

**Protocol of Intentions between the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Bulgaria on cooperation in natural and man-made technological emergency prevention and response. Signed Washington, 24 JAN 2000.**

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| <u>I. Cooperation Between Regions</u>                                   | <u>II. Preparedness, Training, and Exercises.</u> |
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Begin text:

**PROTOCOL OF INTENTIONS BETWEEN THE  
FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
AND THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA ON COOPERATION IN  
NATURAL AND MAN-MADE TECHNOLOGICAL EMERGENCY  
PREVENTION AND RESPONSE**

As a result of discussions between representatives, of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) of the United States of America and representatives of the Ministry of Defense Civil Protection Service of the Republic of Bulgaria, both sides express strong satisfaction with the cooperative activities between their two agencies. The Federal Emergency Management Agency of the United States of America and the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Bulgaria, hereinafter the Parties, intend to initiate the following cooperative activities and projects in the areas of emergency management and disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery:

**I. Cooperation Between Regions.**

- a. Design and initiate prototypes of cooperation.
- b. Organize the exchange of emergency managers and/or technical experts to develop specific activities and share experience, emergency information, and scientific and practical data in the areas of emergency management and disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery including search and rescue and in prevention and suppression of fires.
- c. Develop an annual Work Plan that may include reciprocal visits for familiarization, training, and to observe natural and technological disaster management exercises. Development and implementation of the annual Work Plan would involve the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and other U.S. Federal departments and agencies, state agencies deemed appropriate by FEMA, and the Ministry of Defense Civil Protection Service of the Republic of Bulgaria, and others deemed appropriate by the Ministry.
- d. Conduct two events between the Ministry of Defense Civil Protection Service of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Federal Emergency Management Agency of the United States of America, and the State of Tennessee Office of Emergency Services. These events may include reciprocal visits for familiarisation training, and observation of exercises.

**II. Preparedness, Training and Exercises.**

- a. Organize the exchange of emergency management practitioners, trainers and/or instructors to develop training materials and courses of instruction to improve emergency management and disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery techniques and general emergency management practices.
- b. Participate as observers in emergency management and/or disaster operations, exercises and simulations, and exchange delegations to attend seminars and

workshops in the areas of emergency management and disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

### **III. Information Exchange, Scientific and Technical Cooperation.**

- a. Increase the exchange of emergency information as well as scientific and practical data in the areas of emergency management and disaster mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery via seminars and professional conferences.
- b. Exchange lessons learned from emergency response operations carried out by both sides in response to natural and man-made disasters via seminars and professional conferences.
- c. Initiate the exchange of information on earthquakes, fires, flood and debris flow damage, risk assessment, mitigation measures, model emergency management legislation, and organize joint scientific and practical seminars on the above subjects.

### **IV. Management of the Cooperative Process.**

- a. Hold an annual meeting to develop a detailed work plan to outline events for the coming year.
- b. Exchange proposed implementation plans for the Work Plan for the year 2000 by the end of February 2000.
- c. Implementation by the Parties of this Protocol of Intentions and related Work Plans are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and resources.

Signed in Washington, D.C. on the 24th day of January, 2000, in duplicate, in both English and Bulgarian languages.

FOR THE FEDERAL  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
AGENCY OF THE UNITED  
STATES OF AMERICA

FOR THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

(signed) Kay C. Goss, CEM(r)

(Signed) Velizar Shalamanov

Associate Director for  
Preparedness, Training and  
Exercises.

Deputy Minister of Defence