

**PROTOCOL
OF THE REGIONAL FORUM
MEETINGS OF THE HEADS OF THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS OF THE
CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES**

April 27, 2018

Almaty city, Republic of Kazakhstan

We, the heads of delegations and representatives of the emergency departments of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, the Republic of Uzbekistan - participants of the Regional Forum - Meetings of the heads of the Emergency Departments of the Central Asian countries,

Taking into account,

- The region, home to approximately 80 million people, is exposed to virtually all types of natural and man-made disasters, including earthquakes, floods, landslides, mudflows, debris flows, avalanches, droughts, epidemics, dam failures, and hazardous substance emissions,
- Existing trends in the countries of the region towards an increase in the scale of adverse impacts of natural disasters, accidents, and catastrophes, as well as heightened human vulnerability to natural and technological hazards, hinder the more effective implementation of the sustainable development strategies, programmes, and plans,
- The existence of risks of larger and transboundary emergencies, the consequences of which cannot always be addressed solely by the capacity and resources of a single country
- The necessity of further enhancing, at the regional level, mechanisms for the implementation of bilateral and multilateral intergovernmental agreements (treaties) in the field of disaster prevention and emergency response, as well as relevant United Nations strategic and programmatic documents on sustainable development, disaster risk reduction (DRR) and emergency management, including,
 - The Agreement between the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan on Cooperation in the Field of Prevention and Response to Emergencies (Cholpon-Ata, 17 July 1998);
 - the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Sustainable Development Goals - SDGs), the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.

Determined to continue efforts to implement the outcome documents of,

- the Regional Ministerial Conference “Regional Cooperation on Disaster Risk Reduction in Central Asia”, held on 16-18 October 2013 in Bishkek,
- the second Regional Ministerial Conference of Emergency Authorities of Central Asian countries within the framework of the “Central Asia plus Japan” Dialogue, held on 18-19 September 2014 in Bishkek,
- the Regional Ministerial Conference of Central Asian and South Caucasus countries on Disaster Risk Reduction, within the framework of the “Central Asia plus Japan” Dialogue, held on 29-30 January 2015 in Bishkek,

- the Regional Ministerial Conference of Central Asian countries on the prevention of and response to emergencies, within the framework of the “Central Asia plus Japan” Dialogue, held on 24-25 November 2015 in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan,
- of the Regional Meeting of Heads of Emergency Authorities of Central Asian countries, held on 30-31 March 2017 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

With a view to undertaking further actions to develop and strengthen regional and international cooperation in the field of disaster risk reduction, as well as the prevention of and response to emergencies, particularly those of a large-scale and transboundary nature,

Approved:

1. Terms of Reference of the Regional Forum - Meeting of Heads of Emergency Authorities of Central Asian countries.
2. Framework for Strengthening Regional Cooperation among Central Asian Countries in the Field of Disaster Risk Reduction and the Prevention of and Response to Emergencies.
3. Action Plan for the Implementation of the Framework for Strengthening Regional Cooperation in the Field of Disaster Risk Reduction and the Prevention of and Response to Emergencies of Central Asian Countries for 2018-2020.
4. The Concept for the Establishment of a “Regional Register of National and International Specialists and Experts in the Fields of Seismic, Environmental, Fire, Radiation, Industrial, Hydrogeological, and Other Areas of Safety”.
5. The Concept for the Establishment of a “Regional Scientific and Technical Council on Emergencies.”
6. The Concept for the Establishment of a “Regional Register of Forces and Assets of Central Asian Countries for the Purpose of Conducting Emergency Rescue Operations on Their Territories in the Event of Large-Scale and Transboundary Emergencies.”
7. A proposal to convene the next Regional Forum - Meeting of Heads of Emergency Authorities of Central Asian countries within the framework of the “Central Asia plus Japan” Dialogue in 2019 in the Kyrgyz Republic.

Agreed to further consider the following matters and to inform the Secretariat of the Regional Forum of the decisions taken on:

1. The proposal to establish a “Regional Coordination Mechanism for Response to Large-Scale and Transboundary Emergencies.”
2. The proposal of the International Civil Defence Organization (ICDO) to establish a Regional (Central Asian) Subsystem of the Global Network of Disaster Response Centres under the auspices of the ICDO International Monitoring and Coordination Centre (IMCC).
3. The draft Joint Statement of the Heads of Emergency Authorities of Central Asian countries on strengthening regional cooperation in the field of disaster risk reduction and the prevention of and response to emergencies, to be presented by the delegation of the Republic of

Kazakhstan at the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, 2018, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

We express our gratitude and appreciation,

to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Centre for Emergency Situations and Disaster Risk Reduction for their warm hospitality and for the organization and conduct of the Regional Forum - Meeting of Heads of Emergency Authorities of Central Asian countries, as well as to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for the technical and financial support provided for activities aimed at strengthening regional cooperation among the emergency authorities of Central Asian countries in the field of disaster risk reduction and the prevention of and response to emergencies.

For the Ministry of Internal Affairs
of the Republic of Kazakhstan

For the Ministry of Emergency Situations
of the Kyrgyz Republic

For the Committee for Emergency Situations
and Civil Defence under the Government
of the Republic of Tajikistan

For the Ministry of Defence of Turkmenistan

For the Ministry of Emergency Situations
of the Republic of Uzbekistan