(4) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, commitment and payment appropriations that have not been used by the end of the financial year for which they were entered in the annual budget shall be automatically carried over and may be respectively committed and paid up to 31 December of the following year. The carried-over appropriations shall be used solely for response actions. The carried-over appropriations shall be the first appropriations to be used in the following financial year.***/***

Article ~~7~~34d

Additional resources

1. Member States, Union institutions, bodies and agencies, third countries, international organisations, international financial institutions, or other third parties, may make additional financial or non-financial contributions under this Regulation. Additional financial contributions shall constitute external assigned revenue within the meaning of Article 21(2), points (a), (d), or (e) or Article 21(5) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.

2. Resources allocated to Member States under shared management may, at their request, be made available under this Regulation. The Commission shall implement those resources directly or indirectly in accordance with Article 62(1), points (a) or (c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509. They shall be additional to the amount referred to in Article ~~6(1)~~*34c(1)* of this Regulation. Those resources shall be used for the benefit of the Member State concerned. Where the Commission has not entered into a legal commitment under direct or indirect management for additional amounts thus made available under this Regulation, the corresponding uncommitted amounts may, at the request of the Member State concerned, be transferred back to one or more respective source programmes ~~or their successors~~.

Article ~~8~~34e

Alternative, combined and cumulative funding

1. This Regulation shall be implemented in synergy with Union programmes. An action that has received a Union contribution from another programme may also receive a contribution under this Regulation. The rules of the relevant Union programme shall apply to the corresponding contribution, or a single set of rules may be applied to all contributions and a single legal commitment may be concluded. If all Union contributions are provided based on eligible cost, the cumulative support from the Union budget shall not exceed the total eligible costs of the action and may be calculated on a pro-rata basis in accordance with the documents setting out the conditions for support.

2. Award procedures under this Regulation may be jointly conducted under direct or indirect management with Member States, Union institutions, bodies and agencies, third countries,

international organisations, international financial institutions, or other third parties ('partners to the joint award procedure'), provided the protection of the financial interests of the Union is ensured. Such procedures shall be subject to a single set of rules and lead to the conclusion of single legal commitments. For that purpose, the partners to the joint award procedure may make resources available to the Union Programme in accordance with Article ~~7~~***34d*** of this Regulation, or the partners may be entrusted with the implementation of the award procedure, where applicable in accordance with Article 62(1), point (c), of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509. In joint award procedures representatives of the partners to the joint award procedure may also be members of the evaluation committee referred to in Article 153(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.

*Article ~~9~~**34f***

~~**Associated** ~~**Third countries** ***associated to the funding under this Regulation***

1. The ~~association~~***Union funding*** under this Regulation may be opened to the ***participation of the*** following third countries through full ~~of~~***or*** partial association ***to the Union funding under Title IIIa***, in accordance with the ***specific*** objectives laid down in Article ~~4 and in accordance with the relevant international agreements or any decisions adopted under the framework of those agreements~~***34b(2)*** and applicable to:

   (a) members of the European Free Trade Association which are members of the European Economic Area, ***in accordance with the conditions laid down in the Agreement on the European Economic Area,*** as well as European micro-states ***(Andorra, Monaco, San Marino and the Vatican City), in accordance with the conditions laid down in the relevant agreements***;

   (b) acceding countries, candidate countries and potential candidates***, in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for the participation of those countries in Union programmes established in the respective framework agreements, protocols and Association Council decisions or in similar agreements and in accordance with the specific conditions laid down in agreements between the Union and those countries***;

(c) European Neighbourhood Policy countries***, in accordance with the general principles and general terms and conditions for the participation of those countries in Union programmes established in the respective framework agreements, protocols and Association Council decisions or in similar agreements and in accordance with the specific conditions laid down in agreements between the Union and those countries***;

(d) other third countries***, in accordance with the conditions laid down in a specific international agreement covering the participation of the third country to the Union funding under this Regulation***.

2. The ~~association~~ agreements for participation ***in the Union funding*** under this Regulation ***referred to in paragraph 1*** shall:

(a) ensure a fair balance as regards the contributions and benefits of the third country associated ***to the Union funding*** under this Regulation;

(b) lay down the conditions of ~~participation~~***association to the Union funding*** under this Regulation, including the calculation of financial contributions, consisting of an operational contribution and a participation fee and its general administrative costs;

(c) not confer any decision-making power under this Regulation;

(d) guarantee the rights of the Union to ensure sound financial management and to protect its financial interests;

(e) where relevant, ensure the protection of security and public order interests of the Union.

3. For the purposes of ***paragraph 2,*** point (d)***, of this Article***, the third country shall grant the necessary rights and access required under Regulations (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 and (EU, Euratom) No 883/2013, and guarantee that ~~enforcement~~ decisions imposing a pecuniary obligation on ***persons other than States within the meaning*** ~~the basis~~ of Article 299 of the Treaty, as well as judgements and orders of the Court of Justice of the European Union, are enforceable.

4. Partial association to the Union funding under this Regulation shall only be opened to the third countries referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article for:

(a) association to all the specific objectives referred to in points (a) to (d) of Article 34b(2), with the exception of point (c)(vi), or

(b) association to all the specific objectives referred to in points (f) and (g) of Article 34b(2).

5. In addition to the requirements laid down in paragraph 2 regarding the agreements for partial participation referred to in paragraph 4, point (a), the agreement with any third countries referred in paragraph 1, points (b), (c) and (d), shall:

(a) contribute to strengthening the Union's and Member State's systems for preventing, preparing and responding to disasters;

(b) involve a third country which has a well-developed national civil protection system, including operational capabilities and resources that could complement existing Union and Member State capacities;

(c) take into account the operational realities of the activities UCPM under Title II, in particular the operational implications of the geographical proximity of the third country; and

(d) ensure the effectiveness of the management and the deployment of rescEU capacities referred to in Article 21.

6. For the specific objectives referred to in point (c)(vi) and point (e) of Article 34b(2), the Union funding under this Regulation may only be opened to the association of third countries referred to in point (a) of paragraph 1.

7. For the association of third countries referred to in points (b), (c) and (d) of paragraph 1, the Commission shall assess the scope of association of a given third country, taking into account an analysis of the interest of and benefit for the Union, based on the fulfillment of the criteria set out in paragraph 2 and, where applicable, paragraph 5. The Commission shall submit this assessment to the Council in a timely manner.

Article ~~10~~34g

Implementation and forms of Union funding

1. This Regulation shall be implemented in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, under direct management or under indirect management with entities referred to in Article 62(1), point (c), of that Regulation.

2. Union funding may be provided in any form in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, in particular grants, prizes, procurement and non-financial donations.

3. Direct grants may be awarded by the Commission to Member States without a call for proposals for actions under the specific objectives referred to in Article ~~4(2)~~***34b(2), in particular where rescEU capacities referred to in Article 21 are acquired, rented, leased or otherwise contracted by Member States pursuant to Article 21(3),*** in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.

4. Grants under the specific objective referred to in Article ~~4(2)~~***34b(2)*** may be used in combination with financing from the European Investment Bank, banks in the Union or ***third countries*** associated ~~countries~~***to the funding under this Regulation*** or from other development or public financial institutions, as well as in combination with financing from private sector finance institutions and from public-sector or private-sector investors, including through public-public or public-private partnerships.

5. Where Union funding is provided in the form of a grant, funding shall be provided as financing not linked to costs or, where necessary, simplified cost options, in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509. Funding may be provided in the form of actual eligible cost reimbursement only where the objectives of an action cannot be achieved otherwise.

6. For the purposes of Article 153(3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, the evaluation committee may be composed partially or fully of independent external experts.

Article ~~1~~34h

Eligibility

1. Eligibility criteria shall be set to support achievement of the objectives laid down in Article ~~4(2)~~***34b(2)***, in accordance with Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 and shall apply to all award procedures under this Regulation.

2. In award procedures for direct and indirect management, one or more of the following legal entities may be eligible to receive Union funding:

   (a) entities established in a Member State;

   (b) entities established in an ~~associated~~ third country ***associated to the funding under this Regulation***;

   (c) international organisations;

   (d) other entities established in ~~non-associated~~ third countries ***not associated to the Union funding under this Regulation*** where the funding of such entities is essential for implementing the action and contributes to the objectives laid down in Article ~~4(2)~~***34b(2)***.

3. In addition to Article 168(2) and (3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, ~~associated~~ third countries ***associated to the funding under this Regulation*** referred to in Article ~~9(1)~~***34f(1)*** of this Regulation may, where relevant, participate in and benefit from any procurement mechanisms set out in Article 168(2) and (3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509. ~~Non-associated~~ Third countries ***not associated to the funding under this Regulation*** may participate in the procurement procedures set out in Article 168(2) and (3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 if it is necessary to achieve the objectives referred to in Article 4***34b***, and subject to the agreement of all participating countries.

4. Award procedures affecting security or public order, in particular concerning strategic assets and interests of the Union or its Member States, shall be restricted in accordance with Article 136 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.

5. In award procedures for grants, actions shall not be eligible for funding where those actions or parts thereof, are already fully financed from other public or private sources,

except contributions from the Union in the context of synergy actions referred to in Article ~~8~~*34e*.

6. The work programme referred to ***in Article 34k and*** in Article 110 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509 or the documents related to the award procedure may further specify the eligibility criteria set out ~~in this Regulation or set additional eligibility criteria~~***under this Article for eligible actions referred to in Article 34i or*** for specific ~~actions~~***activities referred to in Article 34 to ensure the achievements of the objectives laid down in Article 34b(2)***.

Article 34i

Eligible actions

Only actions that implement the specific objectives set out in Article 34b(2), in particular the actions set out in Annex, shall be eligible for funding.

Article 34j

Selection and award procedure

For the actions implementing the specific objectives of Article 34b(2), point (e), the Commission shall, by means of implementing acts, award the Union funding under this Title. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

*Article ~~12~~**34k***

Work programme

1. The ~~Regulation~~***Union funding established under this Chapter*** shall be implemented by work programmes referred to in Article 110 ***of*** Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509.

2. The work programmes referred to in paragraph 1 shall implement the specific objectives set out in Article 34b(2) and the eligible actions referred to in Article 34i, in particular the ones set out in the Annex, as well as the specific activities referred to in Article 34.

In addition to the requirements under Article 110 (2) and (3) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2024/2509, those work programmes shall contain at least:

(a) A dedicated section with the indicative amount allocated to each specific objective set out in Article 34b(2),

(b) A dedicated section for the specific objectives set out in points (a) to (e) of Article 34b(2), with:

(i) the indicative amount allocated to each action meeting the considered specific objective, with exception of the specific objective set out in point (d) of Article 34b(2),

(ii) an indicative implementation timetable, and

(iii) where relevant, the indicative total amount for all actions meeting the considered specific objective;

(c) A dedicated section for the specific objectives set out in points (f) and (g) of Article 34b(2), with:

(i) the indicative amount allocated to each specific activities meeting the considered specific objective, with exception of the specific objective set out in point (g) of Article 34b(2), and

(ii) an indicative implementation timetable.

3. The Commission shall, by means of implementing acts, adopt the work programmes referred to in paragraph 1. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 35(2).

TITLE IV
FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 35

Committee procedure

1. The Commission shall be assisted by a committee. That committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011~~.~~ ***and may convene in the following configurations:***

(a) General Committee for:

(i) matters concerning any specific objective referred to in points (f) and (g) of Article 34b(2) and any specific objective referred to in points (a) to (e) of Article 34b(2).

(ii) matters concerning rescEU under Article 21;

(b) Civil Protection Committee for:

(i) matters concerning specific objectives referred to in points (a) to (e) of Article 34b(2);

(ii) matters concerning the functioning of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism under Title II, except for matters in Article 21 pertaining to the stockpile referred to in Article 34a;

(c) Health Emergency Committee for:

(i) matters concerning the specific objectives referred to in points (f) and (g) of Article 34b(2);

(ii) matters concerning the stockpile referred to in Article 34a.

2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.

~~3. Where the opinion of the committee is to be obtained by written procedure, that procedure shall be terminated without result when, within the time-limit for delivery of the opinion, the chair of the committee so decides or a simple majority of committee members so request.~~

3a. Where the committee delivers no opinion, the Commission shall not adopt the draft implementing act and the third subparagraph of Article 5(4) of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 shall apply.

3b. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011, in conjunction with Article 5 thereof, shall apply.

~~4. In accordance with international agreements concluded by the Union, representatives of third countries and international organisations may be invited as observers in the meetings of the committee under the requirements laid down in its rules of procedure and taking into account security and public order of the Union or its Member States. Representatives of third countries or international organisations shall not participate in deliberations on matters related to the eligibility of third country entities or international organisations.~~

Article 36

Repeal

Decision No 1313/2013/EU is repealed with effect from 1 January 2028.

Commission implementing decisions (EU) 2025/704, (EU) 2022/706, (EU) 2021/1956 and (EU) 2019/570 shall remain in force and continue to apply:

(a) until they are repealed by implementing acts adopted by the Commission or the Council, where applicable, on the basis of the relevant empowerments under Title II, or

(b) when they are amended by implementing acts adopted by the Commission on the basis of the relevant empowerments under Title II.

Article 37

Transitional provisions

1. This Regulation shall not affect the continuation or modification of the actions concerned, until their closure, under Decision No 1313/2013/EU or under Regulation (EU) 2021/522, which shall continue to apply to the actions concerned until their closure.

2. The financial envelope under this Regulation may also cover technical and administrative assistance expenses necessary to ensure the transition between the Union Mechanism and the measures adopted under Decision No 1313/2013/EU or Regulation (EU) 2021/522.

Article 38

Entry into force and application

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.

It shall apply from 1 January 2028.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the European Parliament	*For the Council*
The President	*The President*

Annex

List of possible eligible actions provided for in Article 34i

SECTION 1

POSSIBLE ELIGIBLE *ACTIONS IMPLEMENTING THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE REFERRED TO IN POINT (A) OF ARTICLE 34B(2) RELATING TO* PREVENTION ~~ACTIONS (NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST)~~

The following actions meeting the objective laid down in point (a) of Article ~~4(2)~~***34b(2) shall be eligible for funding***:

(a) Co-financing of projects, studies, workshops, surveys, peer reviews and similar actions and activities;

(b) Supporting Member States in ~~developing and making publicly available risk assessments, assessments of risk management capabilities, and risk management planning at~~***promoting coordination and consistency with other*** national ~~or appropriate~~***and*** sub-national ~~level~~***risk assessment processes and in making available to the public non-sensitive results to support population risk awareness and preparedness in accordance with national law and practices***;

(c) ~~Actions to facilitate~~***Assisting Member States in facilitating*** access~~,~~ ***to and in the*** sharing ~~and improving the~~***of*** knowledge ~~base on~~***to help in the identification of and management of*** disaster risks, including the uptake– of scientific research and innovation results, best practices and ~~information, common interests with third countries and international organisations, risk assessments, mapping activities and risk management activities of Member States;~~***lessons learnt.***

(ca) Assisting Member States in the development of risk assessments, mapping activities, including cross-border scenario-building exercises to support risk-informed prevention planning, and their risk management activities, including developing and sharing information of a common interests with third countries and international organisations;

(d) ~~In line with international commitments,~~ Supporting Member States in improving the collection of disaster loss data at national or at the appropriate sub-national level***, in line with international commitments***;

(e) Supporting Member States ~~to improve cross-sectoral~~***in improving all-hazards*** disaster risk management planning at ***national and*** Union ~~level~~***levels***;

(f) Supporting Member States in ***promoting societal resilience through the development of*** awareness-raising ***measures***, public information ***campaigns and through educational initiatives***~~and education~~, and their efforts in the provision of public information on ~~alert~~***warning*** systems, including on a cross-border level;

(g) Supporting Member States in developing ***the non-binding*** Union disaster resilience goals in the ~~area~~***field*** of civil protection~~;~~**.**

~~(h) Taking additional supporting and complementary prevention action necessary to achieve the objective specified in point (a) of Article 4(2).~~

SECTION 2

POSSIBLE ELIGIBLE *ACTIONS IMPLEMENTING THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE REFERRED TO IN POINT (B) OF ARTICLE 34B(2) RELATING TO* CAPACITY BUILDING ~~ACTIONS (NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST)~~

The following actions meeting the objective laid down in point (b) of Article ~~4(2)~~***34b(2) shall be eligible for funding***:

(a) ~~Actions~~ Facilitating the processing and disseminating of knowledge, lessons learnt, and information relevant to the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism, including through dedicated online tools;

(b) ***Supporting and providing*** technical and financial assistance programmes, including grants;

(c) Setting up and managing***, in close cooperation with Member States, civil protection focused*** training and exercises programmes ~~for civil protection,~~***contributing to*** prevention, preparedness and response planning ***related activities for the response to disasters, which***

can include training and exercises related to preparedness and response to ~~to serious cross-border~~ threats ***that can lead*** to health ***emergencies***, including ***to*** the management of medical countermeasures, ***as well as components relating to*** civil – military ~~cooperation, and an~~***coordination, and the*** exchange of experts ~~programme~~ for civil protection and disaster management personnel;

(d) Setting up and managing***, in close cooperation with Member States,*** a programme ~~on~~***to stimulate the*** uptake of research and innovation results ***in the development of new capacities, and encourage***~~, and encouraging~~ the introduction and use of relevant new approaches***,*** or technologies or both***, including through their acquisition,*** for the purpose of the Union ***Civil Protection*** Mechanism ~~including their acquisition;~~.

~~(e) Taking additional supporting and complementary prevention action necessary to achieve the objective specified in point (b) of Article 4(2).~~

SECTION 3

POSSIBLE ELIGIBLE *ACTIONS IMPLEMENTING THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE REFERRED TO IN POINT (C) OF ARTICLE 34B(2) RELATING TO* PREPAREDNESS ~~ACTIONS (NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST)~~

The following actions meeting the objective laid down in point (c) of Article ~~4(2)~~***34b(2) shall be eligible for funding***:

(a) Managing the ERCC and its tools, including CECIS;

(b) Working with Member States***, upon request, to assist in the development and integration of*** ~~to develop and integrate~~ transnational detection and early warning systems of Union interest***, promoting their interoperability with relevant national early warning systems*** in order to mitigate the immediate effects of disasters;

(c) ~~Working with~~***Supporting*** Member States***, upon a request and based on their needs, in*** ~~on~~ the development ***and upgrading*** of tools providing public information on ongoing ~~alerts~~***warnings*** in Europe;

(d) ~~Working with~~***Supporting*** Member States ~~to maintain~~***in the maintenance*** and further ~~develop~~***developing of*** situational awareness and analysis capability, including scientific

and technical advisory expertise ***related to civil protection***, and translate scientific information into operational information;

(e) Working with Member States to monitor disasters and, where relevant, climate change impacts, and provide***, upon request,*** advice based on scientific knowledge thereof;

(f) Working with Member States to create, maintain and develop European scientific partnerships to cover natural and ~~man-made~~***human induced*** hazards, promote the linkage between national early warning ~~and alert~~ systems and the linkage of such systems with the ERCC and other relevant IT systems ***in compliance with the exclusive competence of Member States on interpreting available data and information, and on regulating and issuing warnings***;

(g) Supporting***, upon request,*** the efforts of Member States and mandated international organisations with scientific knowledge, uptake of innovative technologies and expertise;

(h) Facilitating the coordination of the Member States~~'~~ ***in the programmed*** pre-positioning ***during seasonal risks or the tactical deployments*** of disaster response capacities inside the Union ***where deemed necessary***;

(i) ~~Positioning~~***Supporting the tactical deployment*** and coordinating response capacities at the request of a Member State, including for the purpose of training, exercises, exchange of knowledge and improving interoperability of ***response*** capacities and ~~intervention~~***EUCP*** Teams;

(j) Supporting efforts to improve the interoperability of modules and other response capacities ***in the Union Civil Protection Mechanism***, taking into account best practices at the level of the Member States and at international level;

(k) Taking~~, within its sphere of competence, the necessary~~ ***appropriate*** actions to facilitate Host Nation Support ***for the reception, transit and deployment of civil protection assistance***, including developing and updating, together with Member States, guidelines on Host Nation Support, on the basis of operational experience;

(l) Supporting Member States, upon their request, in respect of disasters happening within their territories by providing the possibility of using European scientific partnerships for

targeted scientific analysis~~.~~***, with the possibility that*** the resulting analyses ~~may~~ be shared via CECIS, with the agreement of the affected Member States;

(m) Undertaking actions relating to the development and deployability of the European Civil Protection Pool, which may be funded at a rate of up to 100%, including the covering of:

(i) ***costs associated with*** training and ~~exercise costs~~***exercises***, ~~including for military personnel,~~

(ii) registration and certification costs,

(iii) adaptation costs for the upgrade***, modernisation, enhancement including*** ~~or~~ repair of ECPP ***and other*** response capacities, which includes costs related to operability, ***insurances, equipment, administration and VAT, warehousing, consumables,*** interoperability ***adaptations*** of modules and other response capacities, autonomy, self-sufficiency, transportability, packaging, security and other necessary costs ***including those related to the deployability requirements of personnel***, provided that they specifically relate to the participation in the ~~European Civil Protection Pool~~***ECPP***.

(n) Undertaking actions relating to the development, maintenance and deployability of rescEU, which may be funded at a rate of up to 100%, including the covering of:

(i) equipment, ***operability, maintenance, including repair, and interoperability adaptations,***

(ii) ~~maintenance, including repair~~***self-sufficiency, transportability, and security costs***,

(iii) insurance,

(iv) training ***and exercises***,

(v) warehousing ***and packaging***,

(vi) registration and certification,

(vii) consumables,

(viia) administration and VAT costs,

(viii) personnel required to ensure the availability and deployability of rescEU capacities.

~~(c) Taking additional supporting and complementary prevention action necessary to achieve the objective specified in point (c) of Article 4(2).~~

SECTION 4

POSSIBLE ELIGIBLE *ACTIONS IMPLEMENTING THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE REFERRED TO IN POINT (D) OF ARTICLE 34B(2) RELATING TO* RESPONSE ~~ACTIONS (NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST)~~

(1) ***The following*** actions meeting the objective laid down in point (d) of Article ~~4(2), which may be funded~~***34b(2) shall be eligible for funding,*** at a rate of up to ~~75%~~***100%***:

(a) ~~transportation of~~***transporting*** spontaneously offered assistance not registered in the ~~European Civil Protection Pool~~***ECPP*** or rescEU ***where no suitable capacity pre-committed to the ECPP or rescEU is available or can be deployed within the required timeframe*** needed to respond to a disaster;

(b) ~~access to~~***accessing*** equipment, transport and logistical resources and services in the form of access to the commercial market or other sources through the Commission, such as transport services procured from private or other entities;

(c) ~~civil protection support to~~***supporting*** consular assistance ***through the Union Civil Protection Mechanism*** to the citizens of the Union in disasters in third countries, while the final co-financing rate shall be progressive and depending on number of different EU citizens on board.

(2) ***The following*** actions meeting the objective laid down ***in*** point (d) of Article ~~4(2), which may be funded~~***34b(2) shall be eligible for funding,*** at a rate of up to 100%:

(a) ~~access to~~***accessing the commercial market or procured from a private or other entities offered by a Member State for*** equipment, transport and logistical resources and services ~~in the form of access to the commercial market or other sources offered by the Member States, such as transport services procured from private or other entities~~;

(b) ~~access to~~***accessing*** transport and logistical resources, where this is necessary to make the pooling of Member States' assistance or rescEU operationally effective and where the costs relate to one or more of the following:

(i) short-term warehousing or longer-term logistical capacity to temporarily store and manage the assistance from Member States with a view to facilitating their coordinated transport, ***including personnel costs necessary for the establishment, operation, management or scale-up of such services, to the extent that such costs are not included in the underlying service contract or arrangement,***

(ii) transport and logistics from the Member State providing the assistance to the point where coordinated transport is taking place,

(iii) coordination, ~~handling~~***handling***, and repackaging of Member States' assistance to make maximum use of available transport capacities or to meet specific operational requirements, ***including the materials, consumables and visibility items necessary for those activities, and personnel costs required for their preparation, operation, management and scaling-up, where such costs are not already covered by the relevant service contract or arrangement,***

(iv) local transport, and transit of pooled assistance with a view to ensuring a coordinated delivery at the final destination in the affected country,

(v) transport of the pooled assistance from the point where the pooling action takes place to final destination in the affected country,

~~(c) transport of spontaneously offered assistance not registered in the European Civil Protection Pool needed to respond to a crisis, as set out in Article 29(3) ;~~

(d) ***facilitating*** transport offered by Member States, ~~including through military resources,~~ of any assistance needed ~~to respond to a disaster or crisis in exceptional and duly justified cases~~, where no commercial transport offers are available;

(e) ~~activities necessary to organise~~***organising*** transport for the conducting of medical evacuation, ***including where such activities are carried out by public private or***

non-governmental entities on behalf of or in support of the competent authorities, where the costs relate to one of the following:

(i) transport of the patient, including ~~its~~***their*** companions, caregivers or legal guardians from the affected country to the transit medical facility or ~~medevac~~***medical evacuation*** hub, including local transport and transit, ***and their subsequent return, on a voluntary and on a case by case basis, after treatment;***

(ii) use or ~~establishing and managing~~***establish and manage*** facilities for ***the*** reception and stabilisation of patients, including operational costs related to medical ***staff and*** equipment***, and administrative*** ~~and to~~ staff necessary ~~to~~***for the*** subsequent transport of patients,

(iii) operational costs of ~~essential~~ staff accompanying the medical evacuation including deployment of assessment medical teams,

(iv) procurement of medical supplies and consumables, access to equipment for the use in the ~~hubs~~***medical evacuation hub*** or during the medical evacuation.

(f) facilitating transport for the purpose of ~~temporary pre-positioning~~***supporting the tactical deployment*** and coordination of response capacities.

(g) facilitating transport and other ~~cost~~***costs*** for the purpose of ~~stand-by allocation~~***programmed prepositioning*** and coordination of response capacities during periods of increased ***and recurring*** seasonal risk;

(h) undertaking additional necessary supporting and complementary action***, upon a request by a Member State,*** in order to facilitate the coordination of response in the most effective way~~;~~**.**

~~(i) taking additional supporting and complementary prevention action necessary to achieve the objective specified in point (d) of Article 4(2);~~

(3) ***The following*** actions meeting the objective laid down in point (d) of Article ~~4(2), which may be funded~~***34b(2) shall be eligible for funding,*** at a rate of up to 100%:

(a) facilitating transport and supporting the operation of registered ECPP capacities;

(b) facilitating transport and supporting the operation of rescEU capacities ***including costs related to the salaries and remuneration of human resources involved in the response operations***;

(c) preparing for the mobilisation and ~~dispatch of the expert~~***deployment of EUCP*** Teams ~~referred to in Article 33(1)~~ and developing and maintaining a surge capacity through a network of trained experts of Member States;

(d) ensuring the availability of technical and logistical support, including the deployment of TAST, for experts and ~~expert~~***EUCP*** Teams ~~referred to in Article 33(1)~~.

SECTION 5

POSSIBLE ELIGIBLE *ACTIONS IMPLEMENTING THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE REFERRED TO IN POINT (E) OF ARTICLE 34B(2) RELATING TO MANAGING THE CONSEQUENCES OF* CROSS-SECTORAL ~~RESPONSE TO CRISIS ACTIONS (NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST)~~*CRISES*

The following actions ***referred to in Article 33e and*** meeting the objective laid down in point (e) of Article ~~4(2)~~***34b(2) shall be eligible for funding, at a rate of up to 100%***:

(a) awarding grants for procurement by Member States of equipment, enabling services, transport and logistical resources and services;

(b) procurement by the Commission of material means and any necessary enabling service needed to complement assistance under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

~~any response action or additional supporting and complementary action necessary to respond to a crisis.~~

SECTION 6

POSSIBLE ELIGIBLE ACTIONS IMPLEMENTING THE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES REFERRED TO IN POINTS (F) AND (G) OF ARTICLE 34B(2) RELATING TO PREVENTION OF,

PREPAREDNESS FOR AND RESPONSE TO THREATS THAT CAN LEAD TO HEALTH EMERGENCIES

The following actions meeting the objectives laid down in points (f) and (g) of Article 34b(2) shall be eligible for funding:

(a) Supporting the setup and implementation of tools, capacities and capabilities for information gathering required for the prevention of and preparedness for health emergencies. This may include surveillance, early warning, modelling and forecasting, event analytics and relevant data and information on medical countermeasures.

(b) Supporting the response to a threat that can lead to health emergencies by ensuring rapid access to medical countermeasures through the procurement and deployment of goods and services, including through the adaptation of medical countermeasures during health emergencies as well as donations to Member States and international partners.

(c) Supporting actions to ensure access to medical countermeasures in times of health emergencies including through exchange of information and monitoring of supply chains, agreements with manufacturers in particular for the reservation of production capacity, the maintenance of 'ever-warm' production capacities, and emergency manufacturing scale-up that covers different types of medical countermeasures as well as diverse manufacturing technologies, development platforms and options of response.

(d) Supporting the cost-effective establishment, replenishment, management and deployment of strategic stockpiles of medical countermeasures, with national authorities of Member States and relevant Union bodies.

(e) Supporting the cost-effective management, deployment and replenishment of the stockpile referred to in Article 34a(1).

(f) Supporting actions to coordinate and promote regional, joint and other forms of pool procurement to facilitate access to medical countermeasures, including to strengthen the global health emergency preparedness and response.

(g) Supporting actions to strengthen the preparedness and response capacities of health crises stakeholders, which may include simulation exercises, voluntary stress tests, contingency planning, lessons learnt reviews, the development of voluntary quality standards, training, exchange of best practices for the efficient coordination of preparedness and response, and the coordination of those actions at Union level.

(h) Supporting actions for the rapid deployment of public health measures to prevent and respond to threats that can lead to health emergencies, including measures that address the needs of vulnerable groups. This may include national risk and crisis communication campaigns and actions to address mis-/disinformation.

(i) Developing and maintaining digital tools for prevention of, preparedness for and response to health emergencies, including to ensure their interoperability with national and Union systems.

(j) Supporting actions to foster a whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach within health emergency preparedness and response, in particular to ensure access to medical countermeasures. This may take the form of support to Member States in cooperation frameworks with industry and civil society, as well as civil – military cooperation, in particular for the access to medical countermeasures.

(k) Supporting development, evaluation and monitoring frameworks of health emergency preparedness and response actions and policies, including through the provision of scientific advice to support evidence-based policymaking.

(l) Supporting collaboration with third countries, United Nations and other international partners fostering global health emergency preparedness and response initiatives, contributing to the objectives of the Union funding under this Regulation.
