



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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NOTE

From :	Presidency
To :	Delegations
Subject :	Programme of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the field of Civil Protection

The Delegations will find annexed the Programme of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the field of Civil Protection.

**PROGRAMME OF THE CZECH PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
EUROPEAN UNION IN THE FIELD OF CIVIL PROTECTION****IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PROTECTION OF PEOPLE AND PROPERTY –
CONTINUOUS CHALLENGE**

The Czech Presidency aims to retain momentum in building European civil protection capabilities for the purpose of ensuring a fast and efficient response to natural and technological risks within Europe and also in the third countries.

One year after the adoption of the crucial documents establishing a Community Civil Protection Mechanism and a Civil Protection Financial Instrument, the Czech Presidency seeks to make further progress in the field of emergency response. In order to implement the requirements of these documents and comply with the request of the European Parliament, the Czech Presidency intends to initiate a broad debate on public awareness in event of major disasters as its main objective.

A) Challenge of public awareness- raising and training in the field of civil protection**Raising the awareness of EU citizens in the event of emergency situations**

The aim of the initiative is to raise the awareness of the EU citizens in the field of civil protection to increase knowledge of prevention, of the kinds of warning in emergency situations and of appropriate behaviour during all types of emergencies. Discussion will be held in the three conceptual streams - the training of diplomatic personnel in the field of civil protection and humanitarian aid; public information and education aimed at the EU population; and prevention measures within the EU. The aim of the Czech Presidency is the adoption of the corresponding Council Conclusions at JHA Council in June.

Corresponding seminar:

The Czech Presidency, in cooperation with the European Commission, is organising the seminar on 18 - 20 February 2009 in Brno.

B) Challenge of achieving a more efficient EU emergency response

Critical Infrastructure Warning Information Network (CIWIN)

The Czech Presidency in cooperation with the Council and the Commission will continue the work on the establishment of a Critical Infrastructure Warning Information Network (CIWIN).

C) EU Disaster Prevention challenge

Commission Communication on EU disaster prevention

EU disaster prevention is a priority theme within the EU civil protection field in the year 2009.

After the adoption of the Commission Communication in early 2009, the Czech Presidency, in close cooperation with the Commission and the Council, will prepare proposals for corresponding Council Conclusions.

**TIMETABLE OF THE EVENTS DURING THE CZECH PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF
THE EU**

JANUARY 2009	<p><u>14 January</u>: Evening welcoming party hosted by the Czech Presidency, Czech Permanent Representation, Rue Caroly 15, Bruxelles – Ixelles</p> <p><u>19 – 22 January</u>: Symposium on Cartography and Geoinformatics for Early Warning and Emergency Management in Prague</p>
FEBRUARY 2009	<p><u>11 February</u>: “112 Day” - Presentation in the European Parliament</p> <p><u>18, 19 and 20 February</u>: Seminar on public awareness-raising in the event of major disasters in Brno</p>
APRIL 2009	<p><u>22, 23 and 24 April</u>: Meeting of Directors-General for civil protection in Prague</p>
JUNE 2009	<p><u>4 and 5 June</u>: JHA Council in Luxembourg</p> <p>Adoption of conclusions on civil protection by the Home Affairs Ministers for forwarding to Council</p>

PROVISIONAL AGENDAS FOR MEETINGS OF THE PROCIV WORKING PARTY

14 JANUARY 2009	<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting of the PROCIV Working Party</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Presentation of the Czech Presidency's work programme, its objectives and Presidency team– Council Decision on the establishment of a Critical Infrastructure Warning Information Network (CIWIN) – discussion– Information by the Presidency on the Seminar on Public Awareness to be held in Brno on 18-20 February 2009– Information by the Chairman of the COCON Working Party on the European Union guidelines on the implementation of the consular Lead State concept
13 FEBRUARY 2009	<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting of PROCIV Counsellors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Information on the CBRN seminar outcomes presented by CZ PRES
12 MARCH 2009	<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting of the PROCIV Working Party</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Proposal for Council conclusions on raising EU citizens' awareness in the field of civil protection– Proposal for Council conclusions on EU disaster prevention
2 APRIL 2009	<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting of the PROCIV Working Party</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Proposal for Council conclusions on raising EU citizens' awareness in the field of civil protection (2nd reading)– Proposal for Council conclusions on EU disaster prevention (2nd reading)

14 MAY 2009	<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting of the PROCIV Working Party</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Proposal for Council conclusions on raising EU citizens' awareness in the field of civil protection (adoption) – Proposal for Council conclusions on EU disaster prevention
9 JUNE 2009	<p style="text-align: center;">Meeting of the PROCIV Working Party</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Presentation of the Swedish Presidency's work programme

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