



# AWARENESS RAISING OF THE PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ( PREPAREDNESS AND RULES OF BEHAVIOR) AS INTERGRAL PART OF DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

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# AWARENESS RAISING OF THE PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES ( PREPAREDNESS AND RULES OF BEHAVIOR) AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

- 1. People with physical, mental or sensory limitations are often disabled not because of the diagnosable condition, but because they are denied access to education, labor markets and public services.
- *What is more tragic than that they all are lacking or being provided a handicapped access to education, informing , warning and relevant public services in regard to the observance of their rights and equitable access to meeting their needs in the field of disaster risk reduction and reducing vulnerability, the protection of life and health, the administration of first aid and first psychological intervention and first- and self- aid training in emergencies.*
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- Unfortunately, those who are most likely to be compromised, injured or killed during a disaster- disabled people -are also the most likely to be the least prepared to likely events. People with disabilities, especially children, would be worst vulnerable in natural and man-made disasters.
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- *Ensuring the provision of equal opportunities in the above area to the disabled of all ages requires in line with resolving legislative and other strategic goals also meeting below three essential objectives:*
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- To educate emergency and relief managers and workers about the special and heterogeneous needs of the people with disabilities (including the preparing and publication of correspondent information materials).
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- To bring the people with disabilities, as well as administration, teachers, personnel of a specialized and other kind of establishments, where the people with disabilities, especially disabled children are taken care of to the emergency management table with the first responders to introduce the two sides to each other:
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- *to educate first responders to work adequately with disabled, to ensure adequate preparedness and equip rescuers and related to them the personnel servicing the disabled to rescue and search the disabled and show them first aid and first psychological assistance,*
- *to make people with disabilities active participate in disaster planning and preparedness, teach them how to survive in emergencies , encourage them to cultivate creative skills, first - and self -aid skills included.*
- For the people with disabilities to be insured equal rights and enhanced education and preparedness, the development of relevant information materials assigned to them and their training should be implemented through regular organizing and holding national and municipal Campaigns on informing and warning the population about emergencies.

## 2. To bring the people with disabilities to the emergency management table with first responders to introduce the two sides to each other :

*to educate first responders to work adequately with disabled, to ensure adequate preparedness and equip rescuers and related to them the personnel servicing the disabled to rescue and search the disabled and show them first aid and first psychological assistance*

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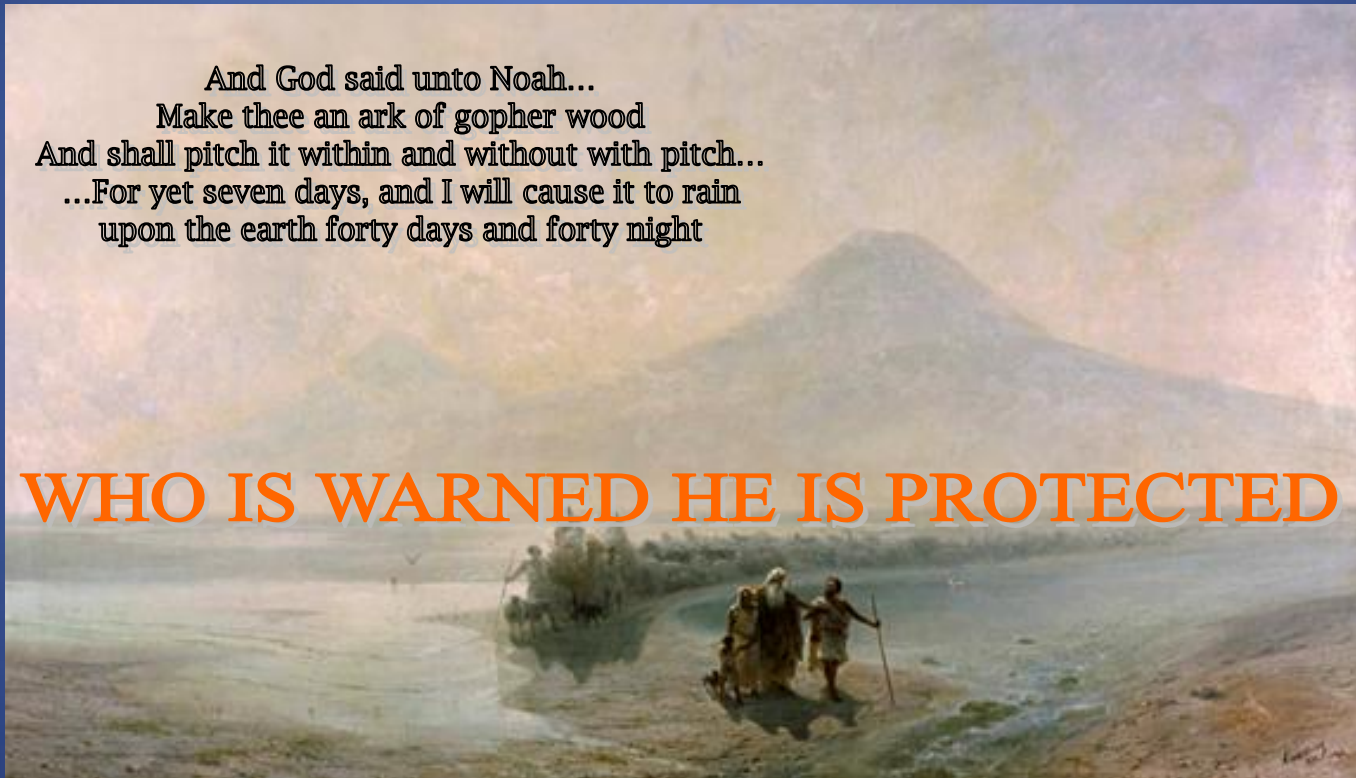
### 3. To ensure equal rights, enhanced education and preparedness to the people with disabilities

*through access to relevant information materials assigned to them and their training, the holding of regular national and municipal “Campaigns” on informing and warning the population about emergencies is crucial.*

- **MANUAL**
- **ON PREPAREDNESS AND RULES OF BEHAVIOR**
- **FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, ESPECIALLY CHILDREN,**
- ***IF AN EARTHQUAKE***
- ***IS REAL OR SEEMS***

And God said unto Noah...  
Make thee an ark of gopher wood  
And shall pitch it within and without with pitch...  
...For yet seven days, and I will cause it to rain  
upon the earth forty days and forty night

**WHO IS WARNED HE IS PROTECTED**



**IF YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO IN THE CASE OF A DISASTER  
YOU WILL SAVE YOUR OWN LIFE AND THE LIVES OF YOUR CLOSE-ONES**

# Ethical Principles on Disaster Risk Reduction and People's Resilience





## Involving people with disabilities into the system of Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Armenia

The bright sequential long-term initiative implemented by the Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES) of the Republic of Armenia under support of the Armenian Government on involving people with disabilities into the system of Ministry as, primarily, employees of the Crisis Management Centre.



## **Ministry of Emergency Situations of RA**

Meeting with representatives of public organizations, mass media and students in upcoming International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction



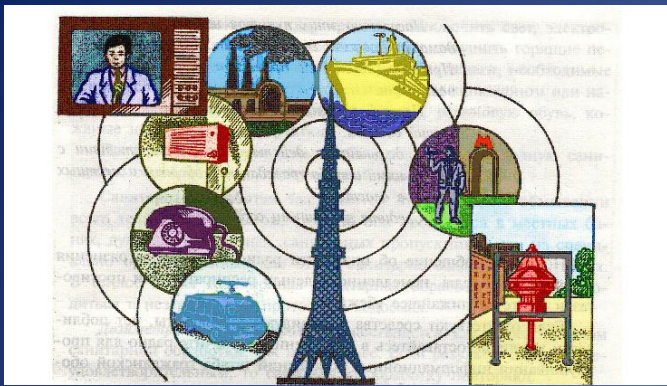
# National and Municipal “Campaigns” on informing and warning the population about emergencies at central and municipal levels

( basis for regional early warning System for Southern  
Caucasus countries and neighboring states in trans frontier  
emergencies)

Yerevan

Republic of Armenia

2009



The sirens, enterprise and transport hoots will go off, police loudspeaker vans will drive round the streets with warning announcements.



WHEN A SIREN  
SOUNDS  
THIS IS ALARM:  
*"WARNING TO  
EVERYONE..."*



**WHAT YOU SHOULD DO  
FIRST**

*GO INSIDE THE NEAREST  
BUILDING IMMEDIATELY*



*CLOSE DOORS  
AND WINDOWS*



*TURN ON THE RADIO AND TV  
TO RECEIVE INFORMATION  
ABOUT WHAT SHOULD BE  
DONE NEXT*

**THIS IS THE FASTEST WAY TO KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON AND WHAT YOU  
MUST DO.**

# Basic information materials:

- *Brief*
- *More detailed*
- *Target (for municipalities at special risks)*

include the information on:

Risks present in a country, region or area where these people live

Likely scenarios in case of a specific disaster

Technique and tools available to inform and warn people about the disaster

How to prepare beforehand to act adequately in times of a specific disaster

How to respond when warned about an imminent disaster ( preventive phase) and when disaster is real (acute phase).

How to respond in recovery phase\_

# Four Additional Informational Modules

- **A Manual** for the population on how to act when *an earthquake hazard is real or seems imminent* (the priorities for action to be undertaken by the population)
- **A Manual** for the population on how to act when *a radiological hazard is real or seems imminent* (the priorities for action to be undertaken by the population)
- **A Manual** for the population on how to act when *a flood hazard is real or seems imminent* (the priorities for action to be undertaken by the population)
- **A Manual** for the population on how to act when *a chemical hazard is real or seems imminent* (the priorities for action to be undertaken by the population).

# Specific information materials for targeted groups

- The existing circumstances necessitate the creating some additional information materials aimed at special targeted groups of population, primarily, for the most vulnerable people: the disabled, elderly and children.
- The mentioned *brief and more detailed basic information materials as well as information materials for the municipalities at special risks assigned for the distribution in each family* might be used while informing and warning the most vulnerable people- children, elderly and disabled.
- *However, the specifics of the most vulnerable segments of population dictates the urgent need to prepare for them within national and municipal “Campaigns” some specific information materials .*



## Alexan Bayanduryan made the strenuous climb to the summit of Mt. Ararat (5.165m)

On August 4, 2010, 34-aged Alexan Bayanduryan made the strenuous climb to the summit of Mt. Ararat (5.165m) on one leg and a pair of crutches as part of an international expedition. His climbing up Mt. Ararat came after three years of training, assisted by the Pyunic Union for Disabled (Armenia).

Bayanduryan is the first man to reach this altitude on one foot.

At present, Alexan Bayanduryan is getting ready for the next challenge of climbing to the summit of Mount Everest.

# PLANNING FOR AN EARTHQUAKE

- The key to coping all potential problems for people with disabilities that may arise after the strong earthquake strikes is to plan thoroughly for preparedness measures for an earthquake by given all the facts that can impact livelihood on live line functions during a disaster



## **A family Plan .**

**Your main source for help during an earthquake and immediately following it will be your family members if they are at home.**



## **A neighbourhood Plan**

**It may be the case when you are alone at home while your family members are absent and here your main source of help after an earthquake will be your neighbors.**

Get to know them.



## Plan for a specialized institution

where people with disabilities, especially children, are provided care.

*By summing up one can notice, that the creation a more detailed information materials assigned for specialized educational and other types institutions, where the children with disabilities are treated, requires factoring of*

The basic venues of activities performed by such specialized institutions

Knowledge of contingent of the cared children; their mustering of skills in every day live and a kind of social-psychological work delivered to them

Basic principle and approaches applied to rehabilitate these children with an aim to prepare them to act independently in every day circumstances

Composition and qualification of rehabilitation team assembled for each child: physicians ( including rehabilitation physician , psychologist and etc.) , teachers, rehabilitation nurseries

An extent and a form of the engagement of parents and family members of the treated children into the rehabilitation team

Basic construction performances of a specialized establishment where these children live, are taught and given rehabilitation courses

Practice of giving integrated teaching and rehabilitation courses when the treated disabled children study and have an access to the institutional facilities together with their healthy class mates ( for instance, an integration kinder garden model)

Type of a given care, applied rehabilitation and teaching methods :

round- the -clock in - patient, day in- patient and out- patient treatment options

Availability of plans on interaction with enterprises, organizations, academic institutions etc., located in the close proximity ) regards the likelihood of showing prime assistance to the most vulnerable children ( children with disabilities) in case of a disaster

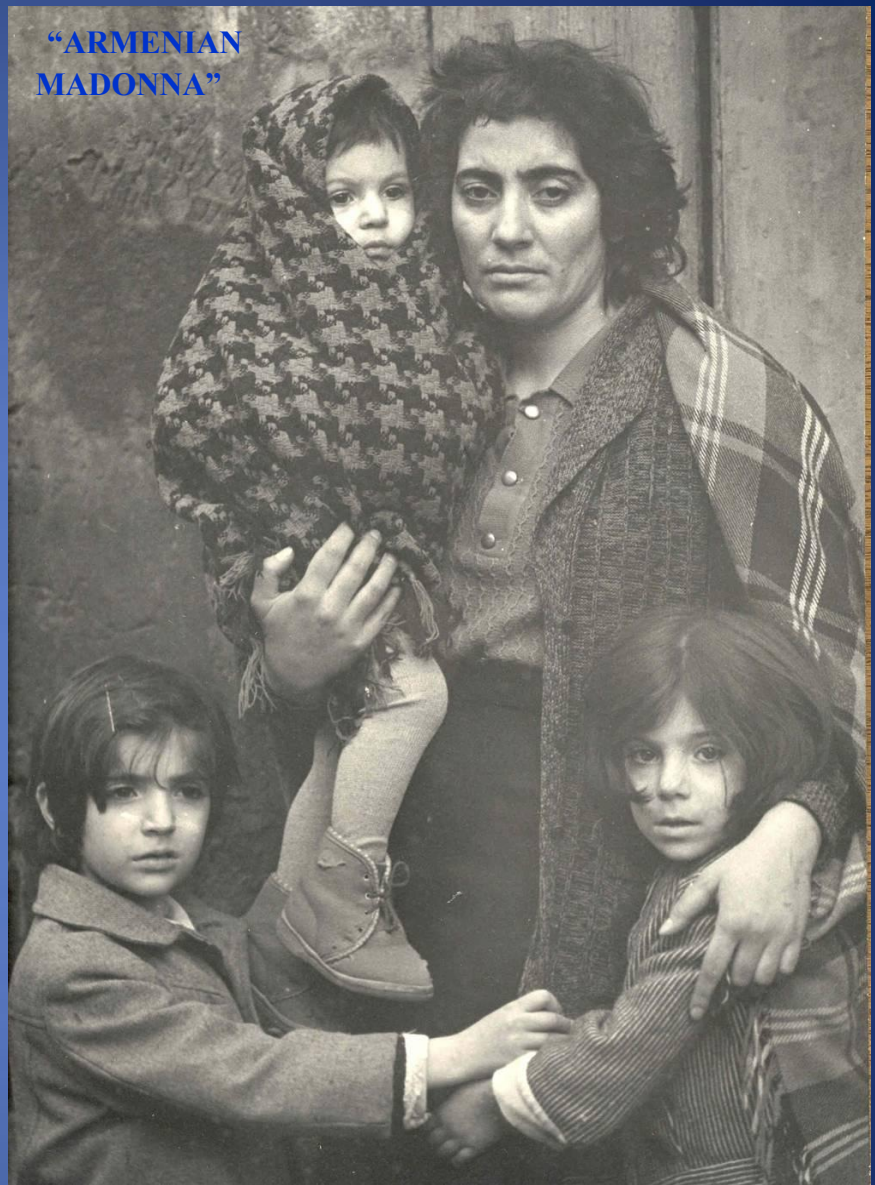
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**SPITAK EARTHQUAKE,  
ARMENIA**

**DECEMBER 7, 1988**

