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

RESOLUTIONS

adopted at the 8th Ministerial meeting of the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement

**Athens-Vougliameni, Greece
21-22 February 2000**

Strasbourg, 10 March 2000

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

RESOLUTION

**adopted¹ at the 8th Ministerial meeting of the
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**Athens-Vougliameni, Greece
21-22 February 2000**

- Resolution on the creation of a European Co-ordination Centre on Forest Fires in Greece

¹ with Italy abstaining

CREATION OF A EUROPEAN COORDINATION CENTRE ON FOREST FIRES IN GREECE

RESOLUTION

The Ministers,

Convinced of the destructive effects of forest fires in the majority of member States of the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement and in particular throughout the Mediterranean basin;

Having taken account of the initiatives already undertaken in the Euro-Mediterranean region to strengthen co-operation between countries and professionals in preventing and fighting forest fires;

SUPPORT the proposal by Greece to establish a European centre at the Secretariat General of the Civil Protection in Athens for co-ordination in the area of forest fires, to be the focal point of a network bringing together the main participants in this area, at both national and European level.

Using the new communication and information technologies, this focal point will collect useful data in order to facilitate co-operation in the area of preventing and combating forest fires.

This new centre will initially be responsible for:

- organising a seminar in Athens in June 2000 on the theme of forest fires and the use of the EDRIM telecommunications network;
- presenting the results of this seminar:
 - at a conference to be held in Toulouse in September 2000 on the topic of space technologies and risk management
 - at the Euro-Mediterranean Forum in Hyères in October 2000

INSTRUCT the Committee of Permanent Correspondents of the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement to evaluate the results at their meeting in autumn 2000.