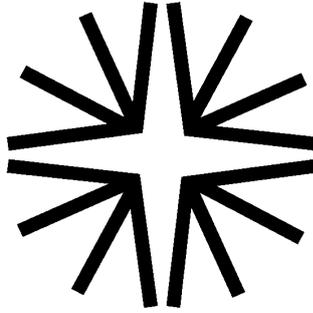


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## EADRCC SITUATION REPORT N° 3

### Explosions - Albania

Message N°. : OPS(EADRCC)(2008)0008  
Dtg : 20 March 2008, 14:30 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 situation in Gerdec remains serious. Seventeen deaths have been reported to date. There is an extensive property damage. The core explosion area has approximately a 600-meter radius. According to a preliminary assessment, clean-up of this core area may take some three years. There are also problems such as propellant leaking onto the ground, causing contamination. (Based on information, provided by US Embassy in Albania)

#### 2. Resources available for disaster response and measures taken:

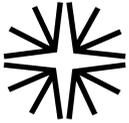
2.1 There are several teams working at the blast site to develop a plan for mitigation, such as Albanian EOD teams (military and civilian), US military assessment team, Slovenian and Danish teams.

#### 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.

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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.

3.4 Some 300 units of blood were also transported by a **KFOR** helicopter from Kosovo on Saturday night (15 March).

3.5 **Sweden** on 18 March sent an EOD expert upon request to Albania to advice the rescue operation.

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

	Description	Units	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	

4.6 As a result of aid offered from neighbouring countries and international organization, some of the immediate needs are being fulfilled. Medium or longer term assistance may include (based on UN-OCHA SitRep):

- search dogs and equipment teams: searching and excavating bodies;
- clearance teams: decontaminating the area from unexploded ordnance (UXOs);
- shelter: the evacuated population and those who will not be able to return to their homes in the immediate future;
- specialized teams: assessment of possible contamination of the area, and to assess the risk of possible epidemic disease from water pollution or dead animals;
- an emergency response team and capacity support to the Albanian Red Cross Emergency Contingency stocks;
- civil engineering teams: carry out assessments of the remaining buildings in the area;
- rehabilitation of partially damaged public or private buildings and rehabilitation of the public infrastructure of the area.

4.7 An UNDAC Team is arriving to Tirana on 20 March to assist the Government of Albania in coordinating and preparing an assessment of needs.



4.8 Longer term assistance needed, and expressed by government officials, is the safe destruction of over 100,000 tones of obsolete ammunition (dating back to 1945) located in military depots throughout the country.

4.9 Point of entry: Tirana International Airport, border crossing point Qafathane.

5. Delivery point: TBD

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

6.1 The Ministry of Defence of Albania has accepted an offer of equipment from the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia <sup>1</sup> , namely:			
6.1.1	Protection Level V50>450 m/s uniforms 1.1 g STANAG 2920	30	
6.1.2	Complete set for deactivation and pulling EOD	4	
6.1.3	Complete set for electric ignition	4	
6.1.4	American Body Armor TAC-200R HELMET 492	50	

Delivery of the equipment is being arranged bilaterally.

6.2 **Greece** provided the following assistance on a bilateral basis:

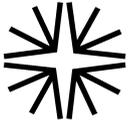
- (1) medical team from the Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity (1 specialist R.N Triage, 1 Orthopedic Surgeon M.D, 1 Anesthesiologist M.D, 1 specialist Triage M.D)
- 5 EOD protecting de-mining devices
- 2 sets of protective EOD uniforms
- 2 helmets for face protection
- medical supplies and other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

6.3 **Austrian** MoD provided/shipped 6 Pallets (around 800 kg) of various medicines, dressing material and infusions for heavily injured persons by using commercial civilian plane on 16th March 2008 from Vienna to Tirana.

6.4 Three 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.

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



7. 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
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Operating Hours:	24/7

## 8. Coordinated Response

8.1 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.

8.2 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.

8.3 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.

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

Telephone: +32-2-707.2670  
Fax : +32-2-707.2677  
Mobile Phone: +32-475-829.071 (24 hours)  
e-mail: eadrcc@hq.nato.int  
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