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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 9th Ministerial session of the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement

**Isle of Bendor, Bandol, France
3 - 4 October 2002**

Strasbourg, 5 November 2002

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

RESOLUTION

**adopted¹ at the 9th Ministerial session of the
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**Isle of Bendor, Bandol, France
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- Resolution on Risk Culture

¹ Unanimously

RESOLUTION ON RISK CULTURE

THE MINISTERS,

Recalling their declaration on the public's right to information and training about risk management, adopted at the 8th ministerial session of the Agreement (Athens, 21-22 February 2000), in which they stated their intention:

- to affirm the population's right to be informed about hazard prevention and how to behave in an emergency;
- to give priority to raising children's awareness of hazard prevention, particularly through the school curriculum;

Lend their support:

- to the implementation of the IRIS (International Risk Information System) project on the combined use of radio and Internet to better inform the public about risk prevention;
- to the creation in the member states of the Agreement of national observatories to monitor the safety of schools and higher education establishments or equivalents, forming a Euro-Mediterranean network whose secretariat could be provided by the European Centre in Sofia, in liaison with the national civil protection agency.

WELCOME:

- the evaluation report on the SESAM plan (plan for disaster relief in schools and other establishments frequented by children of school age, presented by the Monaco authorities);
- risk prevention schemes for children with special needs (children with physical or mental disabilities or socially deprived children (FORM-OSE - Net de la Rue);
- initiatives developed by the Yerevan European Centre (ECTR) to integrate protective features into the design of school furniture;
- initiatives developed at university level in connection with Euro-Mediterranean university networks, Euro-Mediterranean Masters courses as a first stage towards Euro-Mediterranean doctorates in risk sciences:
 - offered for the third consecutive year by the European Centre for Disaster Medicine (CEMEC) in San Marino, a European Master in Disaster Medicine;
 - offered for the second consecutive year by the Universities of Montpellier and Nîmes, a European Master in Risk Science.

INSTRUCT the Executive Secretary:

- to continue implementation of the radio-risk coupled with internet within the framework of the IRIS Project, on the basis of pilot schemes carried out in France and specific actions in Algeria, in the Wilaya of Ain-Temouchent, and Morocco, in Casablanca,
- to promote the creation in member states of national observatories to monitor safety in schools and higher education establishments,
- to enhance implementation of the FORM-OSE programme (Training, West, South, East)
 - at school level, relying on the European centres in Sofia, Ravello and Cyprus, paying particular attention to children with special needs.
 - at university and professional levels.