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**CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (CEPC)
IN EAPC FORMAT**

2014-2017 Political Guidance for Civil Emergency Planning

Note by the Chair

Please find at annex the 2014-2017 Political Guidance for Civil Emergency Planning as approved by the CEPC in Allied format on 31 January 2014. The CEPC in EAPC format is requested to endorse this Political Guidance at its meeting on 10 February 2014. Upon endorsement, the document will be forwarded to the Council for approval and then to the EAPC for notation. Upon EAPC notation, the document is to be released to ICI and MD nations, and to the partners across the globe.

(Signed) F. TARDIOLI

1 Annex

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Original: English

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2014-2017 POLITICAL GUIDANCE FOR CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING

References:

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|----|----------------------|---|
| A. | www.nato.int | Strategic Concept (NU) |
| B. | PASP(2008)1232 | Letters from ASG PASP Martin Erdmann to Partners countries, Contact countries, Mediterranean Dialogue countries and ICI countries, explaining the Comprehensive Approach |
| C. | PO(2011)0124 | Policy for a More Efficient and Flexible Partnership |
| D. | www.nato.int | Political Guidance on ways to improve NATO's involvement in Stabilisation and Reconstruction |
| E. | EAPC(C)D(2009)0019 | NATO's Comprehensive, Strategic-Level Policy for Preventing the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction and Defending against Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Threats |
| F. | EAPC(SCEPC)N(2002)50 | New Terms of Reference for the SCEPC |

I. BACKGROUND

1. NATO Civil Emergency Planning (CEP) is composed of the Civil Emergency Planning Committee (CEPC), the Planning Groups (PGs), the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC), and the International Staff. The CEP stakeholders are: national civil protection authorities, the NATO Military Authorities (NMAs), and other NATO bodies and agencies. This Political Guidance specifically focuses on the CEPC, the PGs and the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC).

2. The purpose of this document is to provide forward-looking political guidance for NATO Civil Emergency Planning for the period from 2014 to 2017. During this period, the emphasis of CEP will be the implementation of the Strategic Concept and its supporting Political Guidance, as well as other relevant political guidance documents listed as References above, in the area of CEP. It is assumed that during this period, especially post-2014, the Alliance's focus will be less on operations and more on preparedness, planning and prevention, as well as training, education and exercises. Hence NATO CEP will concentrate its work in these fields.

3. This Political Guidance is in line with the five roles for NATO Civil Emergency Planning as well as the three core tasks of NATO as described in the 2010 Strategic Concept – Collective Defence; Crisis Management; and Cooperative Security, with a vision to help create a safe and secure environment for Allied and partner nations' populations.

II. CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING MISSION AND ROLES

4. NATO Civil Emergency Planning is a foundation for civil support to planning and conducting NATO operations; a catalyst for improving national resilience against all

hazards, including the protection of populations and critical infrastructure; a platform for cooperation with partner nations; and a forum for engaging other international organisations. It accomplishes these tasks through effective, targeted and timely planning and response initiatives for the benefit of the Alliance and the Allies, as well as partner nations.

5. The above mission is accomplished through NATO CEP's five roles:
- Civil support for Alliance military operations under Article 5;
 - Support for non-Article 5 crisis response operations;
 - Support for national authorities in civil emergencies;
 - Support for national authorities in the protection of the population against the effects of weapons of mass destruction; and
 - Cooperation with partner nations.

In this context, NATO CEP contributes to efforts in addressing the security challenges outlined in the 2010 Strategic Concept, including emerging security challenges, as articulated in chapter III of this document.

6. NATO CEP's mission is supported by the CEPC, the Planning Groups, the Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC) and the International Staff. CEPC serves in an advisory role vis-à-vis the North Atlantic Council as well as other NATO bodies, especially in times of crisis or civil emergencies, drawing on expertise in various national ministries, national emergency and crisis management authorities, and representatives from the private sector.

7. The CEPC, as NATO's lead committee for Civil Emergency Planning, reports directly to the North Atlantic Council and deals with the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council as appropriate. On behalf of the Council, CEPC also gives policy direction and coordinates civil emergency planning and preparedness at the NATO level.

8. Inherent to NATO's approach to civil emergency planning are the following guiding principles:

- Close cooperation and collaboration between NATO CEP and its stakeholders;
- Complementarity between civil and military activities; and
- Focused work that adds value to NATO CEP's stakeholders, particularly nations, taking into account work done in other fora.

9. CEPC accomplishes its tasks in line with the Terms of Reference for the CEPC through the following means and enablers:

- Translating the political guidance into clear and deliverable objectives for NATO Civil Emergency Planning;

- Overseeing the CEP work of:
 - The Planning Groups and their civil expert pool,
 - The EADRCC, and
 - The International Staff;
- Coordinating with the NMAs in the area of CEP;
- Supporting Allies and Partner nations' preparedness and response;
- Strengthening partnerships;
- Consulting and coordinating with international organisations, in accordance with the Comprehensive Approach Action Plan and the decisions taken by Heads of State and Government in Lisbon;
- Providing civil advice to crisis management operations and enhancing the cooperation between civil and military planning bodies as appropriate.

III. CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ALLIANCE'S CORE TASKS SET OUT BY THE STRATEGIC CONCEPT

10. NATO CEP's five roles set out in paragraph 5 are cross-cutting and support all of the Alliance's three core tasks as outlined in this Chapter.

Collective Defence

11. The Strategic Concept underlines the Alliance's commitment to ensuring that NATO has the full range of capabilities necessary to deter and defend against any threat to the safety and security of Allied populations. NATO Civil emergency planning contributes to this through its support to nations and support to the NMAs in planning, exercising and if needed, conducting Article 5 operations. The support CEP provides to NATO operations is covered more broadly under "crisis management".

12. NATO CEP supports Allied national authorities in enhancing their resilience, by strengthening preparedness and capabilities to respond to and recover from civil emergencies. National authorities retain the primary responsibility for dealing with civil emergencies; however, cooperation through NATO CEP will help enhance resilience, by strengthening prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery through:

- Exchange of information and sharing of lessons learned;
- Development of non-binding guidelines and memoranda of understanding, which can be adopted by nations;
- Enhancement of interoperability through training and exercises;
- Advice by civil experts, when requested.

13. In this context, NATO CEP contributes to strengthening the protection of the population and critical infrastructure against all hazards. In particular:

- It supports national authorities in mitigating the consequences of the use of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) or chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) agents, including as a result of acts of terrorism;

- In the framework of the development of NATO's ballistic missile defence capability, it supports Allied national authorities responsible for civil protection in minimising and limiting the consequences of intercept or non-intercept on NATO European¹ populations and critical infrastructure;
- In the area of cyber defence, the CEPC will, within agreed budget ceilings, provide support to national authorities to improve their resilience, by strengthening preparedness and capabilities to respond to civil emergencies caused by cyber attacks;
- It also has a role in supporting nations in enhancing resilience of critical energy infrastructure, and in enhancing resilience against large-scale threats to public health.

14. In order to continue their support to the Alliance's ability to ensure the safety and security of Allied populations, CEPC, the Planning Groups, the EADRCC and the IS will continue, and where necessary further intensify, their work in the fields outlined above.

Crisis Management

15. The Strategic Concept emphasises that crises and conflicts beyond NATO's borders can pose a direct threat to the security of Alliance territory and populations. NATO will therefore engage, where possible and when necessary, to prevent crises, manage them, stabilise post-conflict situations and support reconstruction. Furthermore, the Political Guidance underscores that NATO's experience in its operations has demonstrated that a comprehensive political, military and civilian approach is necessary for effective crisis management. This requires active engagement with other international actors before, during and after crises.

16. In this context, NATO CEP has an important role to play in contributing to NATO's ability to be effective across the crisis management spectrum, as well as improving its crisis preparedness, in continued close cooperation with the NMAs. Crisis management includes, but is not limited to, support to disaster response (natural, technological or man-made), where such support is requested by a stricken nation. Such support can be part of an overall international response.

17. The Strategic Concept gives new guidelines for effective crisis management, a number of which relate to NATO CEP:

- Formation of an appropriate but modest civilian crisis management capability to interface more effectively with civilian partners, building on lessons learned from NATO-led operations. This capability may also be used to plan, employ and coordinate civilian activities until conditions allow for the transfer of those responsibilities and tasks to other actors.

¹ For NATO BMD, NATO Europe comprises the territories of the Parties in Europe (including the Canary Islands, Madeira Islands and the Azores Islands), the territory of Turkey and the territory of Greenland.

- Enhancement of integrated civil-military planning throughout the crisis spectrum. This is accomplished, inter alia, through leveraging and strengthening the existing links via the CEPC and the Planning Groups to national civilian players and the NMAs, as well as making use of the civil experts' pool when required. CEPC and the Planning Groups' interaction with other international actors, on a case by case basis, and subject to allies' approval and in accordance with the Comprehensive Approach Action Plan and the decisions taken by Heads of State and Government in Lisbon is also important. Expertise from NATO CEP contributes to a comprehensive analysis and assessment of the crises and to the development of a coherent international response plan to include resource implications for decision-makers.
- Identification and training of civilian specialists from member states. These experts are to be made available for rapid deployment for selected missions, and are to be able to work alongside NATO military personnel and civilian specialists from partner countries and institutions.

18. In the period from 2014 to 2017, there will be two main areas of applicability for these tasks. The first area will be the training and exercise events, especially given the role these events will increasingly play in ensuring the Alliance's operational readiness. These include exercises such as the Crisis Management Exercise (CMX), as well as relevant training and exercises run by the NMAs at the strategic and operational level. NATO CEP involvement in the development of civil aspects of these events, as well as the provision of requisite civil expertise will remain essential. NATO CEP's own exercises such as the EADRCC Consequence Management Exercise as well as exercises and seminars conducted by the Planning Groups will also remain essential.

19. The second main area of application of the above tasks will be actual operations. NATO CEP will be ready to provide, as necessary, civil support to the planning and conduct of NATO operations during the period of 2014-2017.

Cooperative Security

20. The Strategic Concept underscores that the Alliance will engage actively to enhance international security, including through partnership with relevant countries and other international organisations.

21. In the 2011 Policy for a More Efficient and Flexible Partnership, CEP is described as one of the priority areas for dialogue, consultation and cooperation. Much of NATO CEP work and initiatives are developed with the EAPC Partner nations, and several are also open to other partner nations, as decided by the Allies. For instance, all partners have been given full access to the EADRCC. Partner nations, in particular EAPC members, support many CEPC and the Planning Group efforts and contribute to the civil experts' pool. Partner nations may also provide civilian contributions to NATO-led operations. In the

period from 2014 to 2017, the goal for NATO CEP will be to further engage partner nations in its practical work.

22. The Alliance is affected by, and can affect, political and security developments beyond its borders. In this context, NATO CEP can assist in improving resilience, by strengthening prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery capabilities to respond to civil emergencies. These efforts bring value not only to the partner nations but also to the Allies and NATO as a whole. In Afghanistan, CEP activities are part of the NATO-Afghanistan Enduring Partnership programme, which will continue to evolve beyond 2014 in line with NATO's partnership policy. Furthermore, the EADRCC, in close coordination with UN OCHA, supports response to disasters across Allied and partner nations, and can channel offers of support from these nations as well. These strands of work will continue to be valuable during 2014-2017.

23. As noted before, NATO CEP also works with other relevant international organisations, on a case by case basis and subject to allies' approval, and in accordance with the Comprehensive Approach Action Plan and the decisions taken by Heads of State and Government in Lisbon. The nations', Planning Group Co-Chairs' and civil experts' knowledge of, and involvement in, the work of other international organisations will continue to be important to ensure mutual complementarity.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLITICAL GUIDANCE FOR CEP

24. The CEPC is responsible for overseeing the implementation of this political guidance. It will ensure that it is updated as necessary, and no later than in 2017, to take into account future developments as well as new political guidance that may become available.

25. The CEPC will ensure that this political guidance is translated into concrete and deliverable objectives, which bring added value to stakeholders. These objectives will be set out in its two-year work programme and the work plans of the Planning Groups, which sit underneath it. Progress in implementing these plans will be reviewed annually at the CEPC Plenary.