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NOTE

From: Presidency

To: Working Party on Civil Protection

Subject: Work programme of the Romanian Presidency in the field of civil protection

Delegations will find in the Annex the work programme of the Romanian Presidency in the field of civil protection.

Work Programme of the Romanian Presidency in the field of civil protection
Working Party for Civil Protection (PROCIV) January- June 2019

The first Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union will act over the next six months (1 January – 30 June 2019) to support and consolidate the value of cohesion, a fundamental factor in finding solutions to the internal and external challenges that the EU is currently facing.

Cooperation among EU Member States is essential in disaster management, as it organises and empowers countries to act together to protect lives, to preserve the environment, property and to safeguard economies against natural and man-made disasters.

Committed to contributing to a Europe of safety, the Romanian Presidency aims to strengthen cooperation in the field of civil protection, by supporting the swift adoption of the legislative proposal amending the Union Civil Protection Mechanism and also an in-depth discussion to facilitate the implementation of its provisions, in particular those relating to high impact, low probability events. The Romanian Presidency is also committed to facilitating negotiations for a sound financial envelope during the 2021-2027 period for the Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

In addition, the Romanian Presidency aims to continue the process of strengthening cooperation among the civil protection and humanitarian communities and to enhance collaboration between the EU and NATO in the field of civil protection.

The trio Presidency (Romania, Finland and Croatia) will further promote civil protection activities by providing an appropriate environment to allow beneficial cooperation between the EU Member States, the European Commission and the European Parliament.

The main topics on the PROCIV Working Party agenda will be:

- **Follow-up on the adoption of the Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism**

The Romanian Presidency will focus on achieving the swiftest possible adoption of the Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism and the subsequent implementing measures. To achieve this, we will work closely with the EU Member States, the European Commission and the European Parliament.

- **Preparedness measures and resources needed at EU level to cope efficiently with high impact, low probability events**

A Presidency questionnaire was disseminated to the Participating States in November 2018, with the purpose of collecting information on how they are addressing high impact, low probability (HILP) events within their national civil protection systems. The survey conclusions will serve as the basis for discussions during the Presidency Workshop titled 'Preparing for low probability, high impact events – way ahead', to be held in Bucharest on 30-31 January.

Following this workshop, the Presidency aims to identify possible recommendations and solutions at EU and Member State level in order to prepare for coherent and swift responses in the event of disasters which rarely occur, but have catastrophic consequences, such as major CBRN incidents and events with mass casualties.

Based on the results of the workshop, further policy discussions on the subject of high impact, low probability events will be held. Findings and recommendations will be summarised in a Presidency report on progress made in the area of civil protection, which will be presented to the Civil Protection Working Party and submitted to the Council in June.

- **The financial envelope for the implementation of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism during 2021-2027**

The Presidency looks forward to the Commission legislative proposal aiming to modify the provisions of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism with regard to the allocation of financial resources, within the financial envelope for 2021-2027, necessary for the implementation of the envisaged prevention, preparedness and response actions.

- **Statement of the European Union and its Member States to the 6th Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (13-17 May 2019, Geneva, Switzerland)**

The PROCIV and COHAFA Working Parties will contribute to a common EU position for the

6th Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction.

This action should be seen as a follow-up to initiatives of former Presidencies aimed at maintaining close and solid cooperation between the European Union and the United Nations.

- **Other points related to civil protection**

The Presidency will also contribute to **cooperation between the EU and NATO** in the field of civil protection. A workshop, including a table-top exercise, will be held in Brussels on 21-22 February, to test the procedures for mobilising and making the best use of the tools and resources available when EU and NATO cooperate in responding to the consequences of disasters and providing assistance to the countries affected.

PROCIV will be informed about the implementation status of the **2017 EU CBRN Action Plan**, the future of the **European Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection (EPCIP)**, including the evaluation report on the implementation of **Council Directive 2008/114 on European Critical Infrastructure**, as well as on the current status of the **Mass Burn Casualty Disasters European Response Plan** and arrangements for **Integrated Political Crisis Response (IPCR)**.

▪ **Events in the field of civil protection on the EU agenda**

- Presidency Workshop 'Preparing for low probability, high impact events – way ahead' (Bucharest, 30-31 January 2019)
- Presidency Workshop on 'EU/NATO Cooperation in Civil Protection' (Brussels, 21-22 February 2019)
- 42nd Meeting of the Directors-General for Civil Protection of the Participating States to the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (Bucharest, 8-10 April 2019)
- Workshop on the implementation of the SEVESO III Directive (Sibiu, 14-16 May 2019)

▪ **PROCIV Meetings**

- 22 January;
- 20 February;
- 12-13 March;
- 16 April;
- 14 May;
- 19 June.

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