COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION

Brussels, 20 June 2007

10011/1/07
REV 1

LIMITE

PROCIV 83
JAI 265
COSDP 441
PESC 641

"I/A" ITEM NOTE

from : General Secretariat
to : Permanent Representatives Committee / Council
No. prev. doc. : 9455/07 PROCIV 71 JAI 234 COSDP 385 PESC 569
Subject : Report and revised Manual on EU emergency and crisis coordination
– Endorsement

1. Delegations will find in the Annex a draft of the revised version of the Manual on EU Emergency and Crisis coordination.

2. On 1 June 2006, the Council endorsed the Manual on EU Emergency and Crisis Coordination. Firstly, the manual contains internal arrangements for political coordination in Brussels for major emergencies inside or outside the European Union. Secondly, the manual pre-identified 24/7 contact points in the Member States which could be called upon in the event of coordinated terrorist attacks or an influenza pandemic. In order to take work forward, the Council agreed to identify the relevant national contact points for all kinds of emergency and crisis situations and to consider whether a single national contact point for the coordination of all emergency and crisis situations would ensure greater effectiveness.

1 9497/1/06
2 9552/2/06
3 9497/1/06
Moreover, the Council encouraged the Presidency, the Council Secretariat and the Commission to further develop the manual, drawing on best practices under existing bilateral and multilateral arrangements and identifying gaps to be filled, and asked for a progress report to be presented to the Council by 30 June 2007.

3. Work on the identification of **contact points for all kinds of emergency and crisis situations** has been taken forward using a step-by-step approach. In October 2006, the previous Presidency issued a questionnaire which aimed at assessing which Member States have a single point of contact for all kinds of major emergency and crisis situations and at broadening the scope of the manual to cover more than the two scenarios mentioned above.\(^4\) The Member States' replies to the questionnaire were discussed at an expert meeting in Helsinki on 9/10 November 2006. Participants considered the concept of a single national contact point, its possible role as well as the minimum requirements for such a contact point. Based on the replies from Member States and the discussions at the expert meeting, the Presidency suggested the concept of **default** national contact points in order to ensure that all kinds of cross-border crisis and emergency situations are covered. Following the replies to a second questionnaire\(^5\) the Presidency submits herewith a revised version of Chapter 2 (list of contact points) of the manual and, where relevant, an updated version of Chapter 3 (Overview of EU Networks and Instruments in the EU and other organisations).

4. In order to **further develop the manual, drawing on best practices under existing bilateral and multilateral arrangements** and identifying gaps to be filled, the previous as well as the incoming Presidency organised expert meetings in Helsinki on 9/10 November 2006 and in Lisbon on 12/13 April 2007. Based on various presentations of best practices of cross-border cooperation inside the EU as well as with third countries, the findings of the participants of the meeting in Lisbon were that, in view of their importance, information on bi- and multilateral arrangements as well as on best practices should be recorded, kept updated and made available to users in the Member States. With respect to **best practices in the field of civil protection**, participants agreed that the Commission's Monitoring and Information Center (MIC) should continue to take a facilitator role, e.g. by creating a virtual library of lessons learned and best practices.

\(^{4}\) 13666/06  
\(^{5}\) 7146/07
Participants also felt that in the future also the list of existing agreements contained in the Appendix of the first version of the manual would be better placed in such a library. Moreover, participants suggested that the General Secretariat of the Council on a regular basis updates the Manual, and in particular the contact details contained in chapters 2 and 3, based on information provided by the Member States. Finally, participants agreed that an evaluation of the practical applicability of the manual should be undertaken not later than 2010. The Presidency suggested proceeding as proposed by the experts and accordingly has omitted the Appendix from the new version of the manual. Moreover, the Presidency invited the Commission to put a declassified version of the manual (without the contact details) on its webpage.

5. The EU Emergency and Crisis Coordination Arrangements in Brussels (CCA) contained in Chapter 1 of the manual remain unchanged. The first CCA exercise took place on 30 October 2006. The General Secretariat of the Council has recently issued an updated version of its internal standard operating procedures (SOP) to support the CCA in Brussels. This SOP is a living document and subject to regular revision. A second CCA exercise is presently being planned to take place during the next Portuguese Presidency.

6. The Working Party on Civil Protection discussed the draft of the revised version of the Manual contained in doc. 9455/07 at its meeting on 22 May 2007 and endorsed it as well as the above suggestions on the way ahead. The text contained in the Annex takes into account minor changes of the contact details submitted to the General Secretariat of the Council by delegations following the above meeting.

7. Accordingly, the Permanent Representatives Committee is asked to invite the Council, under "A"-items of its agenda, to
   - Take note of the progress achieved so far,
   - And to endorse the revised version of the Manual on EU Emergency and Crisis Coordination as set out in the Annex.
Manual on EU Emergency and Crisis Coordination

Brussels, version of 20 June 2007
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ANNEX

DG H

LIMITE EN
3.3 Other EU level actors

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3.3.2 Eurojust

3.3.3 European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)

3.3.4 European Influenza Surveillance Scheme (EISS)

3.3.5 Europol

3.4 International Organisations

3.4.1 Eurocontrol

3.4.2 International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

3.4.3 Interpol – Command and Co-ordination Centre

3.4.4 NATO – Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Centre (EADRCC)

3.4.5 Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)

3.4.6 UN- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

3.4.7 World Health Organisation (WHO)

Annex A to Annex - Reference Document List

Annex B to Annex - Abbreviations
INTRODUCTION

The present manual on EU emergency and crisis coordination arrangements was submitted to the Council in June 2006 as a response to the request by the European Council (The Hague Programme, point 2.4,) to set up an integrated EU arrangement for crisis management with cross-border effects. It is considered to be a living document which requires permanent updating and adjustment by the Presidency and General Secretariat of the Council.

This manual is based throughout on the key principle of subsidiarity - Member States have primary responsibility for the management of crises within their territory. It does not impose any obligations, nor does it change existing competences. Equally, the manual seeks to recognise the value of mutual support provided between Member States in a spirit of solidarity in the response to emergencies of a significant scale.

In the context of this manual, the notion of crisis management encompasses a wide range of sectors including civil protection, law enforcement, public order and the private sector. The manual is cross pillar and relevant both to external crises and crises within the EU and aims to assist Member States during emergencies. It is without prejudice to existing Crisis Management Procedures for the handling of crisis situations in the context of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (Title V of the Treaty of the EU).

With respect to the scope and the structure of this manual it needs to be noted that all emergencies and/or crises differ in their effects, political impact and respective response activities:

1. A few of the most severe emergencies are of such wide-ranging impact or political significance that they require a coordinated EU response on a political level.
   These emergencies/crisis are covered through the EU emergency and crisis coordination arrangements (CCA), setting out how the EU Institutions and affected Member States interact in Brussels in a crisis mode. The CCA can be found in Chapter 1.
2. Some emergencies/crises require engagement and sometimes mutual operational support from neighbours, other Member States, EU structures and/or other organisations, without requirement of an EU coordinated response on a political level as mentioned above in paragraph 1. These emergencies/crises are generally covered through well established regional, bilateral, multilateral, EU (e.g. the Commission's monitoring and information centre [MIC]) or other agreements and arrangements, particularly to deal with the most common cross-border emergencies.

   For cases in which such arrangements do not exist Chapter 2 provides a list of default contact points of the EU Institutions, of all Member States and of the relevant organisations that can be used when needed at any time (24/7) to help in response to an emergency/crisis. The information provided by this list will enable the Member States to respond rapidly to crisis situations by giving practical and operational support to the interim CCA and by facilitating cooperation between Member States. The default contact points mentioned on this list are situated in the national capitals and differ from those contact points in the Permanent Representations in Brussels that have been designated for use in case the CCA have been activated.

3. Most emergencies/crises are managed by the affected Member State(s) with no direct support from other Member States or from the EU institutions. National arrangements already exist to manage these emergencies/crisis. Therefore, they are not addressed in this manual.

   Chapter 3 contains detailed descriptions of the different networks and instruments in the EU and relevant other organisations, which may play a role to manage the emergencies described above in paragraph 1 and 2.

   The Annexes to the manual contains a list of reference documents and of abbreviations.
1 Procedures
1.1 Activities in case of breaking crisis

Crisis breaks

Is Member State able to handle crisis without external help?

Yes
National action

No political EU coordination required

No

MS evaluates

Political EU coordination required

RAS
Agreements
Manual Info

SitCen

CCA
The flow chart above is a summary depiction of information flows and alternative actions to be taken by the affected Member State depending on the impact of the breaking emergency/crisis.

After the breaking of an emergency/crisis the affected Member State will evaluate whether the response can be handled without the support from other countries or the EU institutions.

- If yes, all response actions are taken solely at national level without relying on assistance from other countries or the EU. The affected Member State might however - depending on the scale of the emergency/crisis - inform the specific Rapid Alert System (RAS) of the Commission (e.g. MIC).

- If no, the Member State will evaluate whether the emergency/crisis is of such an impact that
  - no political EU level coordination is required:
    In this case the affected Member State will either
    - alert the specific RAS (e.g. MIC) and/or
    - trigger bi- and multilateral agreements and/or
    - consult the default contact details of the manual.
  - political EU level coordination is required:
    In this case, the information will be conveyed to the SitCen immediately. The precise procedures for triggering the interim CCA are described below.
1.2 Interim EU Emergency and Crisis Coordination Arrangements

Procedure in the event of a breaking emergency or crisis (see flow chart attached)

1. Information on any breaking emergency or crisis shall be conveyed immediately to the General Secretariat of the Council (SITCEN). The SITCEN is manned 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The SITCEN duty number is +322-281-5000.

2. The Director of the Sitcen or his designated replacement shall immediately relay the information to the Presidency (duty officer in the Permanent Representation), the Directors of the Private Office of the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General of the Council and to the Commission (ARGUS - duty service number +322-292-2222).

3. The Permanent Representative of the Presidency (or his or her designated replacement) will confer with the Council Secretariat (Deputy Secretary-General or designated replacement) and the Commission (Secretary-General or designated replacement), as well as with the Permanent Representatives of any directly affected Member States, to determine whether an emergency or crisis has occurred or is anticipated which warrants triggering the crisis coordination arrangements. The decision on whether to activate them will be taken by the Presidency, in agreement with the Member States directly affected, and be based on expert judgement, in particular on whether the interests of several Member States are engaged in conjunction with those of the EU institutions.

If the Presidency (Permanent Representative) decides to convene a Crisis Steering Group, the Council Secretariat (SITCEN) and the Commission shall immediately be informed of the time and venue of the meeting and the Member States to be invited.

If the Presidency (Permanent Representative) concludes that the arrangements need not be activated at that juncture, he or she shall inform the Council Secretariat, the Commission and Member States consulted.

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1 doc. 8380/06
4. The Council Secretariat (SITCEN) will convene the principal members of the Crisis Steering Group. It will send a message to the duty officers of all Permanent Representations informing them that a meeting of the Steering Group has been convened. Duty officers in the Permanent Representations will also serve as a point of contact should any information be requested from that Member State by the Crisis Steering Group.

Composition of the Crisis Steering Group

5. The principal members of the Crisis Steering Group are:

I. The Council Presidency: the Permanent Representative or his or her designated substitute;

II. Affected Member States: the Permanent Representative or his or her designated substitute;

III. The General Secretariat of the Council: the Deputy Secretary-General or his or her designated substitute;

IV. The European Commission: the Secretary-General or his or her designated substitute.

6. Each of the principal members may be accompanied by a limited number of support staff as necessary (specified in the message convening the meeting). Logistic and secretariat support for the Steering Group will be provided by the Council Secretariat.
First meeting of the Steering Group

7. The purpose of the Crisis Steering Group (see doc. 15106/05) is to assess the situation and take an initial view on the EU's response; ensure a common understanding of the situation is shared; offer advice to Member States on collective action; develop options for COREPER and the Council; ensure appropriate follow-up; act as a channel through which Member States may communicate needs not covered by existing arrangements; and ensuring that a common communications strategy is deployed with regard to the media.

8. The first meeting of the Steering Group will accordingly have, as a minimum, the following agenda:

(i) Brief overview of the situation presented by the GSC and the Commission
(ii) Briefing by the Permanent Representative of the affected Member States on the situation and the response by the relevant national authorities and other Member States
(iii) Briefing by the Commission on assistance requested and provided through Community instruments such as ECHO or the MIC.
(iv) Whether any ad hoc expert support machinery needs to be convened;
   - Time and location (depending on number of persons required)
   - Expertise required
   - Tasking to be given
(v) Evaluation of possible action at EU level (by Commission/Council);
(vi) Evaluation of any decision which needs to be taken by COREPER II/Council.
(vii) Preparation of media/messages and press line at EU level (draft press line prepared jointly by the Council Press Office and the Commission);
(viii) Follow-up actions - date/time of next meeting of the Steering Group (if required).
Political coordination in Brussels in the event of a breaking emergency or crisis

Siccen duty number
+322-281-5000

Commission (AFROUS)
Presidency
GSC
Private Office
95498.090

Presidency consults

Commission
Perm Rep(s) of directly affected MS
Council Secretariat

Presidency decides whether to trigger coordination arrangements in agreement with MS directly affected

NO
Message to stand down
Council secretariat
Commission
MS directly affected

YES
All Perm Reps informed

Crisis Steering Group meeting convened through Council secretariat (Siccen)

Information input
COREPER II
1.2.1 **Tasks of COREPER in context of CCA**

In case of internal or external emergencies or crises, the Permanent Representatives Committee (COREPER), given its overall coordinating role and the fact that it can be convened at short notice, is the central body for coordinating decisions within its remit. In order to do so, it will:

- Receive detailed assessments of the situation and be informed about measures already taken by the affected Member States and European institutions. In any emergency or crisis, COREPER would be convened by the Presidency as soon as a clear assessment of the situation emerges from the Crisis Steering Group;
- While respecting national competences and existing Community instruments, promote the coordination and coherence of action taken by the Member States;
- Identify any decisions to be taken by the Council, if necessary, and ensure that such decisions are taken rapidly.

1.2.2 **Support Machinery**

The Crisis Steering Group is supported by input, expertise and analysis provided by the relevant services of the affected Member States, the Council Secretariat, the Commission and the Presidency. The Crisis Steering Group will accordingly convene meetings of an ad hoc Support Group of senior officials with relevant expertise in order to share information on the crisis, compile agreed situation reports and identify questions and issues for discussion, decision and action.

The composition of the Support Group will reflect the detailed expertise and analysis needed to meet the particular circumstances of each emergency (e.g. transport, health, environment, JHA expertise, etc.). It should make use of existing structures and include:

a. The EU Joint Situation Centre and the relevant Rapid Alert Systems of the Commission;
b. Relevant functional experts (e.g. with knowledge of bio-medical or CBRN issues);
c. Relevant response experts (e.g. with knowledge of the required response to CBRN-terrorist incidents and available capabilities);
d. Relevant experts with knowledge of the affected Member States and, where appropriate, other relevant experts.

The Council Secretariat will provide support and prepare papers for submission to the Crisis Steering Group from information provided by specialists.
2 List of default contact points:

The list below contains the contact details of pre-identified default contact points in Member States, the Commission and the Council Secretariat which could be contacted by Member States in a cross-border crisis or emergency situation if

- no specialised contact point exists, or
- the contacting Member State does not know which specialised contact point to address (e.g. in a multi-sectoral crisis or emergency situation).

Thus, it is taken into account in the manual that specialised contact points exist and that the default contact points included in the manual do not affect the competences of existing contact points. While some Member States identified a single national default contact point, other Member States indicated several contact points and their respective fields of competence.

The default contact points, as a minimum requirement, should be responsible only for internal information flow, without bypassing any responsibilities of existing contact points. As additional minimum requirements, these pre-identified default contact points should be available 24/7 and its staff should be able to communicate in an international environment.

The information provided by this list will enable Member States to respond rapidly to crisis situations by giving practical and operational support to the interim CCA and by facilitating cooperation between Member States.
## 2.1 European Union

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<tr>
<td>EU Joint Situation Centre (SitCen)</td>
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<td>Phone: +32 2 281 5000</td>
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## 2.3 Other EU level actors

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### 2.4 International Organisations

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3 Overview of EU Networks and Instruments in the EU and Other Organisations

3.1 General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union – The EU Joint Situation Centre (SITCEN)

Contacts:
24/7 duty.
Phone: +32 22 81 50 00
Fax: +32 22 81 58 53
e-mail: sitcen@consilium.europa.eu

Activities:
The EU JOINT SITUATION CENTRE (SITCEN) monitors and assesses events and situations world-wide on a 24-hour basis with a focus on potential crisis regions, terrorism and WMD-proliferation. It is:

- linked to Member States' civilian and, via the EU Military Staff, to the military intelligence service and - with input from these as well as from diplomatic and open sources - provides political and security assessments,
- linked to all Member States' national security services and - with input from these - provides terrorism related assessments related to the internal as well as the external dimension thereof,
- the hub for the formal secure communications networks (CORTESY and ESDP-net) linking the Council to Member States' Foreign and Defence Ministries, maintains
- links to Member States' national crisis centres. It has a "contacts" database covering key decision makers in Member States and other crisis management centres,
- links with situation centres in other international organisations (UN DPKO, UNICEF, OCHA, OSCE, AU, NATO, etc.),
and
- provides back-up and support for the EU Secretary General/High Representative, EU Special Representatives and other high ranking EU officials as well as for EU military and civilian crisis management operations.
The SITCEN is the backbone of the General Secretariat emergency and crisis response capabilities. These consist of:

- A 24/7 watch. In case of a significant world event which is deemed to have an impact on EU's common foreign, security and defence policies or in case of an incident in one of the EU ESDP missions, the SITCEN Duty Officer (DO) triggers an alert Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).

- The EU Military Staff and the Police Unit likewise have a 24/7 stand-by arrangement with staff on-call. In case of an incident, which affects military or police personnel, the SITCEN DO will first alert the stand-by military or police Duty Officer, as appropriate, following which these, in consultation with their hierarchy, will decide on further measures.

- Where appropriate the SITCEN will also alert the MIC or any other of the Commission's Rapid Alert Systems.

- The SITCEN has at all times a senior analyst on call - the Duty Manager (DM), whose responsibility it is to provide analytical support and, as appropriate, supervise the work of the DO in a ERP situation. The DM is also authorised to act on behalf of SITCEN management in an emergency situation until such time that they can be present themselves.

- Every ESDP mission has a support structure in Brussels. The different support structures all have an EU official on call - the Primary Point of Contact (PPOC). Once alerted by the SITCEN DO these PPOC will initiate needed action, as appropriate.

- One of SITCEN's units is the Consular Services Unit, whose responsibility it is to liaise with the crisis management offices of the ministries of foreign affairs of the respective Member States. In case of a serious incident affecting EU citizens, the head of this unit will be alerted and ensure further appropriate action in consultation with the consular cooperation network.

**Legal basis:**

Established by a decision by the Secretary General / High Representative of the EU.
3.2 Commission of the European Communities

The Commission has developed over the years the operational capacity to assist in the response to a wide range of emergencies through several rapid alert systems (RAS).

On 23 December 2005, the Commission adopted a general rapid alert system called ARGUS. This system has two main functions:

- to provide an internal platform to exchange, in real time, relevant information between Commission services and
- to ensure political coordination at high level in case of a major multisectoral crisis.

ARGUS uses an internal electronic communication network to enable Directorates general and RAS to share information in real time. Thus Commission services can improve their coordination and ensure a coherent and efficient response. However, the response to crisis in specific fields stays under the responsibility of sectoral RAS.

Alerts are usually triggered by relevant authorities in Member States. The national competent authorities contact the relevant RAS to notify / to inform / to request assistance. Each RAS manages crisis through their own networks, procedures and expertise and respecting their own mandate.

On the basis of its expertise and assessment, the RAS can identify a major multisectoral crisis or an imminent threat requiring political coordination at high level. A specific coordination process is launched to manage a rapid, coordinated and coherent Commission response, based on all relevant information, in its domains of competence and in cooperation with the other institutions.

Commission services can request their Commissioner to ask the President to trigger the coordination process. The President decides on the allocation of political responsibility for the Commission response and on the convening of the Crisis Coordination Committee (CCC). The CCC is a specific operational crisis management structure bringing together high level representatives of Commission services involved in the response to the crisis. It will assess and monitor the development of the situation and identify issues and options for decision and action.

National relevant authorities contact ARGUS through the sectoral specific RAS. The Council can call the stand-by duty number +32-2-29.22.222. The commission’s Security Office (DS) in Brussels is the 24h/7d operational contact point. Then, according to internal procedures, the relevant duty officers of RAS or relevant Commission’s representatives are contacted by the DS.
3.2.1 Duty Office Commission

**Contact:**
24/7 duty
DG ADMIN / Security Directorate, Unit DS.1 “Protection and crisis management”
Phone: +32 2 2922 222
Fax: +32 2 2955 415

**Activities:**
24/7 hour duty office used to activate many of the other RAS and Crisis Rooms
Crisis management (links with Rapid Alert Systems)

**Legal basis:**

3.2.2 Directorate General of European Community Humanitarian Aid Office (DG ECHO)

**Contact:**
ECHO 5 “Ressources humaines, formation, appui administratif, informatique”

**Purpose:**
To provide non-discriminatory, apolitical humanitarian emergency assistance in third countries, directly to the beneficiaries, through partners, according to ongoing assessment of needs and in full co-ordination with other humanitarian donors/actors in the field.

**Participants:**
Work with non-governmental organisations, UN specialised agencies and international organisations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross or the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
ECHO partners

**Link:**
EUROPA - ECHO - Humanitarian Aid Department of the European Commission
EUROPA - ECHO - Partners

**Legal basis:**
3.2.3 Monitoring and Information Centre of Civil Protection (MIC)

Contact:
24/7 duty
DG Environment, Unit A.5 “Civil protection and environmental accidents”

Purpose:
- To facilitate and support Member States’ civil protection assistance to countries affected by disaster and requesting assistance
- To ensure that all participating countries are informed of the needs on site and support the mobilisation and coordination of Member States’ teams to assist the disaster-stricken country
- To mobilise and dispatch within a few hours small teams of experts to assess the specific needs on site, to coordinate the assistance operations and to liaise with the competent authorities and, where necessary, with international organisations
- To offer technical support, including, for instance, satellite images and other forecasting tools
- To act as an information centre, collecting validated information throughout the emergency and disseminating regular updates to all participating countries.

Participants:
EU Member States 27, Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland

Link:
EUROPA - Environment - Civil Protection and Environmental Emergencies Homepage - European Commission / DG XI

Legal basis:
Council Decision 2001/792/EC of 23 October 2001 establishing a Community mechanism to facilitate reinforced cooperation in civil protection assistance interventions
3.2.4 Crisis Response Mechanism

Contact:
Joint Research Centre

Activities:
- To provide the other Commission services with scientific and technical support and access to networks of external expertise and capabilities
- Areas of potential response: biological/chemical, environmental/natural/technological and man-made hazards and nuclear field.

3.2.5 Rapid Reaction Mechanism

Contact:
DG External Relations, Unit A2 “Crisis management and conflict prevention”

Purpose:
To respond urgently to the need of countries undergoing crisis or moving towards crisis

Link:
Civilian Crisis Management - Overview

Legal basis:
Council regulation 381/2001 of 26 February 2001 creating a rapid-reaction mechanism

NB:
DG Relex has a crisis room (Unit A4 “Security Policy”) providing support, monitoring and information services both during a crisis and during periods of regular operations.
3.2.6 Early Warning System on Communicable diseases (EWRS)

Contact:
DG SANCO, Unit C3 “Health threats”

Purpose:
To alert public health authorities in Member States and the Commission on outbreaks with greater than national dimensions

Link:
EUROPA - Public Health - Threats to health - Communicable diseases

Legal basis:
Commission Decision 200/57/EC of 22 December 1999 on the early warning and response system for the prevention and control of communicable (Second pillar of the Communicable Diseases Network started in 1999)

NB:
The EWRS is a telematic system linking the designated authorities in Member States and the Commission. The system allows for immediate exchange of views on risk assessment and risk management crucial for timely public health action.

3.2.7 Rapid alert system for food and feed (RASFF)

Contact:
DG SANCO, Unit D2 “Biological risks”

Purpose:
To provide the control authorities with an effective tool for exchange of information on measures taken to ensure food safety.

Participants:
EU Member States, EEA-EFTA countries

Link:
http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/food/rapidalert/index_en.htm

Legal basis:
3.2.8 **Animal Disease notification system (ADNS)**

**Contact:**
DG SANCO, Unit D1 “Animal Health and Standing committees”

**Purpose:**
- To register and document on certain important infectious animal diseases
- To ensure detailed information about outbreaks of these animal diseases in the countries connected to the application
- To enable immediate access to information about contagious animal disease outbreaks
- To ensure that trade in live animals and products of animal origin is not affected unnecessarily

**Link:**
EUROPA - Animal Health & Welfare - Animal Diseases - Animal Disease Notification System

**Legal basis:**

3.2.9 **Phytosanitary network - organisms harmful to plants (EUROPHYT)**

**Contact:**
DG SANCO, Unit F4 “Food of plant origin, plant health: processing and distribution”

**Purpose:**
To exchange official information between the plant health services of the Member States and the Commission

**Participants:**
The Plant Protection Services of the Member States and the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO - only as a recipient of some of the information included in the notifications of interception.)

**Link:**

**Legal basis:**
No legal basis
3.2.10 **Rapid Alert System for Non-Food Products (RAPEX)**

**Contact:**
DG SANCO, Unit B3 “Product and service safety”

**Purpose:**
To provide a rapid exchange of information between Member States and the Commission about measures and actions taken by authorities and/or producers / distributors in relation to consumer products because of a serious risk to the health and safety of consumers.

**Link:**
[EUROPA - Consumer Affairs - RAPEX](#)

**Legal basis:**
3.2.11 **Rapid alert system in case of biological and chemical threats (BICHAT)**

**Contact:**
DG SANCO, Unit C3 “Heath threats”

**Purpose**
- To set up a mechanism for information exchange, consultation and co-ordination for the handling of health-related issues related to attacks
- To create an EU-wide capability for the timely detection and identification of biological and chemical agents that might be used in attacks and for the rapid and reliable determination and diagnosis of relevant cases
- To create a medicines stock and health services database and a stand-by facility for making medicines and health care specialists available in cases of suspected or unfolding attacks
- To draw-up rules and disseminate guidance on facing-up to attacks from the health point of view and co-ordinating the EU response and links with third countries and international organisations

**Participants:**
EU Member States, EEA (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway), Bulgaria, Romania

**Link:**
EUROPA - Public Health - Threats to health - Communicable diseases - Bio-terrorism

**Legal background:**
- Article 4 of the Decision No 2119/98/ EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 September 1998 setting up a network for the epidemiological surveillance and control of communicable diseases in the Community
- Article 2 of Council Decision of 23 October 2001 establishing a Community mechanism to facilitate reinforced cooperation in civil protection assistance interventions

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3.2.12 **European community urgent radiological information exchange (ECURIE)**

**Contact:**
DG TREN, Unit H4 “Radiation protection”

**Purpose:**
To provide an information exchange platform for the participating States in order to inform about the current and foreseeable status of the accident, meteorological conditions, national countermeasures taken, etc.

**Participants:**
EU Member States, Switzerland, Bulgaria, Romania

**Link:**
EUROPA - Energy - Nuclear Issues and Radioactivity Environmental Monitoring: ECURIE

**Legal basis:**
Council Decision 87/600/Euratom on Community arrangements for the early notification and exchange of information in the event of a radiological or nuclear emergency.

3.2.13 **Customs Information System (CIS)**

**Contact:**
DG TAXUD, Unit A3 “Information Technology”

**Purpose:**
To run different IT tools to support all flows of information and control mechanisms necessary for the uniform administration of the Customs Union.

**Link:**
EUROPA - Taxation and Customs Union / What is Customs 2007?

**Legal basis:**
Decision 253/2003/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council adopting the Customs 2007 programme (operation, maintenance, development and improvement of electronic information exchange systems between national administrations)
3.3 **Other EU level actors**

3.3.1 **Bureaux de Liaison (BdL)**

**Contact:**
Via EU Joint Situation Centre (SitCen) of Council Secretariat

**Activities:**
Cooperation network between Member States’ Ministries of Interior in the field of internal security
3.3.2 Eurojust

Contact:
EUROJUST
Maanweg 174, 2516 AB The Hague; The Netherlands
Phone: +31 70 412 5000
Fax: +31 70 412 5505
e-mail: info@eurojust.europa.eu

Activities:
Eurojust stimulates and improves the co-ordination of investigations and prosecutions between competent authorities in the Member States. Eurojust improves cooperation between the competent authorities of the Member States, in particular by facilitating the execution of international mutual legal assistance and the implementation of extradition requests. Eurojust supports the competent authorities of the Member States in order to render their investigations and prosecutions more effective when dealing with cross border crime.

Purpose:
Eurojust is a new European Union body established in 2002 to enhance the effectiveness of the competent authorities within Member States when they are dealing with the investigation and prosecution of serious cross-border and organised crime.

Eurojust is the first permanent network of judicial authorities to be established anywhere in the world. Eurojust hosts meetings, with translation facilities, between investigators and prosecutors from different states dealing with individual cases and at a strategic level and specific types of criminality. Eurojust fulfils a unique role as a new permanent body in the European legal area. Its mission is to enhance the development of Europe-wide cooperation on criminal justice cases.

Participants:
The College of Eurojust is now composed of 27 National Members, one nominated by each EU Member State.

Link:
http://www.eurojust.europa.eu/

Legal Basis:
Council decision of 28 February 2002 setting up Eurojust with a view to reinforcing the fight against serious crime (2002/187/JHA)
3.3.3 **European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)**

**Contact:**
European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)
171 83 Stockholm; Sweden
Phone: +46 8 300 056
Fax: +46 8 300 057

**Activities:**
The Centre would develop epidemiological surveillance at European level. In this work, the Centre could either use its own staff, staff from the dedicated surveillance networks, or, in some instances, it could subcontract tasks to a national centre of excellence. The Centre could also identify and maintain networks of reference laboratories, and enhance the quality assurance schemes of microbiological laboratories.

**Purpose:**
To be effective the early warning and response system (EWRS) requires ‘around the clock’ availability of specialists in communicable diseases. Whilst the responsibility for action will remain with Member States and the Commission, technical operation of the EWRS would be undertaken by the Centre and its networks.

**Participants:**
All 27 EU Member States, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Norway

**Link:**
http://www.ecdc.eu.int/

**Legal Basis:**
3.3.4 **European Influenza Surveillance Scheme (EISS)**

**Contact:**
EISS co-ordination centre; **NIVEL (Netherlands Institute for Health Services Research)**
PO Box 1568; 3500 BN Utrecht - The Netherlands
Phone: +31 30 2729 700
Fax: +31 30 2729 729 e-mail: eiss@nivel.nl

**Activities:**
EISS helps reduce the burden of disease associated with influenza in Europe by collecting and exchanging timely information on influenza activity, contributing to the annual determination of the influenza vaccine content, providing relevant information about influenza to health professionals and the general public and contributing to European influenza pandemic preparedness activities. The aim of EISS is to contribute to a reduction in morbidity and mortality due to influenza in Europe

**Purpose:**
- To collect and exchange timely information on influenza activity in Europe;
- To aggregate, interpret and make publicly available clinical and virological data concerning influenza activity in Europe;
- To strengthen, and harmonise where appropriate, epidemiological and virological methods, primarily based on the integrated sentinel surveillance model, for assessing influenza activity in Europe;
- To contribute to the annual determination of the influenza vaccine content;
- To monitor influenza prevention and control policies in Europe, including influenza vaccine uptake;
- To contribute to European planning and response to pandemic influenza through surveillance, investigation and provision of information;
- To promote research in support of the objectives above;
- And to establish and operate a Community Network of National Reference Laboratories for Human Influenza in Europe.

**Participants:**
All 27 European Union Member States, Norway, Romania and Switzerland

**Link:**
[www.eiss.org](http://www.eiss.org)
3.3.5  Europol

Contact:
For general enquiries: info@europol.eu.int
For media enquiries, information requests, visits and events:
corporate.communications@europol.eu.int
Postal address:
   Europol
   P.O. Box 908 50
   2509 LW The Hague; The Netherlands
   Phone: +31 70 302 5000
   Fax: +31 70 302 5896
Visiting address:
   Raamweg 47
   2596 HN The Hague; The Netherlands

Activities:
Europol is the European Law Enforcement Organisation which aims at improving the
effectiveness and cooperation of the competent authorities in the Member States in preventing
and combating terrorism, unlawful drug trafficking and other serious forms of international
organised crime.

Participants:
Members of EU

Link:
http://www.europol.eu.int/

Legal Basis:
The Europol Convention
3.4 **International Organisations**

3.4.1 **Eurocontrol**

**Contact:**
EUROCONTROL Headquarters
Rue de la Fusée, 96, B-1130 Brussels; Belgium
Phone: +32 2 729 9011
Fax: +32 2 729 9044

**Activities:**
EUROCONTROL develops, coordinates and plans for implementation of short-, medium- and long-term pan-European air traffic management strategies and their associated action plans in a collective effort involving national authorities, air navigation service providers, civil and military airspace users, airports, industry, professional organisations and relevant European institutions.

EUROCONTROL’s core activities span the entire range of gate-to-gate air navigation service operations - from strategic and tactical flow management to controller training; from regional control of airspace to development of leading-edge, safety-proofed technologies and procedures, and the collection of air navigation charges.

**Purpose:**
EUROCONTROL is the European organisation for the safety of air navigation. This civil and military organisation has as its primary objective in the development of a seamless, pan-European Air Traffic Management (ATM) system.

**Member States:**
Albania, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Republic of Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

**Link:**

**Legal Basis:**
The EUROCONTROL Convention of 1960, revised in 1997: This Revised Convention will come fully into force when it is ratified by all Member States.
3.4.2 **International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)**

**Contact:**
International Atomic Energy Agency  
P.O. Box 100  
Wagramer Strasse 5; A-1400 Vienna, Austria  
Phone: +43 1 2600-0  
Fax: +43 1 2600-7  
e-mail: Official.Mail@iaea.org

**Activities:**
The IAEA works for the safe, secure and peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology. Its key roles contribute to international peace and security, and to the World's Millennium Goals for social, economic and environmental development.  
Three main pillars - or areas of work - underpin the mission:  
1. Promoting safeguards & verification  
2. Promoting safety and security  
3. Promoting science & technology

**Purpose:**
The IAEA is the world’s center of cooperation in the nuclear field. It was set up as the world’s "Atoms for Peace" organization in 1957 within the United Nations family. The Agency works with its Member States and multiple partners worldwide to promote safe, secure and peaceful nuclear technologies.

**Link:**
www.iaea.org

**Legal Basis:**
The Statute was approved on 23 October 1956. It came into force on 29 July 1957.  
It has been amended three times; Read full text of the Statute
3.4.3 **Interpol – Command and Co-ordination Centre**

**Contact:**
INTERPOL; General Secretariat; 200, quai Charles de Gaulle; 69006 Lyon; France

**Activities:**
The Command and Co-ordination Centre links the Interpol General Secretariat, National Central Bureaus in all 184 member countries and regional offices.
The Command and Co-ordination Centre’s activities operate on three basic functions:
- to determine the priority level of each message received by the General Secretariat and to reply to urgent requests on a real-time basis.
- to co-ordinate the exchange of intelligence and information for important operations involving several countries.
- to assume a crisis-management role during serious incidents, such as terrorist attacks, and to co-ordinate specialised assistance.

**Purpose:**
The work of the Command and Co-ordination Centre makes full use of a number of services offered by Interpol, including: Instant searches of databases of nominal data; Priority issue of Interpol notices; Fugitive investigative support; Support and co-ordination of disaster victim identification (DVI) efforts.

Another crucial function of the Command and Co-ordination Centre is the co-ordination of the deployment of Incident Response Teams (IRT) to the sites of major disasters or terrorist attacks. Recently IRTs have been sent to Bangladesh and Bali, Indonesia, following terrorist attacks.

There are various other services the Command and Co-ordination Centre provides, including the publishing of Orange Notices, which are used to warn police, public institutions and other international organizations about potential threats posed by disguised weapons, parcel bombs and other dangerous objects or materials.

**Participants:**
184 member countries all over the world

**Link:**
http://www.interpol.int/

**Legal Basis:**
ICPO-Interpol Constitution and General Regulations
3.4.4 NATO – Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Centre (EADRCC)

Contact:
Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre; NATO Headquarters
Building V, Office V 119; Boulevard Leopold III; B-1110 Brussels, Belgium
Phone: +32 2 707 2670
Fax: +32 2 707 2677   e-mail: info.eadrcc@hq.nato.int

Activities:
The Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre (EADRCC), will, in case of natural
or technological disasters, within the EAPC geographical area:
• inform the Secretary General of the NATO and through him the EAPC as well as the
  Senior Civil Emergency Planning Committee about disasters in EAPC countries and
  requests for international assistance;
• to coordinate the response to disasters within the EAPC area upon request of the stricken
  country;
• promote EAPC countries participation in the non-standing EADRU;
• act as an information-sharing tool for EAPC nations on disaster assistance.
All those tasks are performed in close cooperation with the UN-OCHA.

Purpose:
focal point for coordinating disaster relief efforts of the 46 EAPC nations in case of natural or
technological disasters within the EAPC geographical area

Members:
Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech
Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland,
Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova,
Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden,
Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan,
Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Uzbekistan

Link:
http://www.nato.int/eadrcc/

Legal Basis:
The establishment of the EADRCC was endorsed by EAPC Ministers on 29th May 1998, it
was inaugurated on 3rd June 1998
3.4.5 Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)

Contact:

OPCW Headquarters: Johan de Wittlaan 32; 2517 JR - The Hague; The Netherlands
Phone: +31 70 416 3300 Fax: +31 70 306 3535

Assistance and Protection: Phone: +31 70 416 3555 Fax: +31 70 416 3209
Phone: +31 70 416 3279
Fax: +31 70 416 3209

International Cooperation
Phone: +31 70 416 3300
Fax: +31 70 306 3535
Email: emergassistbr@opcw.org
Email: intcooopbr@opcw.org

Activities:
Under the terms of the Convention, the OPCW undertakes many activities all over the world, including:

- working to convince those countries in the world that have not yet done so to [join the Convention];
- checking and confirming the destruction of existing chemical weapons;
- monitoring certain activities in the chemical industry to reduce the risk of commercial chemicals being misused for weapons purposes;
- providing assistance and protection to member countries if they are attacked or threatened with attack by chemical weapons, including by terrorists; and
- promoting international cooperation for the peaceful uses of chemistry.

Purpose:
The OPCW plays an important role in limiting the methods of war by getting rid of one of the most horrible weapons and working towards the complete elimination of an entire category of weapons of mass destruction.

The OPCW is an independent international organisation, working in the interests of its Member States. The OPCW cooperates with the United Nations.

Participants:
Status of participation in the Chemical Weapons Convention as at 25 March 2006: 178 States, Parties

Link:
http://www.opcw.org/

Legal Basis:
Established in 1997 by the countries that have joined the CWC
3.4.6 **UN- Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)**

**Contact:**

**Geneva**

Mr. Kasidis Rochanakorn  
Director, Office for the Coordination of  
Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) - Geneva  
Palais des Nations; 8-14 avenue de la Paix,  
CH-1211 Geneva 10  
Phone: +41 (0) 22 917 1234  
Fax: +41 (0) 22 917 0020  
e-mail: ochagva@un.org

**Brussels**

OCHA Liaison Officer in Brussels  
(at present vacant)
Activities:
Humanitarian coordination is based on the belief that a coherent approach to emergency response will maximize its benefits and minimize its potential pitfalls - in short, that the whole will be greater than the sum of its parts.

Through approved structures and policies set out by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, OCHA carries out its coordination role by:
- Developing common strategies
- Assessing situations and needs
- Convening coordination forums
- Mobilizing resources
- Addressing common problems
- Administering coordination mechanisms and tools

Member States:
193 Member States of the United Nations, including all countries that are members of the European Union.

OCHA-Country-Offices:
Angola, Burundi, Chad, Colombia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran, Liberia, occupied Palestinian territory, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Uganda, Zimbabwe

Link:
http://ochaonline.un.org/

Legal Basis:
In particular General Assembly resolutions 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and 57/150 of 16 December 2002
3.4.7  **World Health Organisation (WHO)**

**Contact:**
WHO headquarters  
Avenue Appia 20; 1211 Geneva 27  
Switzerland  
Phone: +41 22 791 21 11  
Fax: +41 22 791 3111  
Telex: 415 416

**Purpose:**
WHO's objective, as set out in its Constitution, is the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health. Health is defined in WHO's Constitution as a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

**Member States:**
WHO has 192 Member States, including all UN Member States except Liechtenstein, and 2 non-UN-members, Niue and the Cook Islands. Territories that are not UN Member States may join as Associate Members (with full information but limited participation and voting rights) if approved by an Assembly vote: Puerto Rico and Tokelau are Associate Members. Entities may also be granted observer status - examples include the PLO and the Vatican. Taiwan is campaigning for observer status, against the opposition of China which is already a WHO member and sees Taiwan as part of China.

**Link:**
[http://www.who.int/en/](http://www.who.int/en/)
**Reference Document List**

  Point 2.4 Management of Crisis within the European Union with cross-border effects
  To see document: click [here](#)

- EU emergency and crisis co-ordination arrangements
  15106/05, Limite, CAB 48, JAI 469, PROCIV 194

- Reinforcing the EU's emergency and crisis response capacities
  5228/06, Limite, CAB 1, PESC 21, JAI 12, PROCIV 2

- Interim EU emergency and crisis coordination arrangements in Brussels
  8380/06, Limite, CAB14, JAI 176, PROCIV 64

- Emergency and crisis coordination arrangements in Brussels (CCA)
  - Internal GSC standard operating procedures (SOPs)
    8888/07, LIMITE, CAB 18
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADMIN</td>
<td>Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADNS</td>
<td>Animal disease notification system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARGUS</td>
<td>The general rapid alert system of the commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AT</td>
<td>Austria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATM</td>
<td>Air Traffic Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AU</td>
<td>African Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BdL</td>
<td>Bureaux de Liaison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BE</td>
<td>Belgium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BG</td>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BICHAT</td>
<td>Rapid alert system in case of biological and chemical threat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBRN</td>
<td>Chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCA</td>
<td>Crisis co-ordination arrangements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCC</td>
<td>Crisis Coordination Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chem</td>
<td>Chemical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIS</td>
<td>Customs Information System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COREPER</td>
<td>Comité des représentants permanents, Permanent Representatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORTESY</td>
<td>Correspondance Européenne Terminal System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CT</td>
<td>Counter Terrorism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CWC</td>
<td>Chemical Weapons Convention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CY</td>
<td>Cyprus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CZ</td>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DE</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DG</td>
<td>Directorate General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DK</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DM</td>
<td>Duty Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DO</td>
<td>Duty Office(r)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPKO</td>
<td>Department of Peacekeeping Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DS</td>
<td>The Commission's Security Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EADRCC</td>
<td>Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Coordination Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EADRU</td>
<td>Euro-Atlantic Disaster Response Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Full Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------</td>
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<tr>
<td>EAPC</td>
<td>Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EC</td>
<td>European Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECDC</td>
<td>European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECHO</td>
<td>European Community Humanitarian Aid Office</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECURIE</td>
<td>European community urgent radiological information exchange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE</td>
<td>Estonia</td>
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<tr>
<td>EEA</td>
<td>European Economic Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>EFTA</td>
<td>European Free Trade Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>EISS</td>
<td>European Influenza Surveillance Scheme</td>
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<tr>
<td>EJN</td>
<td>European Judicial Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>EP</td>
<td>European Parliament</td>
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<tr>
<td>EPPO</td>
<td>European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERP</td>
<td>European Response Procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ES</td>
<td>Spain</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESDP</td>
<td>European Security and Defence Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU</td>
<td>European Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>EUROPHYT</td>
<td>European Phytosanitary network</td>
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<tr>
<td>EWRS</td>
<td>Early Warning and Response System</td>
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<tr>
<td>FI</td>
<td>Finland</td>
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<tr>
<td>FR</td>
<td>France</td>
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<tr>
<td>FYROM</td>
<td>Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</td>
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<tr>
<td>GPSD</td>
<td>General Product Safety Directive</td>
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<tr>
<td>GR</td>
<td>Greece</td>
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<tr>
<td>HU</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
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<tr>
<td>IAEA</td>
<td>International Atomic Energy Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICMA</td>
<td>Integrated crisis management arrangement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IE</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFRC</td>
<td>International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IS</td>
<td>Iceland</td>
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<tr>
<td>IT</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JHA</td>
<td>Justice and Home Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>JLS</td>
<td>Justice, freedom and security</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>LEN</td>
<td>Law Enforcement Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>LI</td>
<td>Liechtenstein</td>
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<td>LT</td>
<td>Lithuania</td>
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<tr>
<td>LU</td>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
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<tr>
<td>LV</td>
<td>Latvia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIC</td>
<td>Monitoring and Information Centre of Civil Protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS</td>
<td>Member State(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT</td>
<td>Malta</td>
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<tr>
<td>NATO</td>
<td>North Atlantic Treaty Organisation</td>
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<tr>
<td>NL</td>
<td>Netherlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Norway</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCHA</td>
<td>Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>OPCW</td>
<td>Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OSCE</td>
<td>Organisation on Security and Cooperation in Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PermRep</td>
<td>Permanent Representation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PL</td>
<td>Poland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POC</td>
<td>Point of Contact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
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<tr>
<td>RAPEX</td>
<td>Rapid Alert System for Non-Food Products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAS</td>
<td>rapid alert systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>RASFF</td>
<td>Rapid alert system for food and feed</td>
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<td>RDRA</td>
<td>Regional Disaster Response Advisor</td>
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<td>RO</td>
<td>Romania</td>
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<td>SANCO</td>
<td>Health and Consumer Affairs</td>
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<td>SE</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
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<tr>
<td>SE Asian</td>
<td>South-East Asian</td>
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<tr>
<td>SG/HR</td>
<td>Secretary-General/ High Representative</td>
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<td>SI</td>
<td>Slovenia</td>
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<tr>
<td>SitCen</td>
<td>EU Joint Situation Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SK</td>
<td>Slovak Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOP</td>
<td>Standing / Standard Operating Procedure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TAXUD  Taxation and Customs Union DG
TEC  Treaty establishing the European Communities
TREN  Transport and Energy
UK  United Kingdom
UNICEF  United Nations Children’s Fund
WHO  World Health Organisation

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