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INFORMATION ABOUT FLOODS IN AZERBAIJAN

1. Today, the EADRCC received information today from the Azerbaijani authorities about floods in Azerbaijan. In accordance with the procedures at reference the EADRCC was invited to distribute the following information to all EAPC countries.

2. General Situation

Type of the Disaster	:	Flood and landslides
Date and Time the Disaster occurred	:	Late March – April 2003
Location of the Disaster	:	Basin of the Kura-Araks Rivers
Size of the area affected	:	25.000 square kilometres
Estimated number of Persons affected	:	40.000 people

2.1 Central and eastern parts of the Republic of Azerbaijan have been stricken by serious floods. According to the State Commission on Emergency Situations about 25.000 square kilometres of land has been flooded. In addition, there were landslides in the district of Ismayilly, Gobustan, Samakhi and Siyezen. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources predicts that the danger exist of a collapse of the Araks reservoir within the next few days.

2.2 According to the State Commission on Emergency Situations more than 30 regions and at least 40.000 people were affected by the flooding. More than 7000 houses were damaged. Severe damage has been assessed in agricultural areas, and over 20 bridges were destroyed.

2.3 Damages are estimated to approximated USD 50 million.

3. The Cabinet of Ministers is coordinating all rescue operations. A state of emergency has been declared in the most affected areas. All available resources have been allocated to mitigate the consequences of the disaster.

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

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