

Lazne Bohdanec, 22 July 2021

Cap. Insp. Cesar Fleitas

Environment Department Director
Department of Environment, Volunteer Fire Brigade of Paraguay (C.B.V.P.)
Republic of Paraguay

Subject: Bilateral Cooperation with the Department of Environment of the Volunteer Fire Brigade of Paraguay (Cuerpo de Bomberos Voluntarios del Paraguay, C.B.V.P.)

Dear Cap. Insp. Cesar Fleitas.

Thank you for your request for cooperation. The Population Protection Institute is a part of the Ministry of Interior - the General Directorate of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic. The Institute is responsible mainly for emergency response activities. The incident response team responds to emergencies involving hazardous substances, performs chemical and radiation reconnaissance, sampling and identification of hazardous materials, etc.

An international cooperation, both at the highest level within the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and within bilateral activities is an integral part of the Population Protection Institute activities.

The mutual cooperation between the Paraguayan and the Czech first responders began in 2016, when instructors of the Population Protection Institute taught Paraguayan first responders in Asuncion for the first time. Training activities continued until they were interrupted by the global Covid-19 pandemic.

We are very pleased with your request for a virtual training. At such times, when travelling abroad is very limited, it is the only viable option for training. Our lecturers conduct online trainings regularly so we will be happy to continue in cooperation with Paraguay on a virtual level and hope for a time when real face-to-face activities will be possible again.

Paraguayan first responders have always had an enormous interest in learning new knowledge, so I can assure you that I am proud and happy that the cooperation will continue, even though in a virtual form only due to the current pandemic world.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely

Frantisek Paulus, Ph.D.
Director of the Population Protection Institute



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