

WMO RA VI Technical Conference

Role of the NMHSs in the Prevention and Mitigation of Natural Hazards Impacts

9-10 October 2008
Chisinau, Moldova

Conference Agenda

09:00-
17:00

DAY 1: THURSDAY, 9 OCTOBER

08.00-
09.00

Registration of participants

09.00-
10.00

OPENING SESSION

Mr A. Stratan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Moldova
Mr M. A. Bedritsky, President of WMO
Mrs V. Ivanova, Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Moldova
Mr S. Briceño, Director, UN/International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction
World Bank
Mr J. Achache, Group on Earth Observations
Mrs. E. Kistruga, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration
Mr. C. Rusnac, Secretary General of the National Commission of the R.M. for UNESCO
Mr V. Cazac, State Hydrometeorological Service of the Republic of Moldova

10.00-
10.30

Coffee Break and Group Photo

SESSION I-Governance, National Coordination Mechanism Related to Disaster Risk Reduction

Chair: Mr H. Das, Deputy Head of Civil Protection Unit, European Commission, DG Environment, Directorate ENV.A.3: Communication, Legal Affairs and Civil Protection

Rapporteur: Mrs P. Albrito, Regional Coordinator for Europe, ISDR Secretariat

Panelists:

10:30-
12:00

1. Mr A. Welge, Chair Council of European Municipalities & Regions, WG on Environment
2. Prof. G. Tetzlaff, Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board of German Committee for Disaster Prevention
3. Dr K. Cecei-Morotz, Head of National Directorate for Disaster Management, Hungary
4. Mr F. Cadarso González, PR of Spain with WMO and member of the WMO Executive Council WG on Disaster Risk Reduction and Mr Velasquez Lopez F. J., Director General Civil Protection, Spain
5. Dr C. Vonlanthen, Secretary Executive, National Platform for Natural Hazards, Switzerland
6. Mr B. Claes-Uno, Coordinator at the Planning, Construction and Environment, Swedish Rescue Services Agency.

Format: 10 minutes statements/presentations by the panels, followed by discussions.

Issued to be covered:

- National disaster risk reduction planning, legislations and legal frameworks.
- Roles and responsibilities of different agencies in disaster risk management Multi-stakeholder approach to the development and implementation of the national and local planning and preparedness, coordination mechanisms and national platforms.
- Role of NMHSs national planning, decision-making including for disaster risk reduction.
- Recommendations for improvements of coordination and governance based on experiences

from management of past events and actions for their implementation

12:00-14:00 2 h Lunch offered by the local organizers

SESSION II- Utilization of Meteorological and Hydrological Information for Disaster Risk Assessment

Chair: Mr M. Dilley, Senior Policy Advisor, Disaster Reduction Unit, Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery

Rapporteur: Mr E. Pasche, Institute for River and Coastal Engineering, Technical University of Hamburg

Panelists:

1. Mr R. Hoffer, Environment and Water Advisor, Europe and Central Asia Region, World Bank
2. Dr K. Bergant, Director, Meteorological Office, Environmental Agency, Representative of Drought Management Center for SEE, Slovenia
3. Mrs A. Gocheva, Representative of WMO RA VI Working Group on Climate Related Matters
4. Mr Y. V. Brazhnikov, Director of International Cooperation Department of Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters, Russia
5. Mr D. Robinson, Head, Government Services, UK Met Office

14:00-15:30

Format: 10 minutes statements/presentations by the panels, followed by discussions.

Issued to be covered:

- Hydro-meteorological risk assessment for sectoral decision-making such as agriculture, health, infrastructure, e.g. energy, housing & industry, transport
- Methodologies for Probabilistic Risk quantification and analysis
- Use of climate change information in risk assessment
- Multi-Stakeholders approach to risk identification and importance of coordination and partnerships
- Data and information management systems
- Recommendations for capacity building in the Region and actions for their implementation

15:30-15:50 Coffee Break

SESSION III- Early Warning Systems with a Multi-Hazard Approach

Chair: Dr M. Golnaraghi, Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction, WMO

Rapporteur: Mr E. Ghanem, Regional Representative IFRC, Budapest

Proposed Panelist:

1. Mr L. Hordijk, Director Institute for Environment and Sustainability, EU Research Center, Ispra, Italy
2. Mrs N. Varol, Director, General Directorate of Disaster Affairs, European Natural Disaster Training Centre, Turkey
3. Mr M. Staudinger, Meteoalarm Project Manager, EUMETNET
4. Mr C. Blondin, Meteo-France and Mr K. Pajaniradja, French Civil Defense and Security, Natural Disaster Management Advisor
5. Dr A. Miozzo, Director General of International Relations Office of Civil Protection Department, Italy
6. Mr C. Zamfir, Deputy Inspector General, General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations

15:50-17:00

Format: 10 minutes statements/presentations by the panels, followed by discussions.

Issued to be covered:

- Governance and coordination, roles and responsibilities of different agencies in operational EWS
- Technical and Operational Capacities for Observing, Detecting, Monitoring, Forecasting and Warnings of Hazards
- Formulation of warnings and integration of risk information in warning messages. Methods to raise awareness for certain types of risk
- Dissemination to authorities and those at-risk
- Incorporation of warning in emergency preparedness and response operations
- User requirements and training of agencies
- Recommendations for governance, technical and operational capacity building of EWS and actions for their implementation

18.00 Reception offered by the local organizers

09:00-
17:00

DAY 2: FRIDAY, 10 October 2008

SESSION IV. Emerging Opportunities - Financial Risk Transfer Mechanisms

Development of CAT Insurance and Weather Risk Management Market

Mr Eugene Gurenko, Lead Insurance Specialist, Europe and Central Asia Region, the World Bank

09:00- Overview of WMO supporting new Financial Risk Transfer Mechanism

09:40 Dr M. Golnaraghi, Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction Division, World Meteorological Organization

10 minutes Q/A

09:40-
10:00

Coffee Break

SESSION V: Strengthening inter-organizational cooperation among stakeholders in disaster risk reduction: National and regional issues

Chair: Mr V.Cazac, PR of Moldova with WMO

Rapporteur: Dr I. Obrusnik, Director, Czech Hydrometeorological Institute, Czech Republic

Proposed Panelists:

1. Mr J.Achache, Director, Secretariat, Group on Earth Observations
2. Mrs K. Chachibaia, Regional Technical Advisor, Climate Change Adaptation and Capacity Development UNDP/GEF, Europe, CIS and Arab States, UNDP Bratislava Regional Centre
3. Mrs S. Bujas Juraga, Chair DPPI
4. Dr L. Prahm, Director-General EUMETSAT-
5. Mr M. Kloeppel, Assistant to Director, ECMWF
6. Mr D. Keuerleber-Burk, President WMO RA VI (Europe)
7. Mr M. Heikinheimo, Chair, WMO RA VI WG on Natural Disaster Prevention and Mitigation

10:00-
12:00

Format: 10 minutes statements/presentations by the panels, followed by discussions.

Issued to be covered:

- Mapping capacities to support disaster risk management in the sub-regions of Europe
- Identification of major gaps, needs and challenges in the sub-regions (country grouping)
- Identification of existing projects, activities and examples of best practices in Europe
- Strengthening DRR capacities in the Region
- Recommendations for strengthening NMHSs cooperation with the stakeholders and actions for their implementation

12:00- Lunch offered by the local organizers

14:00

SESSION V: Strengthening inter-organizational cooperation among stakeholders in disaster risk reduction: National and regional issues (continuation)

Chair: Mr V.Cazac, PR of Moldova with WMO

Rapporteur: Dr I. Obrusnik, Director, Czech Hydrometeorological Institute, Czech Republic

Panelists:

- 14:00-
15:10
1. Mr P. Taalas, Director-General, Finnish Meteorological Institute, Finland
 2. Mr N.V. Bocharnikov, First Deputy Director and Mrs T. Churilova, Executive IT Engineer, Institute of Radar Meteorology, St. Petersburg, Russia
 3. Mr K. Ristolainen, Application Manager, Vaisala Oyj Ltd Company, Finland
 4. Mr P. Weller, Secretary General ICPDR Secretariat, Austria
 5. Prof. A. Bantus, Director European Centre for Mitigation of Natural Risks, Moldova
 6. Dr. Shveny Natalia, Chief of Meteorology Division, Central Geophysical Observatory, Ukraine

Format: *10 minutes statements/presentations by the panels, followed by discussions.*

15:10-
15:25

Coffee Break

SESSION VI: Conclusions and Recommendations

Chair: Mr E. Bisch, President - Director General, Météo-France

Rapporteur: Dr M. Golnaraghi, Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction Division, WMO

Panelist: *Chairpersons and Rapporteurs of the Conference sessions*

- 15:25-
17:00
1. Mr H. Das, Deputy Head of Civil Protection Unit, European Commission
 2. Mr M. Diley, Senior Policy Advisor, Disaster Reduction Unit, Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, UNDP
 3. Mr V. Cazac, PR of Moldova with WMO
 4. Ms S. Bujas Juraga, Chair, DPPI
 5. Mr E. Bisch, President - Director General, Météo-France

Format: *10 minutes statements/presentations by the panels, followed by discussions.*

Issued to be covered:

- Synthesis of the conclusions and recommendation of the 5 sessions
- The way forward for the participants

Closure of the Meeting