

Haslinger, Keck. PR

IRO offers Rescue dog work to the UNO-coordination

Bischofstetten, 09.10.05 – The International Rescue dog Organisation (IRO) which has its registered office in Austria has offered the coordination of the rescue dog works in South East Asia to the UNDRO (United Nations Disaster Relief Organization) today. As pointed out by Dr. Wolfgang Zörner who is the president of the IRO an expert team could arrive in the trouble area within a couple of ours in order to coordinate the search of the rescue dogs in the OSOCC (On Site Operation and Coordination Center) of the UNO. Furthermore Dr. Zörner emphasised that at any time rescue dog teams can be called to Pakistan and India from Japan.

Dr. Zörner explained that the success of the rescue dogs in the disaster area depends on the fact if an immediate search is possible or not. Again and again precious time is lost due to insufficient operative planning and missing possibilities of transport. For this reason IRO who has been deployed with rescue dog teams at all big earthquake disasters since 1999 offered the coordination of the rescue dog mission to UNDRO. In case of emergency the Swiss Otto Lanz who is spokesperson for international deployment is responsible for the operative management.

IRO coordinates rescue dog teams from 26 nations

The International Rescue dog Organisation (IRO) was founded on May 18th 1993 in Sweden. 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 rescue dog teams that participate in international missions on behalf of IRO completed a 3 day simulation of a disaster mission. Through this measure IRO can guarantee that only the best teams will be sent to disaster areas. IRO rescue dogs participate in all big earthquake missions in the last couple of years. For example in August 1999 in Turkey, September 1999 in Taiwan, February 2001 in India, May 2003 in Algeria and December 2003 in the I.R. of Iran.

Information about the International Rescue dog Organisation can be found at:

www.iro-dogs.org