



**Workshop „Deployments 1999“
10. – 12.03. 2000
Civil defense center IG, Slowenien**

Presentations and speakers:

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - OCHA

Julij JERAJ (SLO) – Department for disaster contro of the city of Ljubljana

Deployment of resdue dog teams together with recovery teams
and the deployment after the earthquake in August in Turkey.

Captain Otto STRELE (A) - Commandant of the NBC-defence brigade in Lower Austria

Swiss emergency help corps

Christoph SCHWAGER (CH) – Administrator at the SKH

The IRO rescue dog deployment in August in Turkey

Prof. Dusan NECAK (SLO) - 2. vice-president of the IRO

Rescue dog deployment in Taiwan

Edi BUCHER (CH) – Officer-in-charge of the technical commission of the REDOG

Application areas – Group works:

- Alarm and information in case of emergency, Offer of assistance
- Logistics and financing of the deployment, maintenance and equipment of the deployed teams
- Own operation control, communication with the local operation control, needed assistance on site
- Training and review of fully operational and available teams
- Professional problems and mission readiness of teams

Statistics of the workshop

Nation	Organisation	Participants
A	7	10
CH	1	2
CZ	1	4
D	3	6
FIN	1	1
I	1	3
IL	1	2
N	1	2
NL	1	2
SLO	3	11
10	20	43

Summarizing report:

At the IRO workshop 43 participants of 10 countries participated. Some of the 20 represented organisations were non-member-organisations of the IRO and were interested in the IRO after the meeting.

Aim of the workshop was to exchange experiences, highlight problems and discuss. IRO events also function as platform to get to know each other and become friends. This is important as it makes a big difference with whom you work in case of emergency: a friend that you can rely on - or a stranger.

Regardless of the fact whether the missions were under the flag of the IRO or not they were successful and important. One has to hope that such natural disasters do not recur but has to be prepared nevertheless. Especially the presentations about missions that were emphasised by using video footage were a great basis for the discussions and the group work.

The group discussions were held at a very high professional level and each participant learned something new. The clear outcomes showed the wish of the professionally working organisations to send only highly qualified teams.

Abstract of the results:

- ✓ The reaction after an earthquake has to be quick. This is because reasonable help can only be provided within 100 – 120 hours after a disaster.
- ✓ It has to be an aim that in the future only joint search- and rescue teams will be deployed.
- ✓ Teams have to be self-sufficient and can not be a burden for the local population. There can not be a mission without proper logistics.
- ✓ Each organisation that is interested in participating in a mission should therefore think about of non-governmental-funding possibilities and try to create funds.
- ✓ Concerning the method of operation everybody pursues the same aims, exempt some national particularities.
- ✓ An approximation towards the UNO is important and worth striving for.
- ✓ Our goal is the secure indication of people who are alive but one has to bear in mind the unavoidable contact with the dead that has to be trained.
- ✓ The communication and exchange of experience amongst the deployed teams is important. Experiences should also be passed on to less experienced organisations.
- ✓ Catastrophe-tourism has to be declined. Only thoroughly trained professionals should be sent on a mission (e.g. in case of an earthquake only rubble search dogs should be sent). Responsibility in this case lies with the national organisations.
- ✓ It is highly important not to go on a mission without the permission of the affected country but always as welcomed helper.
- ✓ Those sent on a mission are always volunteers but never amateur!