

COUNCIL  
OF EUROPE



CONSEIL  
DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 22 July 1991

AP/CAT (91) 24

**Open Partial Agreement  
on the prevention of, protection  
against and organisation of relief in  
the event of major natural and  
technological disasters**

3rd Ministerial Meeting

Ankara, 9-10 July 1991

Open Partial Agreement on the Prevention of, Protection against and  
Organisation of Relief in the event of Major Natural and  
Technological Disasters (OPA)

IIIrd Ministerial Meeting

Ankara, 9-10 July 1991

The IIIrd Conference of Ministers of the Council of Europe's Open Partial Agreement on the prevention of, protection against and organisation of relief in the event of major natural and technological disasters took place in Ankara, 9-10 July 1991. (1)

1. The Ministers took note, with interest, of Turkish policy in the field of civil protection and European cooperation programmes being conducted in Turkey.
2. The Ministers congratulated the various European Centres of the Open Partial Agreement on the exhibition held on the occasion of their meeting.
3. The Minister noted with great interest:
  - the creation in Belgium of a European Centre under the Open Partial Agreement to deal with the legislative aspects of disasters, which should be of great legal assistance to Member States and other European Centres under the Agreement;
  - the creation in Aveiro (P) of a European Centre on major industrial disasters, and the holding of an international conference on this subject in Lisbon in 1992.
4. On a proposal by the Greek Minister, the Ministers of the Open Partial Agreement asked that the problem of the control of nuclear installations be put on the agenda of their next Meeting.
5. The Ministers adopted resolutions on the following themes:

Follow-up to the Chernobyl nuclear accident Unanimously adopted (2)	<u>Resolution 1</u>
Protection of coral eco-systems unanimously adopted	<u>Resolution 2</u>
Open Partial Agreement's 1992 Budget unanimously adopted	<u>Resolution 3</u>

(1) see list of participants in Appendix 1

(2) reservation expressed by the Italian delegation concerning the date of the Permanent Correspondents' extraordinary session in November 1991.

2.

- . Evaluation of the European Centres  
unanimously adopted Resolution 4
  
- . European Warning System  
unanimously adopted Resolution 5
  
- . Open Partial Agreement contribution to  
the United Nations' International Decade  
on Natural Disaster Reduction  
unanimously adopted Resolution 6
  
- . Individual countries' responsibility  
in the event of a disaster that has  
international repercussions: insurance  
concerns  
unanimously adopted Resolution 7
  
- . Forest fires  
unanimously adopted Resolution 8
  
- . The impact of modern optics on the  
prevention of and protection against  
disasters  
unanimously adopted Resolution 9
  
- . Declaration made by the Ministers of  
the Council of Europe's Open Partial  
Agreement on Major Disasters  
unanimously adopted Declaration
  
- . In Resolution 10, unanimously adopted, the Ministers  
express their sincere gratitude to the Turkish  
authorities for their warm welcome and excellent  
organisation of this IIIrd Ministerial Meeting of the  
Open Partial Agreement.

At the invitation of the Government of San Marino, the Ministers decided to hold their next meeting there, end 1992. At the Belgian Government's invitation, they agreed that the following one would be held in Belgium.

The Press Communique of their IIIrd Meeting (Appendix 2) was adopted.

RESOLUTION 6

CONTRIBUTION BY THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE OPEN PARTIAL AGREEMENT  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION

The Ministers

- attaching great importance to the Open Partial Agreement's contribution to the United Nations International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (IDNDR)
- considering the proposal presented by the Executive Secretariat of the Open Partial Agreement at the international IDNDR Conference in Yokohama and Kagoshima (Japan) on 27 September - 3 October 1990 and at the IDNDR meeting in Bonn on 4-7 March 1991
- confirming their agreement with the Resolution on their contribution to the IDNDR, adopted by the Committee of Permanent Correspondents at its meeting in Moscow on 3-5 April 1991

RESOLVE to focus the Open Partial Agreement's contribution on the following topics:

1. earthquake prediction based on:

- . the Conference on 'Earthquake prediction: state of the art', to be held in Strasbourg on 15-18 October 1991<sup>1</sup>
- . the Draft European Code of Social Ethics,
- . the preparation of a common research programme<sup>2</sup> including the continued testing of existing earthquake prediction methodologies, taking into account the programme to reduce seismic risks in the Balkans,
- . the proposal to establish a European earthquake information service

2. information for the public, with educational material, on what to do in case of a natural disaster<sup>3</sup>

3. production of an atlas of Mediterranean seismic cultures, possibly based on programmes undertaken within the framework of the Open Partial Agreement<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> European Centres in Athens and Strasbourg

<sup>2</sup> European Centre in Athens

<sup>3</sup> European Centres in Ankara, Madrid and Aveiro

<sup>4</sup> European Centre in Ravello