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Or French

EUROPEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN MAJOR HAZARDS AGREEMENT (EUR-OPA)

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT CORRESPONDENTS OF EUR-OPA

*Document prepared by the Secretariat
of the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement*

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Context:

The European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA), which was established by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in 1987 [see [Resolution \(87\)2](#)], fosters prevention and reduces the effects of disasters on people, their living environment and the natural environment and is a forum for co-operation between European and southern Mediterranean countries in the field of major natural and technological hazards. Its field of action includes knowledge of hazards, preparedness for disasters and risk prevention and management. EUR-OPA's political decision-making body is the Ministerial Session, assisted by the Committee of Permanent Correspondents. In identifying the priorities of the Agreement through the adoption of a medium-term plan, this Committee approves the corresponding recommendations and Resolutions addressed to the relevant authorities of member states. It also approves the guidelines with a view to their implementation.

The objective of this Partial Agreement is that authorities take appropriate measures for disaster risk reduction by increasing resilience and in implementing EUR-OPA's recommendations and guidance tools.

The Committee of Permanent Correspondents instructs the Bureau to monitor the action taken by the relevant authorities of member states in response to the recommendations and resolutions adopted by this Committee.

The Committee delegates to the Bureau the responsibility of collecting data and asks it to gather information on the implementation of EUR-OPA recommendations and resolutions over the past ten years and their impact on national legislation and disaster risk reduction strategies.

Main tasks:

With a view to improving prevention of, protection against, and organisation of relief from major natural and technological hazards in member states and at the level of the forum, the Bureau shall

- ▶conduct a survey of action taken in response to EUR-OPA recommendations and resolutions and their concrete impact on legislation, policies and national risk reduction strategies;
- ▶examine the way in which member states prepare disaster risk reduction strategies and whether the texts drawn up by EUR-OPA are taken into account

and the evidence of improvements in the situation (changes to legislation, national policies and practices, and identification of good practices, etc.).

- ▶conduct a survey into the number and the effectiveness of implemented projects aimed at identifying and monitoring potential hazards and reducing vulnerability.

Specific tasks:

- ▶In the context of the usual meetings, the Bureau, the Secretariat and the expert would meet twice in 2018, and subsequently work by correspondence, Skype and telephone.

- ▶Preparation of a questionnaire (by themes) to ensure that action is being taken by the 25 contracting parties and allocation of responsibilities (the permanent correspondent in each contracting state shall be responsible for distributing the questionnaire to the relevant authorities, gathering the replies and forwarding them to the Secretariat).

- ▶Evaluation of the questionnaire.

- ▶Preparation of a report, including the recommendations and identifying priorities for future action to be taken.

► Organisation of a workshop to study the results of the survey and identify possible future monitoring initiatives.

The Bureau shall comprise 3 members. It may be assisted by an expert¹. The Secretariat shall be responsible for co-ordination and follow-up.

Duration of the terms of reference and calendar:

- November 2017 - December 2018
- 2 meetings of the Bureau (April 2018 and September 2018)
- Workshop (November 2018)

Budget

2017

2018

¹ Subject to the availability of funds.

SPECIFIC TASKS

CALENDAR

- 1) Adoption of the Bureau's terms of reference for the implementation and monitoring of recommendations and resolutions
6-7 November 2017
- 2) Drafting of the questionnaire
January 2018
- 3) Bureau meeting
Sending of the questionnaire to member states
April 2018
April 2018
(deadline for replies: 31 July 2018)
- 4) Bureau meeting
Evaluation of replies by the Bureau
September 2018
- 5) Presentation to the Plenary of the EUR-OPA Committee of Permanent Correspondents of the final report, including recommendations and indicating courses of action to be taken, and establishment of a network of good practices
November 2018
- 6) Workshop
November 2018