



**Report of the 1st
International Mission Leaders Meeting
06.11.04 - 07.11.04 at the Austria Trend Hotel Airportcenter in Salzburg
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General information:

Since the founding of the IRO this was the first meeting that was specially held for officers-in-charge of disaster missions. After the earthquake workshops in the year 2000 in Ljubljana and 2004 in Salzburg this was the third event that was dedicated only to the topic of earthquakes and in this case also the special requirements for an officer-in-charge.

All presenters spoke german but a team of professional interpreters that already interpreted at the last workshop in Salzburg translated for the not german speaking participants.

As usual the organisation of the workshop was very well done by the IRO and the fact that the participation fees were covered by IRO a special bonus for the participators. Only the service at the hotel (problems at the check-in and check-out, problems at regrouping tables for dinner etc.) was not the best.

Program and the speakers:

Participants found the program next to their seat when they first arrived at the seminar room.

Welcome and announcement of the agenda	Otto LANZ
Mission organisation IRO and available equipment	Otto LANZ
Organisation of a mission through the IRO Office (incl. cost evaluation)	Christiane GERITZER
Mission experiences	Dr. Wolfgang ZÖRNER
Catastrophe-tourism	Dr. Wolf DOMBROWSKY
Mission exercise	Martin GUT
Statics – important during a mission	Andreas QUINT
Tasks of the officer-in-charge on site	Otto LANZ und Dr. Wolfgang ZÖRNER
How to give commands and instructions	Andreas HOFER
Debriefing	Mag. Christian ZABKA
Results of the mission exercise	Martin GUT
Questionnaire for the participants	Otto LANZ
Farewell speech	Otto LANZ

Participants:

35 persons of 15 IRO member organisations participated in the event. They came from the countries: A, CZ, D, I, N, NL, RO S, SK, SLO. The 8 speakers came from Austria, Switzerland and Germany. A detailed list of the participants is enclosed at the end of this report.

Program in detail:

06.11.04 / 10:15 - Otto Lanz

After welcoming the participants of the workshop Mr. Otto Lanz announces the points that have to be requirements in the opinion of IRO. Mr. Lanz emphasises that the mark "vorzüglich" has not been reached until today within the IRO but that the IRO is striving for it.

10:34 - Christiane Geritzer

Mrs. Geritzer gives an overview of the preparation of a mission on international level, the important press- and public relation work and the communication process with the deployed teams. For the IRO office the mission does not end with the discharging of the dog handlers but with the writing of thank-you-letters to authorities, companies and organisations.

11:12 - Dr. Zörner

In his report Dr. Zörner highlights his mission experience which he first gained during the mission in Armenia in 1988. He also emphasises the importance of getting in contact with local authorities and explains the situation and the problems with transport on site.

He clearly favours the option to keep the equipment to a minimum in order to be more flexible. Finally he points out that the INSARAG criteria for mission readiness have to be fulfilled and that officer-in-charge have to have English knowledge.

13:35 - Dr. W. Dombrowsky , Center for Catastrophe research - Kiel

After the lunch break Mr. Dombrowsky spoke about the deployment of rescue dogs in situations where parallel interests exist.

14:55 - Martin Gut

Mr. Gut explained the bulletpoints "mission" and "group-leading" before he handed out the written test (1hour) for Group-leaders.

16:35 - Andreas Quint

Mr. Quint who works for the fire department Wiesbaden explained the most important static regulations and risk evaluation for the rescue dog search.

The first workshop day ended at 19:08 and the participants had the evening for their disposal.

07.11. 04 / 08:33 - Dr.W. Zörner / O. Lanz

As a very important point the tasks of an officer-in-charge on site were explained. Key issues were the knowledge of international abbreviations, the INSARAG marking system, the toughness and leadership quality and the ability to assert oneself of the officers-in-charge.

09:05 - Andreas Hofer

The presentation concerning giving commands during a mission primarily focused on the work of fire fighters. But it has to be mentioned that when talking about commands the kind of mission is not that important as the structures tend to be the same or similar.

10:55 - Mag. Alexander Zabka

Besides the topic of Debriefing Mr. Zabka also talked about psychological issues and criterias of traumas.

12:13 - Martin Gut

Mr. Gut announced the result of the written test for group-leaders.

12:30 - Dr. Zörner / Otto Lanz

In their farewell speech Mr. Zörner and Mr. Lanz thanked the participants and gave a short overview of upcoming events (such as training with mission equipment, general officer-in-charge course or a course on technical english). The workshop ended at 12:45.

Speakers

A	SVÖ / IRO	ZÖRNER Dr.	Wolfgang
CH	MHF / IRO	LANZ	Otto
A	SKV-KHD / IRO	GERITZER	Christiane
CH	MHF / IRO	GUT	Martin
D	SV	QUINT	Andreas
A	ÖBH	ZABKA Mag.	Alexander
CH	BP	HOFER	Andreas
D	Uni Kiel	DOMBROWSKY Dr.	Wolf R.

Participants:

Country	NRO	NAME	
A	SKV-KHD	SCHÜLER	Peter
A	SKV-KHD	KOCZERA	Magdalena
A	SVÖ	KURZ	Gustav
A	ÖGV	KRANZ	Hermann
A	ÖGV	KRANZ	Charlotte
A	ÖHU	BALOG	Alois
A	ÖHU	PRECHTL	Herbert
CZ	SZBK / IRO	SABATOVA	Helena
CZ	SZBK	KUCHTA	Vladimir
CZ	SZBK	KNOLOVA	Lenka
CZ	SZBK	SEDLAK	Daniela
D	BRH	CACCIATO	Boris
D	BRH	KÖLPER	Klaus
D	BRH	FINGER	Michael
D	BRH	FISCHHABER	Rolf
D	ASB Berlin	KÜHN	Detlef
D	ASB Berlin	BORN	Christian
I	RH Bruneck	IOBSTRAIBIZER	Hermann
I	RH Bruneck	PRANTER	Paul
N	NRH	TVEDT	Roar
N	NRH	BODDING	John-Arild
NL	NRHB	IZEBOUD	Willem
NL	NRHB	SCHOONENBOOM	Digna
RO	CdEC	IONESCU	Liviu
RO	RRK	CEPAREANU	Daniela
S	SBK	ANDERSSON	Birger
S	SBK	LARSSON	Birger
SK	SKJ		
SK	SKJ	TUREK	Maros
SLO	ERPS	PLATOVSEK	Boris
SLO	ERPS	ZANUT	Matjaz
SLO	ERPS	GRAD	Anton
SLO	ERPS	SPEH	Matej
SLO	DVRPS	KUCIC	Tomaz
CH	IRO	YOUNG	Robert