

# **International Rescue dog Organisation**

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## **P R E S S R E L E A S E**

### **Offer of assistance - Earthquake in Iran 2005**

The International Rescuedog Organisation (IRO) which has its registered office in Austria has offered its help in the search for buried earthquake victims to the I.R. of Iran.

After the IRO was deployed at the earthquake in December 2003 in Bam a workshop was organised in March 2004. At this workshop the relationship between Rescue dog Organisations in Iran and the IRO got closer. Because of that the president of the IRO Dr. Wolfgang Zörner ist visiting Teheran at the moment and now directly in the crisis area. The visit should make it possible to benchmark the proficiency level of the Iranian rescue dogs and organisations that dispose over a couple of years of experience in this field.

The help offered by the IRO is provided through the member organisations. IRO guarantees that only the best trained and specially educated rescue dogs are sent to an international mission. Overall 18 persons and 15 dogs have been alerted and these teams could depart to the disaster area from the airport Vienna today.

Contingents of the IRO have been deployed at the following earthquakes in the past: Turkey in August 1999, Taiwan in September 1999, India in February 2001, Algeria in May 2003 and I.R. Iran in December 2003.

The International Rescue dog Organisation (IRO) is the worldwide umbrella association of associations and organisations that are engaged with rescue dog work. At the moment IRO counts 56 member organisations in 26 countries on 4 continents. All Die Internationale

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