



**Workshop „Rescue dog deployment in Iran“
12. – 14.03. 2004
Hotel Laschenskyhof, Salzburg, A**

Summary:

The president of the IRO Dr. Wolfgang Zörner opens the workshop and welcomes all participants and especially the guests from Iran.

Invited have been all IRO member organisations and their deployment organisations which have been in Iran after the earthquake and also representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Present are: 53 participants of 13 nations (27 organisations). Welcome is followed by a brief introduction of the IRO board and each participant. The Workshop serves as a basis for discussions about problems during deployment and as a platform to find solutions for the future.

The Workshop agenda contains the following:

On Saturday the seven organisations that have been to Iran should report about their experiences. In the afternoon the results of this report will be discussed in the group. Answers to the following two questions should be discussed:

- what criteria for a deployment abroad do exist in your organisation?
- how does the alarm system in your organisation look like?

On Sunday a joint concluding statement should be prepared.

Dr. Zörner reads out a writing from the minister of foreign affairs Dr. Benita Ferrero-Waldner to the participants. After that the 1st secretary of the Iranian embassy speaks to the workshop attendees.

After the deployment in Iran it was very important for the International Rescuedog Organisation to offer the possibility to exchange experiences during a workshop. The results of this workshop should also be presented during the INSARAG-Meeting in Tunis on the 27th of April 2004.

After these introductory speeches the following speakers and contributors of the various organisations present their experiences during deployment:

Hptm. Stefan Kurz / AFDRU / A
Josef Schmoll / ÖRK / A
Martin Lobik / Feuerwehr CZ /CZ
Helmut Haller / BRH / D
Knut Fredheim / NRH / N
Col. Maciej Holota / STRAZ / PL
Dr. Wolfgang Zörner / IRO

The participants of the workshop drew the following conclusions:

- Prompt action at international catastrophes is the most important issue. To be able to evaluate the dimension of the catastrophe and to decide whether to send rescue dog teams or not a specialist group has to be sent immediately. IRO as international umbrella organisation agrees to take care of that.
- The coordination of rescue dog work on site has to be conducted by rescue dog specialists.
- The highest level of training that is possible for rescue dog teams is necessary to guarantee a functioning and effective collaboration in the deployment area. IRO demands a standardization and a standardised testing procedure in order to certify rescue dog teams for international deployment. Rescue dog teams that can not fulfil the criteria should not be sent into a crisis area.