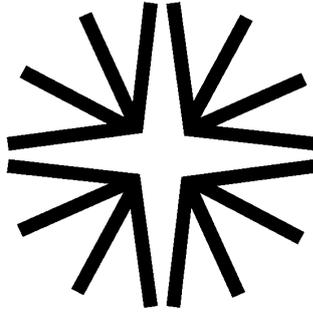


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EADRCC SITUATION REPORT N° 1

Explosions - Albania

Message N°. : OPS(EADRCC)(2008)0005
Dtg : 18 March 2008, 16:00 UTC
From: : Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre
To : Points of Contact for International Disaster Response in NATO and
Partner Countries
Precedence : Priority
Originator : Duty Officer Tel: +32-2-707.2670
Approved by : Head EADRCC Tel: +32-2-707.2673
References : Request for Assistance,
OPS(EADRCC)(2008)0003

This report consists of : -3- pages

1. Situation update:

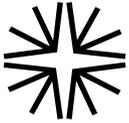
1.1 The first explosion set off a series of explosions that continued until 2 a.m. on Sunday, 16 March. The main explosion destroyed hundreds of houses a few kilometers from the depot. Thousands of big and small artillery shells, most of them unexploded littered the area. The blast shattered all the windows of the terminal building at the country's only international airport.

1.2 Prime Minister Sali Berisha informed that approximately 120 people were present at the depot at the time of the explosion. Albanian authorities have confirmed that 2306 buildings had been affected by Saturday's explosion. Among these, 318 houses had been destroyed completely, 200 buildings had very serious damages, 188 buildings were not seriously damaged and about 1600 had minor damages.

1.3 So far, Albanian authorities have confirmed 16 dead people and about 5 missing. Officially, the injured are 290 people.

1.4 The destruction of ammunition at the dump was being carried out by an Albanian company that had been subcontracted by an US company.

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2. Resources available for disaster response and measures taken:

2.1 Some 4000 inhabitants of the zone were evacuated and offered shelter in the state-owned resorts. The Government declared the zone a Disaster Area. Head of the Civil Emergency Centre at the Ministry of Interior, Leonard Olli, explained that the inhabitants would not be allowed to return for an indefinite period of time. Durrës-Tirana highway will remain closed until the normalization of the situation.

3. Reportedly, the following international assistance was offered and accepted:

3.1 Based on a bilateral agreement, **Italy** sent to Albania a SAR team and requested medical items and blood packages on 15 March 2008. Eleven injured persons were carried to Italian hospitals through an air bridge.

3.2 **France**, on a bilateral basis, delivered 100 tents and 30 field kitchens.

3.3 The **German Red Cross** sent 2.000 infusions with ALBUMIN and ten big sets of dressing materials and delivered it to the Albanian Red Cross for distribution.

4. There is still an urgent need for international assistance:

	Description	Units	Offers	urgently required
4.1	Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) de-mining devices and EOD protecting de-mining devices	TBD		
4.2	Light, medium and heavy protected uniforms, model EOD 7B	TBD		
4.3	Module for pulling, ALLEN HOOK MK2, MK3 and MK4	TBD		
4.4	Exploding devices, SHRIKE with 500 m electric cable	TBD		
4.5	Helmets for face protection.	TBD		

5. Point of entry: Tirana International Airport

6. Delivery point: TBD

7. **Assistance provided by EAPC Nations:**

7.1 The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ¹ offered to Albania the following equipment:			
7.1.1	Protection Level V50>450 m/s uniforms 1.1 g STANAG 2920	30	
7.1.2	Complete set for deactivation and pulling EOD	4	
7.1.3	Complete set for electric ignition	4	
7.1.4	American Body Armor TAC-200R HELMET 492	50	

¹ Turkey recognises the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name



7.2 Greece provided the following assistance on a bilateral basis:

- (1) medical team from the Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity (1 specialist R.N Triage, 1 Orthopedic Surgeon M.D, 1 Anesthesiologist M.D, 1 specialist Triage M.D)
- 5 EOD protecting de-mining devices
- 2 sets of protective EOD uniforms
- 2 helmets for face protection
- medical supplies and other medicines
- 77 blood packages
- 6 respiratory ventilators.

Five wounded people have been transported to a hospital in Thessalonica by plane. One more injured has been transported by road to a hospital in Ioannina.

7.3 Two EAPC countries have informed the EADRCC that, regrettably, they do not possess the requested capabilities or that the capabilities are not available at this moment.

8. The Operational Point of Contact in Albania is as follows:

Name :	Mr. Alfred Olli, General Director for Civil Protection
Organization:	National Emergency Operations Centre, General Directorate for Civil Emergencies, Ministry of Interior, Republic of Albania
Phone:	+ 355 4 233 106; + 355 4 273 191, + 355 69 41 09 082
Mobile Phone	+ 355 69 41 09 083
Fax:	+ 355 4 233 090
E-mail:	skelmendi@moi.gov.al ; ollia@moi.gov.al
Operating Hours:	24/7

9. Coordinated Response

9.1 With a view to providing a coordinated response to the stricken nation's requirements, nations in a position to meet these demands, in full or in part, are invited to reply to the Operational Point of Contact of the Stricken Nation, with an information copy to EADRCC, by any of the communication means listed above and below.

9.2 Information about assistance offered and provided has been compiled from inputs received from EAPC national and UN authorities, which does not imply the EADRCC's active involvement in each of the co-ordination processes.

9.3 The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) in Geneva and the European Union MIC have been informed by the same communication.

9.4 The Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre can be reached in the following ways:

Telephone: +32-2-707.2670
Fax : +32-2-707.2677
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