

# perCEPtions Newsletter

Supporting NATO Operations - Protecting Civilian Populations

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# EDITORIAL

by Ambassador Adam Kobieracki - ASG for Operations



I have the pleasure in launching the Civil Emergency Planning (CEP) Newsletter which is designed to promote visibility of CEP activities. Its aim is to disseminate key developments in the CEP field and to underscore the added-value of CEP to our "customers" – primarily national authorities and NATO Military Authorities. The CEP newsletter provides a forum for stimulating an informal exchange of views on a variety of CEP topics, hence its title "perCEPtions".

Decisions taken at the Riga Summit in November 2006 re-iterated that today's security challenges require a comprehensive approach involving a wide spectrum of civil and military instruments. The Comprehensive Political Guidance which provides political direction for the Alliance's priorities over the next 10-15 years also underlines this fact. CEP's technical expertise across a wide range of sectors (transport, medical, communications, civil protection, industrial supply, food and agriculture) can provide important contributions to enhancing the civil-military interface in operations that are evermore complex in nature.

CEP remains a highly popular area for practical cooperation with partners. We welcome the three new PfP countries, Bosnia Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia to the broad array of CEP activities. Efforts are already underway to integrate them in accordance with their specific requirements. CEP continues to serve as an outreach tool for other partnerships such as the Mediterranean Dialogue and the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative which we hope to enhance during the course of 2007.

The Riga declaration also highlights possible risks in the areas of vital resources and energy security. Given the extensive expertise and experience in the area of critical infrastructure protection, CEP has significant contributions to bring to future discussions on protection of vital resources and energy infrastructures in addition to its continued relevance in NATO's ongoing fight against terrorism.

CEP is a complex and interrelated activity. As such, it neither begins nor ends at NATO. For this reason, the newsletter's scope is broad and will include references and links to CEP-related activities in other international fora.

The above-mentioned issues certainly present CEP with many challenges in the months ahead and we hope to highlight the principal results in forthcoming newsletters. It is our intention, in time, that this newsletter will become a web-based device supplementing information contained on the future CEP Web Page.

I encourage all to contribute to the newsletter and hope that you will enjoy reading the short articles and features it contains.

## CEP QUOTE

*"...Alliance security interests can also be affected by the disruption of the flow of vital resources. We support a coordinated, international effort to assess risks to energy infrastructures and to promote energy infrastructure security."*

Riga Summit Declaration 29 November 2006

## Revising the CEP Action Plan – A challenge ahead for SCEPC\*

The Civil Emergency Planning (CEP) Action Plan for the improvement of civil preparedness for possible terrorist attacks with chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear weapons is undoubtedly one of the greatest achievements in the field of CEP at NATO. This plan encompasses a host of measures designed to improve awareness of NATO nations and Partners to respond rapidly and effectively to the consequences of a terrorist attack using such weapons.

Five years since its endorsement, most action items covered by the Plan have been implemented. We have periodically noted progress and the list of concrete actions has become much longer, more detailed but less comprehensible. Furthermore, the fight against terrorism has been recently relegated further down our agenda. We have focused work almost entirely on civil support to the military and military capabilities in disaster response operations. It is unrealistic to expect any fundamental change in SCEPC's approach to the protection of civilian populations against CBRN threats, however, it is high time to rethink our way ahead.

### HOW DO I ENVISAGE THE FUTURE CEP ACTION PLAN?

First, the Plan should serve as a reference tool and offer guidance for national authorities. It should be prepared with the following in mind: (a) It should provide an objective-based roadmap to outline benchmarks for the SCEPC and PB&Cs to achieve; (b) It should provide a list of priority actions that could be translated into concrete tasks in the PB&Cs' work programmes; (c) Partners should be involved to the maximum extent possible; and (d) It should remain a living document to reflect the status of work.

Second, the CEP Action Plan must fit into the wider NATO puzzle. We should be more receptive to the need for better internal coordination. Several excellent and important initiatives in the field of protection against CBRN threats are already underway and there is still room for more. Such activities include five CBRN defence initiatives (including a disease surveillance system) approved in Prague in 2002 and the Defence Against Terrorism Programme of Work (DAT PoW) approved in Istanbul in 2004. Further revision of the Action Plan is justified only when measures taken by SCEPC and the PB&Cs are set within the broader scope of NATO activities. We should be seeking greater complementarity with these initiatives, and focusing our energy on contributing efficiently and bringing added value.

Finally, there is a need for a wider NATO response to reduce the vulnerability of civilian populations to CBRN threats and this response should not be considered in isolation. In the spirit of the Riga Summit Declaration, NATO must be aware of activities in other international organizations already engaged in this field, in particular the EU, and explore scope for enhanced co-operation, taking into account the competences of each organisation.

\* A personal opinion contributed by Ilona Raduj,  
Permanent Delegation of Poland to NATO



Photos : Croatian National Protection and Rescue Directorate

## A Croatian Perspective

Today, modern society faces many challenges arising from the threats of global terrorism, climate change and a growing number of natural and man-made disasters.

Experience has shown that collaboration among states is necessary for planning protective measures and procedures, conducting joint training for rescue teams and establishing international intervention teams to eliminate the consequences of disasters and terrorists attacks.

Disaster response and readiness cooperation (NATO's Civil Emergency Planning) is one of the main NATO PfP activities. Through the organisation of exercises, conferences, workshops and seminars, the activities of national protection and rescue departments are coordinated. This enhances the capabilities for combined responses to emergency situations and strengthens international security. Such cooperation among member countries has been in place for several years. It was expanded in the 1990's to include partner countries. Today, it represents the largest non-military component of PfP activities. Stemming from the Russian proposal in 1998, the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Centre (EADRCC) was established to coordinate the response to possible disasters within the EAPC area.

The EADRCC's coordination mechanisms assist NATO and Partner countries to help affected areas in an efficient manner. Still very much in our minds are the tsunami in South-East Asia, hurricane Katrina in the US and the earthquake in Pakistan. In all these cases, assistance from EAPC countries was quickly and efficiently delivered to the affected areas through the help and coordination of the EADRCC. As a member of the EAPC, the Republic of Croatia used the EADRCC to send help during the floods in Poland (2001), the Czech Republic (2002), the Slovak Republic (2006) and to Turkey during the Iraq crisis in 2003.

The Republic of Croatia aspires to become a fully-fledged member of NATO, an Alliance based on the fundamental values and interests of member countries. Croatia also shares the common values of freedom, democracy, the rule of law, market economy, international solidarity and stable international relations governed by peace and security. In becoming a PfP member in 2000, the Republic of Croatia gained the opportunity to improve cooperation in the field of security and defence. It also made the commitment to become actively involved in the international community's preparations to meet requirements for rapid reaction capabilities in the event of natural or other disasters including terrorist attacks.



The Republic of Croatia organised one of the largest international civil-military exercises: "Taming the Dragon – Dalmatia 2002" in which 35 states and 1790 participants took part. In May 2004, a seminar was held in Dubrovnik on the experiences gained in EADRCC exercises and operations. Finally, preparations for the international protection and rescue exercise "IDASSA 07", to be hosted by Croatia in May 2007, are well underway. These activities demonstrate that Croatia attaches great importance to this field in the context of its Euro-Atlantic aspirations. They also prove that Croatia is able to organise highly complex and demanding events within the framework of NATO and PfP and to take part as an equal partner in all CEP activities.

Thanks to NATO's CEP activities, we believe that cooperation in the EAPC/PfP framework in the areas of disaster protection and jointly addressing modern threats represent significant progress in increasing international security for NATO nations and third countries.

**Source : Croatian National Protection and Rescue Directorate**

**DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SENIOR CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Further to approval of Ministerial Guidance which outlines Civil Emergency Planning's national and collective objectives for the 2007-2008 period, the SCEPC will be focusing on implementing these objectives. To assist this process, a CEP Workshop will be organised on the theme "Implementation of Ministerial Guidance". The workshop will aim to identify elements for inclusion in the CEP Action Plan and the work programmes of the Planning Boards and Committees. The CEP Action Plan is an important tool for enhancing preparedness levels against CBRN incidents. Work also continues on Critical Infrastructure Protection and enhancing civil-military cooperation. A novelty over the coming period will be a series of joint meetings between SCEPC and some of the Planning Boards to create a more dynamic forum for exchanging ideas (see calendar). The SCEPC Plenary in May/June 2007 will provide the opportunity to take stock of all the above activities and discuss the way ahead.

**SCEPC Currently on the table**

- Implementation of Ministerial Guidance
- Updating the CEP Action Plan
- Approval of the PB&Cs Work Programmes

**WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE PLANNING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

NATO's eight Planning Boards and Committees bring together national government experts, industry experts and military representatives to provide for coordinated planning across various areas of civil activity. These bodies advise SCEPC on crisis-related matters and assist NATO Military Authorities and nations in effective use of civil resources.

The section below provides a brief overview of current issues across the PB&Cs.

**Transport**

Air and surface civil transport experts will support nations and the NATO Military



Authorities in Exercise STEADFAST MOVE 2007 in March and May. Civil experts from the Civil Aviation Planning Committee (CAPC), the Planning Boards for Inland Surface Transport (PBIST) and Ocean Shipping (PBOS) will produce aircraft and ship availability assessments during the exercise period, perform port and inland surface analysis of the exercise area, and simulate the commercial markets during the deployment phases of the exercise. This annual exercise

provides opportunities for nations to plan deployments and for civil transportation experts to stay abreast with NATO planning processes.

Planning is well underway for the 2007 NATO Transportation Seminar, a biennial event jointly planned by the Transport PB&Cs (CAPC, PBIST and PBOS), the NATO Military Authorities and the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC). Hosted in Munich from 8 to 10 October 2007, the aim of the seminar is to focus on developments in the commercial transport industry and to examine their effects on future NATO operations. The deadline for nominations to attend the seminar is 30 April 2007.

Civil aviation spot markets will be a feature of the Spring CAPC Plenary meeting on 28 February. A Dutch civil expert will give a national presentation on how these markets operate, of particular interest to potential customers seeking commercial airlift for military deployments or humanitarian purposes.

**Civil Protection**

The Civil Protection Committee (CPC) continues its work on the practical implementation of the Non-Binding Guidelines and Minimum Standards for First Responders in a CBRN incident. The Committee is also pursuing its work in the field of Critical Infrastructure Protection. Exercise IDASSA 2007 (see article Update on the EADRCC) provides a perfect forum for pulling these elements together in a practical setting. Together with the EADRCC, the Civil Protection Committee is integrating the non-binding guidelines and minimum standards into the exercise activities, in the form of a

**LOOKING AHEAD**

**SCEPC/PB&C Calendar**

- 26-27 February CEP Workshop ..... NATO HQ
- 28 February Joint SCEPC-CAPC ..... NATO HQ
- 1 March Joint SCEPC -CPC ..... NATO HQ
- 20 March Joint SCEPC - IPC ..... NATO HQ
- 31 May /1 June SCEPC Plenary ..... NATO HQ

training session and practical tasks for the participating rescue teams. In addition, a table top exercise on Critical Infrastructure Protection will be conducted and experts will be presented with issues which span the whole exercise scenario.

**Communications**

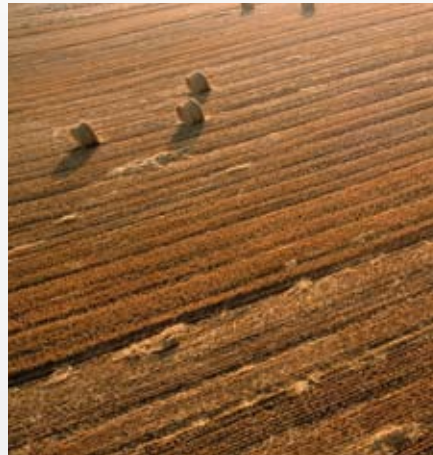
The Civil Communications Planning Committee (CCPC) has been working with the NATO Consultation, Command and Control Board (NC3B) to identify key areas where CCPC will support its primary military customer. The CCPC is also collaborating with the NATO Allied Command Operations to improve its support to the military’s Courier Services and with NATO Allied Command Transformation to help develop work in the area of the NATO Network Enabled Capability (aims to give commanders and troops on the ground a real-time image of a potential battlefield).

Further to the September 2006 Joint CPC-CCPC Seminar on Crisis Communications, the CCPC is refining its work on the use of civil communications capabilities to support crisis communication for civil populations during disasters and crises. It is also working with the CPC to develop a technical electronic communications annex to the Budapest Guidelines.



**Food and Agriculture**

A Food and Agriculture Planning Committee (FAPC) Vital Resources Seminar will be hosted by the Romanian Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Rural Development in Bucharest from 21-23 May 2007.



The aim of the seminar is to provide an opportunity for FAPC and other NATO experts (including military) to share knowledge, provide expert advice and work in a multidisciplinary environment to produce impact management and phased recovery plans in response to a major emergency. Critical infrastructure will be a key focus of the seminar, in particular for food, water and agriculture. National experts will look at interdependencies and vulnerabilities. The seminar will also seek to assess the impact of the loss of food, water or agriculture on the wider infrastructure and to determine the measures necessary to re-establish safe production levels.

**Medical matters**

The Joint Medical Committee (JMC), unique in its genre as the only Planning

Board to bring together national representatives from both civilian and military sides, has finalised work on treatment protocols in the event of attacks with chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear agents. It is intended that this work be opened to members of NATO’s Mediterranean Dialogue. These protocols were developed in close cooperation with other international organisations active in this field, in particular the WHO. The JMC is currently collaborating with the Civil Aviation Protection Committee on aero medical evacuation.

**Industrial Production**

The Industrial Production Committee (IPC) continues to give priority to security of supply of goods and services among nations. Protection of energy critical infrastructure, particularly electricity networks is also a top priority. In this context, the Russian Federation has signaled its intention to brief the IPC on critical infrastructure protection issues. The IPC is pursuing work on agreeing priority and allocation systems for ensuring nations’ cross-border energy supply in the event of a crisis.

**PB&C New Expert Training**

The New Expert Introductory Session will be held from 4-6 July at NATO Headquarters. This highly popular event is designed to introduce newly selected PB&C civil experts to NATO. The introduction includes presentations on the political and military focus of NATO, the role of Civil Emergency Planning in NATO, a tour of the headquarters and a practical task in the form of tabletop exercise to familiarise experts with the types of challenges they may be confronted with such as consequence management.

**PB&Cs Calendar**

➤ 28 February	Civil Aviation Planning Committee Plenary .....	NATO HQ
➤ 1-2 March	Civil Protection Committee Plenary .....	NATO HQ
➤ 16-17 April	Civil Communications Planning Committee Plenary.....	NATO HQ
➤ 21-23 May	Food and Agriculture Planning Committee Vital Resources Seminar .....	Bucharest, Romania
➤ 24 -25 May	Food and Agriculture Planning Committee Plenary .....	Bucharest, Romania
➤ 4-6 June	Joint JMC/COMEDS/NMAs/WHO Seminar on Health Surveillance .....	Halifax, Canada
➤ 7-8 June	JMC Plenary .....	Halifax, Canada
➤ 4-6 July	New Experts Introductory Session .....	NATO HQ
➤ 8-10 October	Joint Transportation Seminar .....	Munich, Germany

**LOOKING AHEAD**

# The Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre EADRCC

## Exercise IDASSA 2007



A huge charity concert organised by the Croatians bringing together musicians from around the world has just been cancelled due to an earthquake which has hit the country. Many spectators have already arrived for the event and are being evacuated. The earthquake has caused environmental contamination and damage due to a burst pipeline. Terrorists have hijacked a plane and threatened to release biological agents.

This is the challenging set of unlikely, yet possible circumstances that provide the backdrop to "Idassa 2007", the EADRCC's consequence management field exercise which will be hosted by Croatia from 19-24 May 2007. This exercise has already attracted much attention and is rapidly turning into a major event. About 400 international participants are estimated from EAPC nations and UN-OCHA, as well as observers from the EU, Afghanistan and countries in NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue and Istanbul Cooperation Initiative. Teams specialised in Search and Rescue and CBRN protection from 16 nations are expected to participate.

Such scenarios provide valuable opportunities for participants to practise and test responses to emergency situations:

Idassa's objectives are clearly defined according to national requirements:

- practise EADRCC procedures and the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Unit (EADRU) capabilities
- strengthen the stricken nation's ability to coordinate consequence management operations effectively including international assistance in a demanding emergency situation;
- practise cooperation between international organisations
- exercise the use of the EAPC CBRN inventory
- train interested nations on how to make an effective request for international assistance.

In addition to its important training dimension, Idassa 2007 provides further concrete opportunities for practical cooperation among nations and international organisations thus enhancing interoperability and fostering confidence-building.

Such exercises require extensive planning. Two Planning Conferences have already laid much of the groundwork for drawing the many components of this complex exercise together. The Final Planning Conference is scheduled for 27-29 March 2007.

For more information, visit the EADRCC Web Site [www.nato.int/eadrcc/2007](http://www.nato.int/eadrcc/2007)

# Portrait

## UN-OCHA UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL JOHN HOLMES



UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed John Holmes to succeed Jan Egeland as the next Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator. Sir John Holmes is currently the British Ambassador in Paris, a post he has held since October 2001.

A career diplomat, he joined the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 1973, and has since served in a wide range of roles. In 1976, he was appointed to the British Embassy in Moscow as a Second Secretary. After postings in New York and in Moscow, he returned to London in 1978 where he dealt with Lebanon and the Middle East peace process before being appointed Assistant Private Secretary to the British Foreign Secretary in 1982, covering the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Latin America. In 1984, he went to the British Embassy in Paris as First Secretary to cover economic and European Union questions.

He returned to London in 1987 as Assistant Head of the then Soviet Department in the FCO. In 1991 he went to India as Political, then Economic and Commercial Counsellor at the British High Commission in New Delhi, supervising the British aid programme as well as economic and commercial issues.

On returning to London in 1995, he was briefly head of the European Union Department (External) in the FCO before joining the then Prime Minister John Major in Downing Street as his Private Secretary (Overseas Affairs) and diplomatic adviser. He continued this role with Prime Minister Tony Blair from 1997 to 1999, becoming Principal Private Secretary. He was also the British G8 Sherpa during this time, including the British G8 Presidency of 1998. He was awarded a knighthood in 1999, primarily for his role in the Northern Ireland peace process and the Good Friday Agreement.

From 1999 to 2001, John Holmes was the British Ambassador in Lisbon, before moving on to Paris.

Source : UN-OCHA [www.ochaonline.un.org](http://www.ochaonline.un.org)

## What do CEP's customers think?

### RESTRUCTURING THE ARMENIAN RESCUE SERVICE

In the framework of Armenia's Individual Partnership Action Plan (IPAP), the Armenian Rescue Service has been undergoing extensive restructuring. Our Individual Partnership Action Plan addresses issues such as improving Emergency Preparedness, Emergency Response System and Crisis Communication. It has also helped coordinate and focus a number of bilateral cooperation efforts already underway with countries such as Switzerland, Sweden and the United States.

As a first step we were keen to develop a civil crisis management information system to coordinate disaster or civil crisis management resources. This included the development and management of information flow to make these resources more accessible. Together with the NATO International Staff, we agreed that organising a workshop bringing together the Armenian authorities involved in emergency response and crisis management would be the most efficient way forward. This workshop was held in December 2006 in Yerevan.

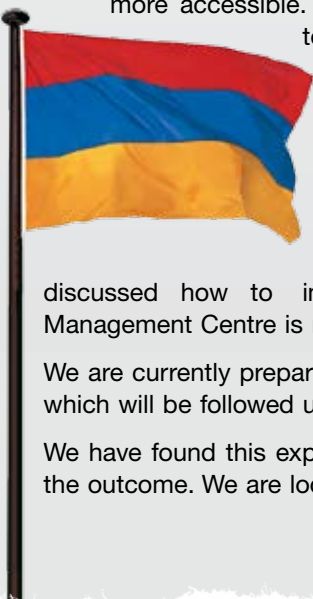
During the workshop we discussed a wide range of subjects such as Risks and Risk Assessment, Situational Awareness, Decision Making in Crisis and Emergencies (on all governmental levels); Development of Standing Operating Procedures; and Crisis Communication.

Together with facilitators from the Netherlands, the United States and NATO's International Staff, we were able to create a vision for an "Armenian Crisis Management Structure". We discussed how to implement this vision according to a roadmap with timelines and the creation of a National Crisis Management Centre is now one of the goals which we will achieve.

We are currently preparing a proposal for the National Crisis Management Centre which we will share with NATO and which will be followed up through the Individual Partnership Action Plan process.

We have found this experience very positive. The workshop was constructive and efficient and we are satisfied with the outcome. We are looking forward to further activities to continue our restructuring process.

Source : [Armenian Rescue Service](#)





# CEP in other international organisations

As NATO's Civil Emergency Planning activities do not take place in a vacuum, this table provides an overview of useful links to other organisations also active in the field of Civil Emergency Planning.

ORGANISATION	WEB SITE
European Commission	<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/environment/civil">http://ec.europa.eu/environment/civil</a>
	<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/justice_home/terrorism/dg_terrorism_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/justice_home/terrorism/dg_terrorism_en.htm</a>
EU Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC)	<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/environment/civil/prote/mic.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/environment/civil/prote/mic.htm</a>
EU Commission Human Aid Office (ECHO)	<a href="http://ec.europa.eu/echo/index_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/echo/index_en.htm</a>
United Nations Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA)	<a href="http://ochaonline.un.org">http://ochaonline.un.org</a>
The Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe (OSCE)	<a href="http://osce.org">http://osce.org</a>
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)	<a href="http://iaea.org">http://iaea.org</a>
IAEA Incident and Emergency Centre (IEC)	<a href="http://www-ns.iaea.org/tech-areas/emergency/incident-emergency-centre.htm">http://www-ns.iaea.org/tech-areas/emergency/incident-emergency-centre.htm</a>
IAEA Guidance for First Responders to Radiological Emergencies	<a href="http://www-ns.iaea.org/tech-areas/emergency/emergency-response-actions.asp">http://www-ns.iaea.org/tech-areas/emergency/emergency-response-actions.asp</a>
Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)	<a href="http://www.opcw.org">http://www.opcw.org</a>



## EVENTS

Below is a list of upcoming events in other international organisations:

### 1. International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

- International Seminar on Physical Protection Training  
5-16 March 2007 / Vienna, Austria  
(<http://www-ns.iaea.org/meetings>)
- Foundations of Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Facilities  
19-23 March 2007  
(<http://www-ns.iaea.org/meetings>)
- Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and Facilities  
16-27 April 2007 / Mumbai, India  
(<http://www-ns.iaea.org/meetings>)
- Combating Nuclear Terrorism  
15-16 May 2007  
(<http://www-ns.iaea.org/meetings>)

### 2. Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)

- Third Regional Assistance and Protection Course for African States Parties.  
21-25 May 2007 / Tshwane, South Africa  
(<http://www.opcw.org/docs/snotes/2006/s-600-2006.pdf>)  
*"This course [...] will provide training [...] on how to plan for and build a support team for civilian protection and defence, for rescue and decontamination operations in contaminated areas, and for appropriate responses and countermeasures in the event of incidents involving chemical warfare-agents or toxic chemicals."*