



“Human rights in Disasters: Search and Rescue Operations in disasters especially for vulnerable people”

Workshop

5th & 6th of November 2009

Hotel Electra Palace, Athens (Greece)

Organized by:

- Open Partial Agreement (OPA) of the Council of Europe (CE)
- General Secretariat for Civil Protection, Greece (GSCP)
- National Technical University of Athens, Greece (NTUA)
- Second Generation Locator for Urban Search and Rescue operations –“SGL for USaR” (EU FP7 project)

<http://www.sgl-eu.org/>



“Human rights in Disasters: Search and Rescue Operations in disasters especially for vulnerable people”

Workshop: 5th & 6th of November 2009

Hotel Electra Palace, Athens (Greece)

Organized by: Open Partial Agreement (OPA) of the Council of Europe (CE), General Secretariat for Civil Protection, Greece (GSCP), National Technical University of Athens, Greece (NTUA), Second Generation Locator for Urban Search and Rescue operations –“SGL for USaR” (EU FP7 project)

Overview

The organizers have joined efforts to achieve a common goal; to improve technology for search and rescue operations of people with disabilities and vulnerable groups of population.

In general, human rights are at “risk” in case of a disaster. This is especially true for people with any kind of disability, such as mobility problems, sight or hearing difficulties and more broadly for vulnerable groups, like as the elderly and children. However, the issue of human rights is missing in most of activities and discussions for coping with disasters.

To encourage efforts towards this direction, the FP7 project Second Generation Locator for Urban Search and Rescue operations –“SGL for USaR” initiated a number of actions, such as the identification of possible gaps in Search and Rescue procedures and the sharing of ideas regarding potential technologies.

This initiative, launched in 2009, is strongly supported by the Open Partial Agreement (OPA) of the Council of Europe (CE), the General Secretariat for Civil Protection, Greece (GSCP) and the National Technical University of Athens, Greece (NTUA). It is expected that other organizations will join this effort in the near future.

In that scope, a workshop is organized with the participation of different rescue teams from a number of European Countries. Priority will be given on addressing hand-on and immediate based issues; operational issues and capabilities of available technologies. During the different sessions, human rights in disasters will be overviewed and experiences and lessons-learned will be presented. The last session of the workshop is devoted to building a catalogue of ideas for further elaboration and for preparing suggestions to relevant organizations. This joint effort aims at mobilizing interested communities, pushing forward the issue to the related organizations and bodies and also at establishing a working group on these issues.



“Human rights in Disasters: Search and Rescue Operations in disasters especially for vulnerable people”

Workshop: 5th & 6th of November 2009

Hotel Electra Palace, Athens (Greece)

Organized by: Open Partial Agreement (OPA) of the Council of Europe (CE), General Secretariat for Civil Protection, Greece (GSCP), National Technical University of Athens, Greece (NTUA), Second Generation Locator for Urban Search and Rescue operations –“SGL for USaR” (EU FP7 project)

Contact persons:

- Mr Francesc Pla (CE): francesc.pla@coe.int
- Prof. Milt Statheropoulos (NTUA): stathero@chemeng.ntua.gr
- Dr Sofia Karma (NTUA): skarma@central.ntua.gr
- Mrs Varvara Diamanti (GSCP): vdiamanti@gscp.gr

Web-page: <http://www.sgl-eu.org/>, <http://fiactu.ntua.gr/>

Program:

Thursday, 5 November 2009

8:30-9:00

Coffee

9:00-10:30

Welcome and Opening address

- **“Welcoming address”**
Prof. Konstantinos Moutzouris
Rector of the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), GR
- **“Council of Europe and Human rights”**
Mr Francesc Pla
Deputy to the Executive Secretary, EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement of the Council of Europe
- **“Emergency response and vulnerable groups”**
Dr Olga Kakaliagou
General Secretariat for Civil Protection, GR
- **“Earthquakes and preventive measures”**
Prof. Konstantinos Makropoulos
Director of the European Centre on Prevention and Forecasting of Earthquakes (ECPFE), GR
- **“Disaster Risk Reduction and the protection of vulnerable people-Preparedness and preventive measures”**
Mr Stepan Badalyan
Director of European Interregional Scientific and Educational Centre on Major Risk Management (ECRM), AM
Permanent Correspondent of Armenia in EUR-OPA Major Hazards
- **“Ethics and human factor in the FP7 project “Second Generation Locator for Urban Search and Rescue operations –SGL for USaR”**
Prof. Milt Statheropoulos
Coordinator of the “SGL for USaR” project, Director of the European Center for Forest Fires (ECFF), GR

Session I: Human rights in disasters-An overview

10:30-11:00 **Coffee- break**

11:00-12:00 **Presentations [Moderator: Mr Francesc Pla, Council of Europe]**

- **“Human Rights and Disaster Risk Reduction”**
Mr Demetrio Innocenti
United Nations, International Strategies for Disaster Reduction (UN/ISDR)
- **“Human rights in emergency situations”**
Mr Geert Seynaeve
President, Education Committee of World Association for disaster and Emergency Medicine (WADEM),
Member of the Board, Assistant Editor of the journal “Prehospital and Disaster Medicine”
- **“Bioethics in Emergency and Crisis Intervention”**
Mrs Beatrice Toussaint
Officer in Chief for Scientific Research, Belgian Ministry of Health

12:00-13:00 **Presentations [Moderator: Prof. Konstantinos Makropoulos, ECPFE]**

- **“PROMYLIFE: a project dealing with the protection of vulnerable groups from natural disasters”**
Mrs Eleni Syrrakou
Project Coordinator, Development Enterprise of Achaia Prefecture (N.E.A.), GR
- **“Earthquake Protection Policy for People with Disabilities in Greece ”**
Mrs Chrysa Gountromichou
Geologist Msc., Earthquake Planning and Protection Organization (E.P.P.O.), GR
- **“Organization of search & rescue operations in Ukraine during large scale emergency situations”**
Mr Volodymyr Demchuk¹ and Mr Sergiy Zibstev²
¹Ministry of Ukraine of Emergencies and Affairs of Population Protection from the Consequences of Chernobyl
Catastrophe
² National University of Life and Environmental Sciences, UA

13:00-13:30 **Discussion**

13:30-14:30 **Lunch break**

Session II: Operational Issues

15:00-16:00 **Presentations [Moderator: Fire Captain Antonios Panagiotakis, EMAK Hellenic Rescue Team]**

- **“USaR operations and vulnerable groups of population- Existing approaches, possible gaps and key ideas for coping with them”**
Mr Gael Rosello¹ and Captain Nicolas Aced²
¹Entente Interdepartementale en vue de la Protection de l'Environnement et de la Foret contre l'Incendie (CEREN), FR
²Service Départemental d'Incendie et de Secours du Vaucluse (SDIS84 Rescue team), FR
- **“Exercise in USaR scenario-Catalan rescue team”**
Jordi Batlle and Sandra Sans
Direccio General De Prevencio I Extincio D'incendis I Salvaments/ DGPEIS Rescue team, ES

- ***"PISA Fire Department: Search, Rescue and Relief"***
Mr Fabrizio Graverini and Mr Alessandro Susini
USaR Team Fire Department of Pisa, IT

16:00-16:45 **Discussion**

Friday, 6 November 2009

8:30-9:00 **Coffee**

Session II: Operational Issues (continued)

9:00-10:15 ***Presentations [Moderator: Mr Mike Mc.Carthy, UK Rescue Team]***

- ***"Emergency Plans of Action in case of a disaster in Cyprus: Evacuating the old, disabled and younger people"***
Mr Chrisiliou Chricilios
Deputy Director of Civil Defence, CY
- ***"USAR response, equipment and training...The UK capability"***
Mr Mike Mc.Carthy
Special Rescue Fire Service College Moreton in Marsh, UK
- ***"S.A.R. Operations in Collapsed Structures- E.M.A.K. Capabilities"***
Fire Captain Antonios Panagiotakis
EMAK Hellenic Rescue Team, GR

10:15-10:45 **Coffee- break**

10:45-11:00 ***Presentations [Moderator: Group Captain Dimitrios Demagos, HAF Commander, HAF Infrastructure Wing, KOMAK, GR]***

- ***"An Inclusive Approach to Search and Rescue Operations"***
Mr Anders Fridborg
SWIFT USAR, SE
- ***"Operational Capabilities of Hellenic Air Force Disaster Response Team"***
Mr George J. Beldecos
Wing Commander, PhD, RIBA, Hellenic Air Force Disaster Response Team (KOMAK), GR

11:00-11:15 **Coffee- break**

Session III: Catalogue of Ideas

[Moderator: Prof. Milt Statheropoulos, NTUA]

11:15-13:00 **Round table discussion**