

## CIVIL PROTECTION QUESTIONNAIRE

### Civil Protection

#### *Legal reference*

1999/847/EC: Council Decision of 9 December 1999 establishing a Community action programme in the field of civil protection (OJ L 327 21.12.1999 p. 53) EUR-Lex hyperlink [html](#) [pdf](#)

2001/792/EC, Euratom: Council Decision of 23 October 2001 establishing a Community mechanism to facilitate reinforced cooperation in civil protection assistance interventions (OJ L 297 15.11.2001 p. 7) EUR-Lex hyperlink [html](#) [pdf](#)

Decision No 2850/2000/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 December 2000 setting up a Community framework for cooperation in the field of accidental or deliberate marine pollution (*OJ L 332 28.12.2000 p. 1*) EUR-Lex hyperlink [html](#) [pdf](#)

- **What is the authority responsible for civil protection?**

Civil protection services in Turkey are conducted by different ministries, institutions and agencies commissioned by various laws and by-laws.

Main institutions and agencies responsible for civil protection in Turkey are below:

- **AT NATIONAL LEVEL:**

- Prime Ministry (General Directorate of Emergency Management of Turkey)** (Law No. 3056 of 10.10.1984 on Prime Ministerial Organization (Official Gazette:19.10.1984 no:18550), Cabinet Decree No. 96/8716 and By-Law of the Crisis Management Center of the Prime Ministry (Official Gazette:9.1.1997 no:22872))
- Ministry of Interior (General Directorate of Civil Defense and Coast Guard Command)** (Law on 3152 of 14.02.1985 on the Organization and Function of the Ministry of Interior (Official Gazette:23.2.1985 no:18675), Law no 7126 of 09.06.1958 on Civil Defense (Official Gazette:13.6.1958 no:9931), Law no 2692 of 09.07.1982 on Coast Guard Command (Official Gazette:13.7.1982 no:17753))
- Ministry of Public Works and Settlement** (Law No 7269 of 15.05.1959 on Measures and Assistance Regarding Natural Disasters Affecting General Public Life (Official Gazette:25.5.1959 No:10213), Decree Law no 180 of 13.12.1983 on Organization and Function of the Ministry of Public Works and Settlement (Official Gazette:14.12.1983 No:18251))
- Ministry of Health** (Law No 1593 of 24.04.1930 on General Health (Official Gazette: 6.5.1930 no: 1489), and Decree Law No 181 of 13.12.1983 on Organization and Function of the Ministry of Health (Official Gazette: 14.12.1983 No:18251), First Aid By-law (Official Gazette: 18.03.2004 No: 25406),
- General Directorate for State Hydraulic Works (SHW), Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources** (Law no 6200 of 18.12.1953 on Organization and Functions of

General Directorate of SHW(Official Gazette: 25.12.1953 no:8592), Law no 4373 of 14.1.1943 on Protection against Floods and Inundations (Official Gazette: 21.1.1943 no: 5310) and Law on 7269 of 15.5.1959 on Relief and Measures in a Major Disaster(Official Gazette: 25.5.1959 no:10213))

- f) **Ministry of Environment and Forestry** (Law no 4856 of 18.05.2003 on Organization and Function of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (Official Gazette: 8.5.2003 no: 25102), Law no 2872 of 11.08.1983 on Environment (Official Gazette: 11.8.1983 no: 18132), Law no 5312 of 11.03.2005 on Principles of Emergency Response and Compensation for Damages in Pollution of Marine Environment by Oil and Other Harmful Substances (Official Gazette: 11.3.2005 no: 25752))
- g) **Undersecretariat for Maritime Affairs** (Decree Law no 491 of 10.08.1993 on Organization and Function of the Undersecretariat for Maritime Affairs (Official Gazette 19.8.1983 no:21673), Law no 5312 of 11.03.2005 on Principles of Emergency Response and Compensation for Damages in Pollution of Marine Environment By Oil and Other Harmful Substances (Official Gazette: 11.3.2005 no: 25752))
- h) **Turkish Atomic Agency Authority** (Law no 2690 of 9.7.1982 on Atomic Energy Authority (Official Gazette: 13.7.1982 no:17753), National Implementation By-law in Cases of Nuclear and Radiological Danger, issued in the Official Gazette no 23934 of 15.01.2000)

▪ **AT LOCAL LEVEL:**

- a) **Governorship (Provincial Administrations)** According to Law no 5442 on Provincial Administration (Official Gazette: 18.6.1949 no:7236), the governor is responsible for the administration at provincial level. Ministries, institutions and agencies listed above work under the governor before, during and after disasters at local level. Apart from this Law governors have been authorized by various laws and regulations.
- b) **Special Provincial Administrations** (Law no 5302 of 04.03.2005 on Special Provincial Administrations (Official Gazette: 4.3.2005 no:25745))
- c) **Municipalities** (Law no 5393 of 13.07.2005 on Municipalities (Official Gazette: 13.7.2005 no: 25874))

• **How are civil protection operational services organized?**

Organization of civil protection services in Turkey is explained according to stages of emergency management cycle, which are namely “Preparation”, “Mitigation”, “Response” and “Rehabilitation-Restructuring”.

## **RESPONSE**

### **A. The Prime Ministry**

#### **General Directorate of Emergency Management of Turkey shall:**

- Provide national coordination among institutions and agencies which carry out search, rescue and relief work in an emergency,
- Provide national coordination on utilizing land, sea and air transportation as well as rescue and relief equipment of public or private sector,
- Provide national coordination on taking delivery, protection and transportation of relief materials,
- Provide secretarial work for the Crisis Management Center of the Prime Ministry.

### **B. Ministry of Interior**

#### **General Directorate of Civil Defense shall:**

- Carry out search-rescue operations in times of war, disasters, huge fires and major accidents,
- Carry out first aid and social services in times of war, disasters, major fires and accidents,
- Carry out measurement and detection of nuclear, biological and chemical substances as well as decontamination operations,
- Coordinate works of domestic or foreign, public or private institutions that take part in search-rescue operations,
- Coordinate works of voluntary persons or institutions that take part in search-rescue operations.

#### **Coast Guard Command shall:**

- Carry out all kinds of surface and air search-rescue operations at sea,
- Take heed of all notices in search and rescue operations to locate disaster victims and draw up appropriate plans,
- After locating and transporting disaster victims to land, provide coordination on transportation of disaster victims to the nearest health organization,
- Maintain law and order at sea.

### **C. Ministry of Public Works and Settlement**

#### **Directorate General of Natural Disaster Affairs shall:**

- Determine location, size and magnitude of earthquakes and other natural disasters,
- Estimate and assess damages,
- Construct temporary settlements,
- Remove wreckages or debris,
- Manage emergency aid fund,

- Manage construction activities, temporary and permanent settlements for evacuation in the event of a nuclear, radiological accident or danger.

**D. Ministry of Environment and Forestry shall:**

- ensure that governor's offices implement emergency response plans in the event of big industrial accidents,
- in cases of pollution of marine environment by oil and other hazardous substances:
  - i. coordinate response and assessment activities and compensation of damages,
  - ii. identify the type and impacts of pollution, determine the environmental damages,
  - iii. implement emergency response plans in coastal areas.

**E. Ministry of Health shall:**

- Carry out medical research-rescue operations,
- Provide first aid service and treatment to disaster victims,
- Provide protective health services in the disaster area.

**F. Undersecretariat for Maritime Affairs shall:**

- Coordinate search-rescue operations in marine accidents,
- Carry out response activities in case of sea pollution emergency caused by oil and other hazardous substances,
- Operate through "Main Search and Rescue Coordination Center",
- Request assistance from foreign emergency response units in case of serious marine pollution caused by accident.

**G. Turkish Atomic Energy Authority (TAEK) shall:**

- Conduct technical review and evaluation after receiving news or warning of a nuclear and radiological accident or danger from RESA or other resources or through some bilateral or multilateral agreements, and inform the Crisis Management Center of the Prime Ministry as to the results of such evaluation and potential impacts of the emergency,
- Undertake the responsibility of management and transportation and establish cooperation among relevant ministries, agencies and their affiliated institutions as well as governor's offices unless the incident in question does not constitute a state of national crisis,
- Make radiological observations and assess data,
- Convey measurement equipment and teams to the relevant area,
- Carry out radioactivity analysis.

**H. Special Provincial Administrations shall:**

- Provide emergency aid and rescue services outside the municipal boundaries,
- Provide necessary aid and support to areas outside the provincial boundaries in the event of fire or natural disasters.

**I. Municipalities shall:**

- Provide fire department services, rescue operations and ambulance services,
- Provide necessary aid and support to areas outside the municipal boundaries in the event of fire or natural disasters.

**PREVENTION, MITIGATION AND PREPARATION**

**A. The Prime Ministry**

**General Directorate of Emergency Management of Turkey shall:**

- Provide national coordination among institutions and agencies which take preemptive measures against incidents that would require emergency management,
- Monitor and assess short and long term plans of public institutions and agencies,
- Promote contribution to relief efforts from voluntary organizations and persons.

**B. Ministry of Interior**

**General Directorate of Civil Defense shall:**

- Raise awareness of the public, public officials and students,
- Provide training and certification for volunteers and non-governmental organizations,
- Identify protective and preventive measures against fire, set down standards for fire departments and train and supervise personnel thereof,
- Draw up plans for civil protection services in public institutions and agencies,
- Plan and implement all kinds of protection and rescue measures, emergency rescue and first aid
- Perform pre-planned exercises
- Have trained and sufficient amount of staff ready in order to accurately and timely inform the public about NBCR Measures
- Create teams endowed with the necessary equipment and give them training in cooperation with TAEK in order to make measurements and prevent radioactive contamination
- Establish and maintain a warning and alarm system to inform the public about dangers

**Coast Guard Command shall:**

- Be prepared, by surface and air means, for any kind of search and rescue operations at sea
- Assess any kind of notices regarding marine affairs and response when necessary
- Conduct supervision on prevention of sea pollution

### **C. Ministry of Public Works and Settlement**

#### **Directorate General of Natural Disasters shall:**

- Build a disaster information system
- Identify disaster risks
- Carry out micro-zoning studies
- Approve geological-geotechnical surveyor reports on which the development plan is based
- Build and maintain a network to keep strong motion records
- Build and maintain a national seismic network of Turkey
- Determine the risks of landslide, rock fall and avalanche and prevent their occurrence
- Determine standards for building construction and strengthening
- Determine disaster-prone areas
- Develop plans for disaster management
- Construct earthquake scenarios and conduct relevant training and exercises

#### **General Directorate of Technical Research and Implementation shall:**

- Develop public housing legislation
- Develop zoning plans, housing plans and work on urban transformation
- Provide disaster training
- Manage the European Disaster Training Center

#### **General Directorate of Constructive Works shall:**

- Set application standards for construction supervision
- Set standards for construction technique and material

### **D. Ministry of Health shall:**

- Provide first-aid training for the general public and personnel of public institutions and agencies in line with emergency support plans in view of disaster preparedness.
- Provide training for health personnel who would respond to disasters on structural and non-structural matters; prepare logistics on health and arrange for relevant exercises.

### **E. Ministry of Environment and Forestry shall:**

- Take due measures to be prepared against and cope with pollution of surface and ground water, sea and land and promote capacity of response in such emergencies,
- Ensure development of local, regional and national emergency plans on the protection of such areas,
- Ensure that the designated industrial facilities develop emergency response plans,

- Make necessary arrangements for reception of ship-generated waste, storage and transportation of such waste to disposal facilities in order to prevent illegal discharge of waste,
- In case of marine pollution emergency caused by oil or other hazardous substances:
  - set out the procedures and principles for notification and supervision processes as well as for the staff, materials and equipment that the shore facilities must have in place in order to respond to possible pollution, with a view to ensuring navigational, life, property and environmental safety,
  - set out the procedures and principles for the commission to determine damages,
  - set out the procedures and principles for preparation of local, regional and national emergency plans,
  - ensure that coastal facilities provide financial liability insurance against damages, and terminate their operations if they fail to comply.
- Build capacity and exchange technological information in line with Barcelona and Bucharest conventions and annexed Emergency Protocols

#### **F. Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources**

##### **General Directorate for State Hydraulic Works shall:**

- Develop flood protection plans.

#### **G. Undersecretariat for Maritime Affairs shall:**

- Stay prepared for response operations to be carried out in cases of sea pollution caused by oil and other hazardous substances.

#### **H. Turkish Atomic Energy Authority (TAEK):**

- Take heed of all kinds of warnings received 24 hours a day and respond accordingly
- Engage in co-operations to train the staff from all relevant ministries, agencies and their affiliated institutions who would work in times of a nuclear and radiological accident or danger
- Determine response levels in cases of nuclear and radiological accident or danger
- Prepare and conduct exercises regarding emergency situations in collaboration with the relevant ministries, agencies and their affiliated institutions
- Inform the relevant response teams as to the measures to be taken in case of a nuclear or radiological accident or danger

#### **I. Special Provincial Administrations shall:**

- Develop disaster and emergency plans in order to provide protection from or mitigate the risks of fire, industrial accidents, earthquakes and other natural disasters,
- Provide training for the general public in accordance with the plans

**J. Municipalities shall:**

- Develop disaster and emergency plans in order to provide protection from or mitigate the risks of fire, industrial accidents, earthquakes and other natural disasters
- Provide training for the general public in accordance with the plans
- Prepare urban development plans, issue licenses for and control building construction

**REHABILITATION-RECONSTRUCTION**

**A. The Prime Ministry**

**General Directorate of Emergency Management of Turkey shall:**

- Provide coordination at national level among institutions and agencies which carry out rehabilitation work in the aftermath of an emergency

**B. Ministry of Public Works and Settlement**

**General Directorate of Natural Disaster Affairs shall:**

- Conduct infrastructure works,
- Determine places for settlement and prepare settlement plans,
- Conduct public housing studies,
- Work to provide permanent housing,
- Determine the assistance to be given to disaster victims for housing or repair works.

**C. Ministry of Health shall:**

- Ensure that health services are continued in the aftermath of a disaster and render psychological support and rehabilitation services.

**D. Ministry of Environment and Forestry shall:**

- Identify the polluted areas
- Carry out rehabilitation operations in polluted areas
- Carry out monitoring programs to find out the long term impacts of pollution on health, flora, fauna as well as natural and historical assets, following the emergency response in case of pollution of marine environment by oil or other hazardous substances.

**E. Municipalities shall:**

- Conduct infrastructure, rehabilitation and reconstruction works with its own budget and additional resources provided by the central government



#### **F. Special Provincial Administrations shall:**

- Conduct infrastructure, rehabilitation and reconstruction works with its own budget and additional resources provided by the central government

Civil defense activities carried out by above-mentioned ministries, public agencies and institutions are explained in detail in the annex. ANNEX

#### **GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTRY**

With an aim to taking precautions to carry out national emergency management efficiently in cases of earthquake, landslide, rock falls, fire, accident, meteorological disaster, accidents involving nuclear and chemical substance and migration movements that may affect national security, and providing coordination among institutions and agencies that take preemptive measures in advance of emergency situations, that carry out search, rescue and relief operations in an emergency and that conduct rehabilitation in the aftermath of an emergency, the General Directorate of Emergency Management (TEMAD) performs the following functions as pursuant to articles 2 and 11/A of the Law no 3056 of 10.10.1984. TEMAD shall:

- provide for the establishment of emergency management centers in public institutions and agencies, determine working principles and maintain coordination among such centers with a view to ensuring an efficient emergency management,
- observe and assess the actions taken by institutions and agencies such as emergency precautions, preparation of short and long term plans and creation of information banks, with a view to pre-empting incidents that may require emergency management,
- provide coordination services to use, in cases of emergency, all kinds of land, sea and air vehicles, as well as rescue and relief material and equipment belonging to public or private entity,
- encourage voluntary organizations and persons to take part in relief efforts in an emergency and provide coordination to receive, protect and transport relief materials,
- set up, if necessary, temporary or permanent boards to carry out scientific, technical and administrative studies on emergency situations.

Work is almost complete on the establishment of a Communication and Information System in an Emergency which, backed by geographical information systems, would provide uninterrupted and secure communication with disaster stricken areas, help to take prompt decisions in disasters or incidents that require emergency management and contain updated data on all national resources.

Prime Ministerial circulars grant the General Directorate of Emergency Management the responsibility of the regulation and coordination of human relief efforts in major disasters which took place abroad.

According to the Prime Ministerial Circular no 2006/7, the General Directorate of Crisis Management Center shall, acting on behalf of the Prime Ministry, monitor and coordinate the studies on seismic risk mitigation conducted by ministries, institutions and agencies, Istanbul Governor's Office, Metropolitan Municipality and other local government institutions in preparation of a possible earthquake in Istanbul, and review such studies in terms of efficiency, effectiveness and fitness for purpose.

### **Crisis Management Center of the Prime Ministry**

The By-law on Crisis Management Center of the Prime Ministry, which took effect by the Cabinet Decree of 96/8716, stipulates that in case there are any indications that a crisis is looming at the national level, the Crisis Management Center of the Prime Ministry shall take action upon the proposal of a relevant body (National Security Council (NSC), Council of Ministers, relevant Ministers, General Secretary of NSC and Undersecretary of the Prime Ministry) and upon the directive of the Prime Minister.

The General Directorate of Emergency Management carries out secretarial work for Crisis Management Center of the Prime Ministry.

The By-law on Crisis Management Center of the Prime Ministry states that the General Directorate of Emergency Management is responsible for the coordination of activities in the following emergency cases: natural disasters, asylum cases and big demographical movements, major fires, accidents involving nuclear and chemical substances and other situations.

### **GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF CIVIL DEFENSE, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR**

The Ministry of Interior is responsible with civil defense services in Turkey and carries out these services via the General Directorate of Civil Defense.

The General Directorate of Civil Defense consists of central and provincial administrations. The central administration involves a general directorate, a college of civil defense, warning and alarm centers, whereas the provincial administration involves provincial and district civil defense directorates, local forces for civil defense as well as civil defense search and rescue units.

The Law no 7126 on Civil Defense and the Law no 3152 on the Organization and Functions of the Ministry of Interior are the two main pieces of legislation that regulate civil defense services. Moreover, the Civil Defense organization has been assigned further functions by various laws, regulations and by-laws.

Article 12 of the Law no 3152 on the Organization and Functions of the Ministry of Interior lists down the functions of the General Directorate of Civil Defense as follows:

- organization of national civil defense services
- ensuring that civil defense services are planned and implemented in public institutions and agencies and providing for their coordination and supervision
- planning and implementation of all kinds of unarmed protection and rescue measures, emergency rescue and first aid operations

- determination of measures for fire protection and prevention, setting standards for fire departments and training their personnel, as well as providing for their coordination and supervision
- training of civil defense personnel and keeping the public informed about civil defense actions
- management of private civil defense fund
- conducting secretarial work on defense issues for the Ministry and performing other duties assigned by specific laws.

Article 1 of the Law no 7126 on Civil Defense states “Civil Defense involves all kinds of unarmed protection and rescue measures and activities undertaken in cases of enemy attacks, natural disasters and big fires, in order to minimize loss of life and property, provide immediate repair and restoration services for the protection and preservation of all public and private establishments that are deemed essential to the society, promote utmost public support to defense efforts and keep up the spirit behind the front-lines”.

As can be understood from the above-mentioned duties, the General Directorate of Civil Defense was set up to carry out exclusive state functions in civil defense and built its whole organizational structure accordingly.

In this regard, in order to ensure efficient response in cases of emergency and disaster:

Search and Rescue Units consisting of 120 staff shall be regionally active in 11 provinces, whereas search and rescue teams with staff of respectively 10, 20 and 30 shall be active in other provinces. There is a total of 1236 professional search and rescue staff currently working in units and teams.

In cases of incidents requiring civil defense action, the initial response is given by the relevant provincial civil defense teams under the responsibility of civil authorities. In the event that local facilities and capacities fail to deliver services, assistance is solicited from neighboring governor’s offices and provincial civil defense search and rescue units. If the scale of the disaster is beyond regional capacities, assistance is requested from the central government and, in accordance with a pre-determined plan, the General Directorate of Civil Defense sends its forces kept in other units and teams to the stricken region.

All search and rescue operations in an emergency are directly organized and carried out by the Civil Defense Organization. Search and rescue teams of public and private organizations and non-governmental organizations, either domestic or foreign, shall function under the coordination of the Civil Defense Organization, in mutual assistance and cooperation and in accordance with the provisions of the “Directive on the Principles on Voluntary Participation to Civil Defense Services” issued by the Ministry of Interior.

Furthermore, Provincial Emergency Search and Relief Teams set up by the governor’s office, comprising staff from public institutions and agencies as well as the local forces for civil defense comprising citizens, who are granted pertinent responsibility pursuant to Law no. 7126, are obligated to participate in emergency activities if deemed necessary by civil authorities.

Article 69 of the “Regulation on Personal Liability, Evacuation, Planning and Other Services Regarding Civil Defense” no 6/3150 grants the responsibility of informing the general public

about protection and prevention measures to the Civil Defense Organization. The General Directorate of Civil Defense carries out training programs to raise public awareness on disaster preparedness.

In addition to its active role in the response stage of the cycle named *disaster continuum*, as explained in the relevant directives, the General Directorate of Civil Defense also ensures that public officials, personnel of non-governmental organizations as well as volunteers receive standard training and obtain certification with respect to the stages of preparedness and damage mitigation, and that students and of the general public are duly informed about civil defense.

## **COAST GUARD COMMAND, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR**

The Coast Guard Command carries out search and rescue operations at sea on a 24-hour basis according to the law no 2692 of 09.07.1982 and the “By-law on Turkish Search and Rescue”, which entered into force when published in the Official Gazette no. 24611 of 12.12.2001.

The Coast Guard Command has powers, duties and responsibilities regarding maintenance of order and law as set out by the Law no 5312 of 11.03.2005 on Principles of Emergency Response and Compensation for Damages in Pollution of Marine Environment by Oil and Other Harmful Substances.

Pursuant to article 24 of the Environment Law no 2872, the Coast Guard Command exercises overall supervision and imposes administrative fines in connection with sea pollution outside the municipal borders. In cases of sea pollution detected within the municipal borders, techniques such as video recording and photography are used to gather all kinds of evidence; and samples are sent to the Metropolitan Municipalities for review.

## **MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SETTLEMENT**

According to the law no 7269 of 15.5.1959, the Ministry of Public Works and Settlement has partial responsibilities for studies conducted before, during and after a disaster.

Functions of the Ministry of Public Works and Settlement concerning natural disasters are defined by the Decree Law no 180 of 13.12.1983 as follows:

- Set project standards for urban infrastructure, shelters and development plans of various features and scales,
- Construct and/or have constructed houses in line with principles of housing policy
- Take and/or have taken measures to economically manufacture and use the most necessary and effective construction material in line with standards, national conditions and requirements
- Identify and implement the measures to be taken in residential areas before and after disasters such as earthquake, fire, flood, landslide, rock fall and avalanche; and determine the relief to be provided and maintain close cooperation with the relevant ministries and public agencies and institutions

## **GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF DISASTER AFFAIRS, MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND SETTLEMENT:**

Article 6 of the Decree Law no 180 states the functions of the General Directorate of Disaster Affairs as follows:

- examine measures taken for prevention of disasters and mitigation of damages; determine target and policies in accordance with basic needs;
- develop national and international cooperation, project and programs, with an aim to mitigating disaster damages; represent Turkey in such programs and put the results of such studies to practice;
- conduct researches on mitigation of earthquake damages; examine earthquakes and their reasons; develop earthquake catalogues and national hazard maps; determine measures, techniques and project principles regarding construction in seismic zones; develop restoration and repair methods to renovate earthquake-stricken buildings;
- carry out or have carried out proceedings with respect to disaster stricken or disaster prone areas such as preparation of development plans, maps and plans, conduction of searches and damage assessments, determination of allocations and sites, expropriation transactions, matters related to ownership of right and debits;
- implement or have implemented short and long term measures to arrange for temporary and permanent settlement and shelters in disaster areas, and to this end, ensure that necessary construction elements are manufactured and kept in stocks;
- establish and equip pilot zones in order to predict earthquakes; coordinate and support relevant studies conducted by universities and other public agencies and institutions; set up early warning systems or join in the existing regional or international systems set up to this end; and
- employ one of the most effective tools in mitigation of disaster damages, that is to inform, enlighten and train the general public about disasters.

The General Directorate of Technical Research and Implementation works on public housing legislation, regional plans, development plans, urban transformation and coastlines (Article 12 of the Decree Law no 180 of 13.12.1983). According to the EUR-OPA Major Hazards Agreement (Council of Europe, Open Partial Agreement on the Prevention of, Protection against and Organization of Relief in Major Natural and Technological Disasters), a European Natural Disasters Training Center (AFEM) has been set up under the said general directorate. AFEM center carries out a wide range of training activities.

The General Directorate of Construction Works has responsibilities with respect to construction techniques and materials as well as construction supervision (article 9 of the Decree Law no 180 of 13.12.1983).

## **MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

Pursuant to the Circular of the Ministry of Health no. 06373 of 19/03/2004, “Disaster Health Care Units”, which work directly under the Provincial Health Directors, shall:

- organize and coordinate the following tasks: determination and, if possible, avoidance of risks; preparedness against all risks; planning and conduction of rehabilitation studies in the aftermath of an incident; development of the management system; organization of training programs, creation of response units and completion of studies
- establish disaster health management organization at the provincial level, ensure that the organization system is institutionalized and rendered permanent, and maintain coordination and cooperation in that respect among agencies and institutions both at provincial and national levels
- set up in provinces, starting from regions which have civil defense units, medical rescue teams consisting especially of voluntary health personnel, who shall give professional response in case of a disaster
- follow the relevant correspondence and other procedures regarding participation and assignment of the members of the medical team
- provide for the logistic needs of the medical teams in terms of both personal and medical requirements
- ensure that medical teams can participate in rescue operations carried out in the event of a disaster in another province or country
- ensure that transportation vehicles suitable for rapid and secure transfer from disaster areas to emergency treatment centers are in place; establish coordination and organization in that respect among institutions and agencies
- ensure that health organizations, which would provide emergency treatment services in the aftermath of a disaster, are structured suitably for emergency situations, that their organization, regulation and logistics are provided for, and that the personnel of these organizations receive training
- arrange for mobile emergency treatment units (intense care, patient beds, etc.) at the nearest spot to the disaster area, to be used in need of an advanced emergency medical care including surgery; and build local and regional capacities in this regard
- collect, compile and check the veracity accurate and reliable data about health services provided in disasters and, if necessary, rectify such data
- if needed, set up and convene a consultation board in the province in order to contribute to the health services in times of disaster and impose the recommendatory decisions taken at board meetings
- handle the correspondence, create archives and maintain continuity

- inform the Ministry as to the meetings held on emergency issues by other agencies and institutions to ensure attendance to such meetings as speakers or participants, promoting the work done by the unit
- draw up quarterly work plans for the unit and send them to the Ministry and other relevant units

## **MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTRY**

The powers and responsibilities of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry with respect to preparation, response and rehabilitation are covered by the legislation provisions below.

Article 9-(j) of the Law no 4856 of 08.05.2003 on the Organization and Functions of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry states that the Ministry of Environment and Forestry shall have the following functions and powers with respect to protection of surface and underground waters, sea and land environment, and prevention or elimination of pollution:

- to set objectives and principles
- to determine causes of pollution
- to identify and impose procedures and principles on removal and control of pollution
- to stay prepared against pollution of ground and underground waters, sea and land
- to take or have taken measures for increased response capacity
- to develop or have developed emergency action plans
- to determine technologies suitable for prevention of sea and land pollution, specify the facilities to be set up to this end and take or have taken measures accordingly.

According to Article 11 of the Environment Law no 2872 of 11.08.1983, agencies, institutions and enterprises shall draw up emergency plans against any risk of accident related to their activities in order to control and mitigate the environmental impacts of such an accident. Technical studies are in progress to determine the regulations and principles in this regard.

Taking into account such plans, relevant agencies and institutions, under coordination of the Ministry, shall draw up local, regional and national emergency plans. Technical studies are in progress in this regard.

Pursuant to the Establishment Law no 4856 (Article 9-(j)), and the Environment Law no 2872 (Article 11), the Ministry of Environment and Forestry has responsibilities in case of industrial environmental accidents that require civil defense.

Pursuant to the “Circular on Local Emergency Plan in case of Major Industrial Accidents” no 4906 of 29.07.1996, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry ensures that industrial facilities draw up emergency plans, which are to be implemented by governor’s offices in case of an emergency.

Studies regarding the “Principles of Emergency Response and Compensation for Damages in case of Pollution of Marine Environment By Oil and Other Harmful Substances” are carried out under the coordination of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry and in collaboration with the Undersecretariat for Maritime Affairs, in accordance with the Law no. 5312 of 11.3.2005.

According to Article 4 of this Law:

-the Ministry of Environment and Forestry has powers, duties and responsibilities on preparation of emergency response plans, implementation of such plans in coastal areas, determination of the type and impacts of pollution, assessment of environmental damage and rehabilitation of polluted areas.

-The Undersecretary of Maritime Affairs has powers, duties and responsibilities on implementation of emergency plans in case of sea pollution caused by sea vehicles, response action taken against pollution, compensation of damages and executive issues concerning notification of financial liability guarantees.

Article 5 of the Law regulates safety of navigation, life, property and environment. The ships, which are covered by the Law and which want to enter Turkish inland waters or call at an anchorage or a port facility out of Turkish inland waters, are obligated to notify the Undersecretariat of their voyage and freight forty-eight hours before entry to Turkish territorial waters; or in case of ships for which the navigation time between the port of departure and entry to Turkish territorial waters takes less than forty-eight hours, such notification shall be made right after setting off from the port of departure. Ships which do not meet this requirement are not permitted to Turkish territorial waters and inland waters; those which have already entered are forthwith expelled therefrom. Technical studies are in progress to determine the procedures and principles for notification.

Measures taken to ensure safety of navigation, life, property and environment are inspected by competent organizations according to the procedures and guidelines set out in this Law as well as relevant legislation and international arrangements. Technical studies are in progress to determine the procedures and principles for inspection.

Technical studies are in progress to determine the procedures and principles for the staff, materials and equipment that the shore facilities must have in place in order to respond to possible pollution. Newly established shore facilities are not permitted to operate until they fulfill the requirements for staff, materials and equipment.

Article 8 of the Law stipulates that shore facilities shall take out financial liability insurance against losses covered by the Law. Shore facilities which do not fulfill the insurance requirements are not permitted to operate.

According to article 10 of the Law, a damage assessment commission is set up to determine damages, chaired by the representative of the Ministry and consisting of representatives of the Undersecretariat, Coast Guard Command, General Management of Coastal Safety and Salvage Administrations and relevant governorships and municipalities. The Commission may invite the representatives and experts of other relevant institutions and organizations if it deems necessary. Technical studies are in progress to determine the procedures and principles for Commission activities.

According to article 15 of the Law:

-the power to respond to pollution or a pollution risk is vested in the Undersecretariat for Maritime Affairs. The Undersecretariat, in consultation with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, may choose to outsource this function to other public agencies or institutions or companies based in Turkey which are established for this purpose or which work in this area.



In this case, the responsibilities of the Undersecretariat for Maritime Affairs still apply and the outsourcee does not have the power to directly demand compensation from the guilty party.

Powers specified in the above paragraph can be exercised by the Ministry when necessary.

In case of pollution caused by vessels or shore facilities, vessels involved in the incident and the nearby vessels as well as the coastal facilities give the first response with their staff, equipment and materials, and comply with the instructions of the authorized emergency unit once it takes over. The Undersecretariat for Maritime Affairs informs the Ministry of Environment and Forestry as to the response operations.

In line with the international agreements to which Turkey is a party and provisions on international cooperation defined in emergency plans in accordance with such agreements, the Undersecretariat for Maritime Affairs is authorized, in the event of an emergency at sea, to invite foreign emergency support to Turkey or send abroad Turkish emergency team and meet or claim the associated expenses.

Technical studies are still in progress on the principles and procedures of the response powers conferred to private organizations and public agencies and institutions as well as foreign emergency support invited within the framework of international cooperation, which shall work as emergency response units.

The Undersecretariat for Maritime Affairs may suspend or change sea traffic in the stricken area or in other sea areas in order to increase the efficiency of response activities.

According to Article 18 of this Law, the Ministry of Environment and Forestry, in coordination with the Undersecretariat for Maritime Affairs, and in consultation with the General Directorate of Emergency Management and the relevant institutions, draws up the national emergency plan, laying out the activities to be carried out in case of pollution of the marine environment by oil or other hazardous substances as well as the principles of international cooperation. Technical studies continue on the principles and procedures of preparation of regional and local emergency plans and national emergency plan.

Furthermore, technical studies are also ongoing on the building of a national information system.

Article 19 of the Law states that in case the Ministry of Environment and Forestry requests to activate emergency management in accordance with article 11/A of the Law no 3056 of 10.10.1984, then the emergency response unit to be authorized accordingly shall work as an element of the centers set up by the General Directorate of Emergency Management.

Prevention of illegal discharge of ship-generated waste:

“By-law on Delivery of Waste from Vessels and Control of Waste”, issued in the Official Gazette no 25682 of 26.12.2004 within the framework of the Environment Law no 2872, covers facilities for delivery of ship-generated waste, waste handling at port and disposal of waste, in order to stay prepared against and prevent deliberate marine pollution.

Article 28 of the Environment Law no 2872 states, in relation to illegal dumping from vessels, “those who pollute and damage the environment shall be held liable for the pollution and

distortion they cause, without soliciting a defect clause”. Therefore, vessels which illegally dump waste are monitored, supervised and imposed fines.

Proceedings in this regard are carried out in accordance with the “By-law on the Procedures for Determination of Offenses and Punishment and on the Receipts of Fines Imposed on Vessels and Sea Vehicles” issued in the Official Gazette no 19623 of 3.11.1987.

Metropolitan Municipalities, Coast Guard Boat Commanders and senior level public officials of the local administration are authorized by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry to monitor, supervise and impose fines.

## **UNDERSECRETARIAT FOR MARITIME AFFAIRS**

Powers, functions and responsibilities of the Undersecretariat for Maritime Affairs granted by the Law no 5312 of 11.03.2005 on “Principles of Emergency Response and Compensation for Damages in Pollution of Marine Environment by Oil and Other Harmful Substances” are explained above under the heading of “Ministry of Environment and Forestry”.

“The Main Search and Rescue Co-ordination Center”, set up within the meaning of “Turkish Search and Rescue By-Law” issued in the Official Gazette no 24611 of 12.12.2001, work on a 24 hour basis. The Main Search and Rescue Coordination Center coordinates and ensures cooperation of search and rescue operations carried out on land, at sea and by air in the event of marine accidents.

## **TURKISH ATOMIC ENERGY AUTHORITY (TAEK)**

If in times of peace, major radiological impacts occur or are expected to occur in the state, territorial waters, economic regions and contiguous states, or in case of a nuclear or radiological accident or danger thereof, which may necessitate action by various institutions, TAEK ensures cooperation among relevant ministries, agencies and its affiliated institutions as well as governor’s offices, without changing their responsibilities and powers.

In case of a nuclear or radiological accident or danger which may have cross border impacts, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs maintains all foreign contact concerning possible developments based on technical assessment of TAEK.

TAEK establishes the initial communication with the UAEA and other relevant international organizations in line with its obligations arising out of Early Warning and Emergency Relief Agreements and other international agreements and informs the Ministry accordingly.

TAEK provides educational publication and broadcasting via media tools such as posters, booklets, magazines, books, radio and television, in order to keep the public informed about a possibility of a nuclear or radiological accident or danger, impacts of radiation on public health, measures to be taken in such an emergency and similar matters. TAEK works in collaboration with relevant ministries, public agencies and institutions with respect to such press publications.

## **GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR STATE HYDRAULIC WORKS (SHW), MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

The General Directorate of SHW carries out projects involving structural measures regarding prevention of floods and mitigation of damages, pursuant to the Law no 6200 of 18.12.1953, the Law on 4373 of 14.1.1943 and the law on 7269 of 15.5.1959.

The General Directorate of SHW carries out flood management. Regional Flood Plans, prepared by the Regional Flood Boards based on the examination of river basins and water development in the basins, are sent to the relevant Governor's Offices to be integrated with provincial disaster plans. Regional Flood Plans sets down the functions of SHW organizational units, the contact information of the personnel to be called in a state of alarm, material stores to be used in floods, places where the equipment and wireless sets are kept, settlements to be evacuated in floods, routes and distance schedules as well as general plans.

Management and preservation of flood protection facilities are provided by the "Flood Coordination Board" chaired by the Governor and consisting of District Governors, Mayor of Metropolitan or Provincial Municipality, Mayors of District Municipalities, Director of Special Provincial Administration, Regional Director of Highways, Director of Public Works and Settlement, Provincial Director of Civil Defense, Provincial Director of Health, Provincial Director of Forestry and Environment and the Regional Director of the SHW.

The General Directorate of SHW is responsible for building and maintaining protective facilities against floods. With an aim to identifying methods and rules related to services, the SWH prepared "Instructions for the Protection against Floods", which lay down the articles of relevant laws, determination and announcement of flood areas, action to be taken in places with and without flood protection facilities, development of Regional Flood Plans and their implementation principles as well as other lines of work that are not covered by such plans.