

Memorandum on Interaction, Mutual Understanding, and Cooperation

16 May 2017

Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan

The Center for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction (Almaty, Kazakhstan) (hereinafter referred to as CESDRR) and the Federal State Budgetary Institution “All-Russian Centre for Disaster Medicine ‘Zashchita’” of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as “ARCDM ‘Zashchita’”), operating in the field of emergency preparedness, prevention, and response to natural and man-made emergencies, loss reduction, and the development of interagency and international cooperation, hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Parties”, recognizing the potential for broad cooperation and wishing to promote wide engagement of non-governmental and international organizations, representatives of public authorities, members of parliament, heads of various ministries and agencies, and organizations regardless of their form of ownership, have reached a mutual understanding and confirm their intention to pursue strategic cooperation in the following areas:

Article 1. Subject of Cooperation

1.1. The Parties intend to jointly carry out activities in the following areas:

- pooling efforts and establishing partnership-based cooperation in the implementation of projects aimed at ensuring preparedness, prevention, and response to emergency situations; protecting human life and health in emergency conditions; and further developing cooperation to improve technologies in the field of emergency preparedness, prevention, response, and life-saving activities;
- improving standards of emergency medical assistance and developing interstate standard operating procedures aligned with international standards;
- enhancing the professional qualifications of medical personnel, paramedics, and volunteers to ensure their broader involvement in emergency response and recovery operations by promoting favorable conditions for education and professional development;
- developing joint training programs for specialists working across all areas of emergency preparedness, prevention, and response;

- developing concepts and conducting joint command-and-staff and field exercises to improve response mechanisms to large-scale emergencies;
- developing documentation to support the certification of emergency medical teams in accordance with World Health Organization initiatives;
- improving mechanisms for ensuring legal protection of victims, paramedics, rescuers, medical personnel, and volunteers involved in emergency response operations;
- studying, analyzing, developing proposals, and shaping public opinion to address challenges aimed at improving the quality of psychological and medical assistance to emergency-affected populations;
- holding joint meetings to discuss criteria for interstate certification of paramedics, independent assessment of emergency consequences, and developing proposals to improve quality control systems for emergency prevention measures; coordinating activities and ensuring active participation of both Parties in meetings, commissions, working groups, conferences, seminars, symposiums, congresses, and assemblies, including those related to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, among others;
- studying public opinion regarding the achievements of emergency services.

Article 2. Principles and Main Areas of Cooperation

2.1. Cooperation between the Parties shall be carried out in compliance with the applicable legislation of the respective States of the Parties and based on the following principles:

- equality;
- transparency and tolerance;
- non-interference in the internal affairs of the other Party;
- coordination of decisions that may affect the rights and legitimate interests of the other Party;
- good faith and strict fulfillment of assumed obligations.

2.2. The main areas of cooperation shall be aimed at implementing the provisions of this Memorandum.

Article 3. Amendments and Additions

3.1. If necessary, this Memorandum may be amended or supplemented by mutual written agreement of the Parties.

Article 4. Settlement of Disputes

4.1. Any disputes between the Parties arising in connection with this Memorandum shall be resolved through consultations and/or negotiations between the Parties.

Article 5. Term of Validity

5.1. This Memorandum shall enter into force on the date of its signing and may be extended unless one of the Parties notifies the other Party in writing of its termination.

Article 6. Miscellaneous Provisions

6.1. All joint activities carried out under this Memorandum shall be subject to the availability of funds and other resources of the Parties. Expenses related to joint activities shall be shared by mutual agreement of the Parties.

6.2. This Memorandum is executed in two originals in the Russian language, each having equal legal force.

Signatures

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and Disaster Risk Reduction
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