

EADRCC Executive Summary

REGARDING

**FOREST FIRES IN ALBANIA AND  
THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA<sup>1</sup>**

03 August 2007 13:00 UTC

ALBANIA

- **Italian Civil Protection Department is ready to deploy two fire fighting aircrafts (Bombardier Canadair CL 415).** Operational and technical contacts are in progress between Italian and Albanian Operational Centres.
- **The Ukrainian aircraft “Antonov 32” operates in fire extinguishing missions:** in the region of Lezhë, near the port of Shëngjin and in the district of Pukë.
- **Two fire fighting helicopters with Bambi Bucket from two German private companies** operate in and around the area of the hot spots of Pukë.
- **Albania received or is going to receive fire fighting equipment assistance from Czech Republic, Austria and Sweden** (in more details vide EADRCC Situation Report No.5). Sweden is going to send an expert to Albania to facilitate the handover of the equipment and perform training where necessary.
- The overall evolving situation has been monitored by the Emergency Steering Committee and by local, regional emergency management commissions.
- **Aerial testing and aerial fire fighting operations have proved effective.** In the affected areas and around them police forces have taken control of the situation by safeguarding human lives and property.
- **The overall situation has a slight tendency to improve** (Elbasan, Berat, Korçë, Vlorë and Fier).
- **The fire in Valmor** in the district of Mirditë **and the fire in Sotira** in the region of Gjirokastër **have been put under control.**
- **Problems still persist in Northern and North-Eastern Albania regions** (district of Pukë, Valbona valley, village of Stoberd and White Lake).
- **There is still requirement for international assistance for aerial fire fighting capacities and fire fighting and fire protection equipment.**

THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA <sup>1</sup>

- As from 24 July up to this day Croatia, Slovenia, The Republic of Turkey provided with aerial fire fighting support. **Germany has also deployed 2 of its KFOR helicopters for air fire fighting operations.**

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<sup>1</sup> Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name

- Austria and Sweden deployed national experts.
- So far, Sweden, Poland, Norway, Denmark, Czech Republic, Germany donated different fire fighting equipment items. **The fire fighting equipment from Austria is arriving today.** Estonia allocated financial support. **The assistance consisting of fire fighting equipment from Israel and Lithuania is scheduled to arrive on 5 and 8 of August respectively.**
- The aerial fire fighting interventions are on going and **continuously required.** The number of active fires is changing on a daily basis.
- **As of today, there are still active forest fires in locations of Skopje; Makedonski Brod; Kicevo; Prilep; Gostivar; Bitola; Kocani regions. In Strumica, on the mount of Belasica, fire is raging in tri-border area between Bulgaria, Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia<sup>1</sup>. Greece intervening with fire fighting aircrafts on the Greek side, carried out several flights on the territory of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia<sup>1</sup> as well.**
- **The situation is getting better but still remains serious because of dry weather conditions and persisting high temperatures.**