

Disaster Protection Act

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Text in Bulgarian: [Закон за защита при бедствия](#)

Chapter One GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1. This Act shall regulate the ways to ensure protection of the life and health of the population, of the environment and of property in events of disaster.

Article 2. Disaster shall denote an event or a series of events, caused by natural phenomena, incidents, accidents or other extraordinary circumstances, which affect or threaten the life and the health of the population, property or the environment, of such a scale, as to require application of measures or involvement of special forces and deployment of special resources.

Article 3. (1) The executive authorities, legal persons and sole proprietors shall organise disaster protection in accordance with the functions, assigned to them herein and by other normative acts, applicable to their operations.

(2) The activities of the authorities and persons under paragraph (1) shall be coordinated within an integrated rescue system for disaster protection.

Article 4. The fundamental principles of disaster protection shall be:

1. right of each person to protection;
2. priority of human life rescue activities over other protection activities;
3. public character of any information regarding disaster risks and regarding executive authorities activities, aimed at disaster protection;
4. priority of preventive measures while ensuring protection;
5. specified responsibilities for implementation of protection measures;
6. phased provision of forces and resources for the needs of protection.

Article 5. Disaster protection shall be performed by means of:

1. conduct of preventive activities;
2. conduct of protection activities;
3. coordination of the functions of the integrated rescue system;
4. relief and recovery in case of disasters;
5. appropriation of resources;
6. receipt of relief.

Chapter Two

PREVENTIVE ACTIVITY

Article 6. Preventive activity shall denote a comprehensive range of activities, to include:

1. research, analysis, evaluation and forecasting of disaster risks;
2. classification of the country's territory depending on the risks under item 1;
3. planning of disaster protection;
4. implementation of preventive measures for the exclusion or mitigation of disaster consequences, such as:
 - a) spatial and urban development, construction and other technical measures;
 - b) building and maintenance of monitoring, early warning and notification systems;
 - c) provision of collective and individual protection means;
 - d) training and practical preparation of central and territorial executive authorities, the response forces and the population;
5. adoption of a National Disaster Protection Program and of annual plans for its implementation;
6. preventive control;
7. other preventive activities, beside the ones specified in items 1-6.

Article 7. (1) Research, analysis, evaluation and forecasting of risks of disasters shall be performed by expert examinations.

(2) The annual plans for implementation of the National Disaster Protection Program shall designate the executive authorities that shall assign performance of expert examinations under paragraph (1)

Article 8. (Amended, SG No 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) The classification of the country's territory under Article 6, item 2 shall be performed and updated by the Minister of Interior and Accidents based on the expert examinations' findings.

Article 9. (1) Planning of disaster protection shall be carried out at municipal, regional and national level.

(2) In order to carry out the activity under paragraph (1), the bodies of the executive shall draw up disaster protection plans.

(3) The plans under paragraph (2) shall ensure organised and coordinated action to prevent or mitigate disaster consequences, as well as to ensure provisional supply of drinking water, food and other survival means, for the population of the affected territory.

(4) Those plans must contain:

1. analyses of possible disasters and forecasts of their consequences;
2. measures for prevention or mitigation of disaster consequences;
3. measures for protection of the population;
4. distribution of responsibilities and the bodies and officials in charge of implementation of the measures envisaged;
5. funds and resources, earmarked for elimination of disaster consequences;
6. modalities of cooperation between executive authorities;
7. procedure for timely notification of the executive authorities and the population in the event of threat or occurrence of disasters.

(5) (Amended, SG No 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) The Secretary General of the Ministry of Interior shall coordinate the elaboration and coordination of the plans under paragraph (2).

(6) (New, SG No. 61/2010) The "Flood" part of the disaster protection plans shall be prepared on the basis of the flood risk management plans, developed under the conditions and according to the procedure of the [Water Act](#).

(2) The measures under paragraph (1) shall be specified by ordinance of the Council of Ministers.

Article 11. (1) Monitoring, early warning and notification shall be based on:

1. information and data, made available by natural persons, organisations and institutions;

2. information and data from systems for monitoring of weather, hydrological, seismic, chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, environmental and other facilities and phenomena;

3. (supplemented, SG No 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) information and data received at the centres of the National Emergency Call System Employing the Single European Number "112".

4. weather and hydrological forecast information regarding hazardous events from the National Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology, the Agency for Exploration and Maintenance of the River Danube, etc.;

5. international exchange of information and data.

(2) (Amended, SG No 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) Any information under paragraph (1) shall be made available at no cost to the Ministry of Interior and to other ministers, depending on their competencies.

Article 12. (1) Collective protection means shall denote engineering facilities - shelters and anti-radiation revetments, intended for ensuring protection of the population in the event of an air attack, from military or industrial toxic substances, radioactive substances and biological agents.

(2) Collective protection means shall be in public state, public municipal or private ownership and shall be maintained and operated by the agencies, under the charge of which they were assigned, by mayors or by their owners.

(3) (Amended, SG No 74/2009) Collective protection means may be made available on lease under terms, which would not prevent their usage for their main purposes, if need be, following coordination with the territorial units of the Fire Safety and Protection of the Population Directorate General at the Ministry of Interior. The lease contracts must indicate the specific terms, as well as an option for termination of the contract by the lessor at any time.

(4) The procedure for building, maintenance and operation of collective protection means shall be specified by ordinance of the Council of Ministers.

Article 13. (1) Individual protection means shall be intended for protecting the respiratory organs, eyes and skin from toxic and radioactive substances, vapours and aerosols, from overheating and burns, explosions and other influences of a mechanical nature.

(2) Stockpiles of individual protection means shall be accumulated, stored, renewed, maintained, made available and accounted for, by:

1. (amended, SG No 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) the Ministry of Interior - for reserves for operational needs;

2. mayors of municipalities - for those needed for municipal administration employees and the municipality population;

3. executive authorities - for those needed for the employees of the respective administration;

4. owners, managers or executive members of commercial companies and sole proprietors - for those needed for their employees.

(3) The procedure for accumulating, storing, renewing, maintaining, making available and accounting of stockpiles of individual protection means shall be specified by ordinance of the Council of Ministers.

Article 14. (1) Executive authorities, other state bodies and the population shall be provided training in disaster protection.

(2) Such training shall be mandatory for the executive authorities.

(3) The bodies under paragraph (1) shall organise training for employees of the units, reporting to them, as well as for other operational structures, for performance of protection activities.

Article 15. (Repealed, SG No 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 16. (1) Training in disaster protection and in first paramedical aid shall be provided in the public education system and in higher education establishments.

(2) In the course of primary education studies, basic instruction with regarding disaster risk, as well as the modes of behaviour and action shall be provided, while in the course of secondary and higher education studies -knowledge on protection corresponding to the profile and specialty of the education..

(3) (Amended, SG No. 74/2009, effective 15.09.2009, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009)

The Minister of Education, Youth and Science, following coordination with the Minister of Interior, shall approve training programs, training materials and aids for nursery schools and schools and plans for training and preparation for disaster protection for managerial personnel and teachers in the public education system.

Article 17. Training of the population with regard to modes of behaviour and action and implementation of protective measures, required in case of disaster, shall be organised by mayors of municipalities, in the form of voluntary training.

Article 18. (1) The National Disaster Protection Program shall prescribe the objectives, priorities and tasks of disaster protection for a term of five years. Funding of this program shall be arranged according to the parameters, included in the budget forecast.

(2) The National Disaster Protection Program shall contain:

1. analysis of the situation with regard to disaster protection;

2. degrees of achievement of the objectives and tasks of the preceding program;
3. guidelines for scientific research activity;
4. guidelines regarding the content of educational programs;
5. priorities for the development and resource support of the integrated rescue system.
6. sources of financing.

(3) Annual plans shall be adopted for the implementation of the National Disaster Protection Program.

(4) Funding of the activities in the annual plans under paragraph (3) shall be carried out within the approved budget of the competent bodies and from other funding sources.

(5) (Amended, SG No 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) The Minister of Interior shall elaborate the National Disaster Protection Program and the annual plans for its implementation jointly with the Ministries, agencies, the National Association of Municipalities of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Bulgarian Red Cross.

Chapter Three

INTEGRATED RESCUE SYSTEM

Section I

General Rules

Article 19. (1) The activities for protection of the population in the event of threat or of occurrence of disasters shall consist of:

1. warning;
2. implementation of emergency measures for mitigation of the impact;
3. notification;
4. rescue operations;
5. providing medical assistance in emergency situations;
6. initial psychological counselling to disaster victims and to rescue teams;
7. bringing under control and elimination of environmental incidents;
8. protection against explosives and ammunition;
9. search and rescue operations;

10. radiation, chemical and biological protection in accidents involving hazardous substances and materials and protection from nuclear, chemical and biological weapons;

11. containment and extinguishing of fires;

12. temporary evacuation;

13. performance of emergency repair and recovery works;

14. limitation of the spread and elimination of epidemic outbreaks, epidemics and epizootics of contagious and parasitic diseases;

15. other operations related to protection.

(2) Protection of the population following declaration of 'state of war', 'martial law' or 'state of emergency' shall be conducted in compliance with the provisions of the Geneva conventions of 12 August 1949 (not published), ratified by Decree No. 181 of the Presidium of the National Assembly of 1954 (Izvestia, No.43/1954) and the Supplementary Protocols to the Geneva Conventions of 1977, ratified by Decree No. 1586 of the State Council of 1989 (SG, No. 62/1989).

Article 20. (1) The activities under Article 19 shall be carried out by units, services and other operational structures of:

1. Ministries and agencies;

2. municipalities;

3. commercial companies and sole proprietors;

4. emergency medical care centres, other medical and health establishments;

5. non-profit legal persons;

6. the armed forces.

(2) The units, services and other operational structures under paragraph (1) shall be component parts of the integrated rescue system, while their institutional or organisational affiliation, functions and subject of activity, assigned to them, shall remain unchanged.

Article 21. Integrated rescue system shall denote the organisation, coordination and direction of the activities of units, services and other operational structures under Article 20(1) in the process of preparation for response to disasters, in the event of occurrence of disasters and in case of need to conduct simultaneously rescue and emergency repair and recovery works by one or more of its components or units.

Article 22. (1) (Amended, SG No. 69/2008; SG No. 74/2009, SG No. 88/2010, effective

1.01.2011) The main component parts of the integrated rescue system shall be the Fire Safety and Protection of the Population Directorate General of the Ministry of Interior.

(2) The main component parts of the integrated rescue system shall ensure round-the-clock readiness for receiving notifications in the event of occurrence of disasters, for their evaluation and for immediate response.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 69/2008) The structure of the main component parts of the integrated rescue system shall be established across the entire territory of the country, in conformity with its administrative and territorial division.

Article 23. (1) Any other component parts of the integrated rescue system shall render assistance upon request in accordance with the plans for conducting rescue and emergency repair and recovery works.

(2) The armed forces shall render assistance, as necessary, for performance of rescue and emergency repair and recovery works, pursuant to order of the Minister of Defence, issued on the basis of a request from the respective state body, pursuant to the plans under paragraph (1).

Section II

Planning and Preparation

Article 24. (1). In the event of occurrence of disasters, the component parts of the integrated rescue system shall organise and discharge their functions on the basis of regional plans for performance of rescue and emergency repair and recovery works.

(2) (Amended, SG No 74/2009) The territorial units of the Fire Safety and Protection of the Population Directorate General of the Ministry of Interior shall coordinate the elaboration of the plans under paragraph (1), which shall then be approved by the respective regional governor.

Article 25. (Amended, SG No 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) The Ministry of Interior shall elaborate a National Plan for Performance of Rescue and Emergency Repair and Recovery Works.

Article 26. The plans under Article 24(1) shall ensure the interaction among the component parts of the integrated rescue system and an option for a phased mobilisation of forces and resources, depending on the disaster evolution.

Article 27. The plans under Article 24(1) shall contain:

1. information regarding the teams and resources of the integrated rescue system, their tasks and the opportunities for performance of rescue and emergency repair and recovery works;
2. modes of notification of the component parts;
3. times for ensuring readiness for response.

Article 28. (1) Preparation of the component parts of the integrated rescue system shall be carried out by conducting trainings and exercises

(2) The objective of trainings shall be to establish the state of the communications and information system and the degree of readiness of the teams to respond in the event of disaster.

(3) Exercises shall be planned and conducted in order to improve the interaction and coordination of the component parts of the integrated rescue system with the executive authorities for the purpose of response in the event of disaster.

(4) (Amended, SG No 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) Trainings and exercises shall be conducted pursuant to order of the Minister of Interior or of the regional governor.

Section III

Coordination and Direction of Rescue and Emergency Repair and Recovery Works in Disaster-Stricken Areas

Article 29. (1) (Amended, SG No 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) Coordination among the component parts of the integrated rescue system shall be carried out using the operational communications and information centres of the Ministry of Interior.

(2) The said operational communications and information centres shall:

1. receive and evaluate information regarding disasters occurred;
2. notify the competent component parts of the integrated rescue system and coordinate follow-up activity on the basis of standard operational procedures.
3. notify executive authorities of any disasters occurred;
4. bring in additional forces and resources of the main and other component parts of the integrated rescue system in accordance with the plan for performance of rescue and emergency repair and recovery works, upon request of the manager on the spot, the municipality mayor or of the regional governor.

(3) (Amended, SG No 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) The organisation and activities of the centres under paragraph (1) shall be specified by the Regulations on the Application of the Ministry of Interior Act.

(4) Any voice communications received and transmitted by the operational communications and information centres shall be recorded and archived, in order to enable subsequent run-through.

(5) (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) The standard operational procedures under paragraph (2), item 2, shall be elaborated by the Secretary General of the

Ministry of Interior, in coordination with the units, services and other operational structures under Article 20(1)

Article 30. (1) (Repealed SG No 35/2009, effective 12.05.2009).

(2) (Amended, SG No. 41/2007; SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) The undertakings providing electronic communications shall be obliged to render assistance to the Ministry of Interior for ensuring communications during disasters and to the National Emergency Call System Employing a Single European Number.

Article 31. (1) Interaction and coordination among the component parts of the integrated rescue system, involved in rescue and emergency repair and recovery works in any disaster-stricken area, hereinafter referred to as "intervention site", shall be performed by the manager on the spot.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) Manager on the spot shall be the head of the territorial unit of the Fire Safety and Protection of the Population Directorate General of the Ministry of Interior, or an official authorised by the head of the territorial unit, except in cases of fires, epidemics and epizootics.

(3) (Amended, SG No. 69/2008, SG No. 98/2010, effective 1.01.2011, SG No. 8/2011, effective 25.01.2011) In the event of fires, epidemics and epizootics manager on the spot shall denote the head of the regional directorate of the Ministry of Interior, respectively of the regional health inspectorate or of the regional food safety directorate.

Article 32. In the course of carrying out rescue and emergency repair and recovery works the manager on the spot shall be entitled to:

1. prohibit or restrict entry of individuals into the intervention site;
2. order temporary evacuation of individuals from the intervention site;
3. order immediate completion and termination of construction projects, construction works, land reengineering or demolishing buildings and structures or parts thereof in order to reduce or eliminate risks, related to the disaster occurred;
4. require from legal or natural persons to provide personal or material assistance;
5. set up a staff office of the manager on the spot, with participation of representatives of teams involved in the integrated rescue system;
6. divide the intervention site into sectors or sections, appoint managers for them, assign tasks to the same, as well as to distribute forces or funds with regard to them.

Chapter Four

INVOLVEMENT OF, AND ASSISTANCE BY NATURAL PERSONS,

LEGAL PERSONS AND SOLE PROPRIETORS IN CASES OF DISASTER

Section I Rights and Obligations of Natural Persons

Article 33. (1) Any natural person shall be entitled to:

1. information on measures for ensuring protection;
2. training with regard to modes of behaviour and action in cases of disaster;
3. protection means;
4. emergency and rehabilitation assistance;
5. compensation for damages actually caused in the course of or in connection with the legally prescribed actions for disaster protection.

(2) The assistance under paragraph (1), item 4 and the compensation under paragraph (1), item 5 shall be provided under terms, procedures and in amounts, determined by the rules under Article 54(6)

Article 34. Natural persons shall be obliged to:

1. comply with restrictions in relation to an announced state of disaster resulting from measures, applied by the competent services in the course of protection activities;
2. assist any other natural person, whose life and health are at risk as a result of disaster, provided this would not pose a risk for his/her own life or health;
3. notify the respective emergency call centre or otherwise seek opportunities for rendering assistance, if unable to provide personally any assistance required;
4. render assistance, depending on personal capabilities or material support, upon request from the municipality mayor or the local manager;
5. enable entry, where performance of rescue and emergency repair and recovery works may be required, of rescue teams and equipment, as well as performance of land reengineering, building of facilities for protection from risk factors, clearing of land lots and removal of buildings or parts thereof, of facilities and plantations, in cases he/she is owner, user or manager of the respective real property;
6. provide the rescue team leader with information regarding any hazards, which could threaten the life and health of rescue personnel or of the population;
7. enable positioning of early warning and notification systems upon any real properties, owned by him/her and ensure access to them for the duration of the state of disaster.

Section II

Obligations of Legal Persons and Sole Proprietors

Article 35. (1) Legal persons and sole proprietors, conducting activities involving risk substances and materials, activities in risky conditions or activities, which may be potentially dangerous for workers and employees, the population and the environment, shall:

1. plan and implement any measures needed to protect workers on the sites and in the adjacent areas, in cases of occurrence of disasters;
2. plan and implement any activities for improving the sustainable functioning of the facilities in cases of occurrence of disasters;
3. set up, prepare and maintain ready for use any notification means and forces for implementing activities for protection of persons working on the sites and in the adjacent areas;
4. perform training for employees regarding the methods of protection, the modes of behaviour and action and for rendering first paramedical aid in cases of occurrence of disasters;
5. ensure with regard to their own employees:
 - a) information on potential disasters and any measures planned;
 - b) warning, temporary evacuation or possibly sheltering;
 - c) organising of rescue activities;
6. build and maintain local automated notification systems;
7. organise and finance protection of workers on the sites and in the adjacent areas and elimination of disaster consequences;
8. set up a reserve of material resources for elimination of disaster consequences;
9. provide information on the preparation of an external emergency plan regarding:
 - a) sources of risks from their activities;
 - b) probable consequences from accidents and methods of their elimination;
 - c) potential impact on the population and the environment;
 - d) measures and forces and means for conducting rescue and emergency repair and recovery works at the facility;
10. develop an internal emergency plan.

(2) In the event of occurrence of accidents, legal persons and sole proprietors shall be obliged to:

1. commence immediately rescue and emergency repair and recovery works;
2. notify immediately of any accident the respective operational communications and information centre and the mayor of the municipality directly threatened;
3. notify the population, threatened by the accident;
4. make available to the respective component parts of the integrated rescue system information regarding explosives, hazardous chemicals, sources of ionising radiation, as well as other information regarding threats to human life and health;
5. in the event of participation of teams from the integrated rescue system, render assistance to them for elimination of the accident;
6. ensure safe disposal of waste, resulting from the accident and its elimination.

Article 36. Legal persons and sole proprietors, performing their activities in buildings with mass presence of individuals, shall:

1. plan and implement measures required for protection of individuals working or visiting the sites and the adjacent areas in cases of occurrence of disasters;
2. plan and implement activities for improving the sustainable functioning of the facilities in cases of occurrence of disasters;
3. perform training for employees regarding the methods of protection, the modes of behaviour and action and for rendering first paramedical aid in cases of occurrence of disasters;
4. build and maintain local automated notification systems;
5. notify immediately of any disaster the respective operational communications and information centre and the municipality mayor;
6. render assistance to teams from the integrated rescue system.

Article 37. Legal persons and sole proprietors, included in the plan for conducting rescue and emergency repair and recovery works, shall be obliged to provide upon request any assistance planned.

Article 38. (1) Legal persons and sole proprietors - operators of radio and TV programmes shall broadcast, upon request from the operational communications and information centres, immediately and without alteration of any of the content and meaning any urgent information, required to protect the population.

(2) The information under paragraph (1) shall be broadcast free of charge.

Section III

Voluntary Formations

Article 39. (Amended, SG No. 88/2010, effective 1.01.2011) Volunteer shall denote any person, participating in a voluntary formation for prevention or control of disasters, fires and emergency situations and elimination of consequences thereof.

Article 40. (1) Eligible to serve as volunteers shall be any legally capable individual over 18 years of age, having entered into a contract.

(2) Individuals under paragraph (1) may gain the capacity of volunteer irrespective of whether such contract is of employment or service nature.

(3) The rights and obligations of volunteers shall be determined herein and by the contracts for participation in voluntary formations, entered into by each of them.

(4) Each volunteer shall be assigned a personal identification number.

Article 41. (Amended, SG No. 88/2010, effective 1.01.2011) Voluntary formations shall be organised by the municipality mayor by decision of the municipal council.

Article 42. (1) The mayor shall be obliged to:

1. enter into a contract with each volunteer;
2. ensure training by instructors, entered on the register under Article 47(1), item 4 and outfits for the volunteers;
3. insure volunteers against accident, occurring during or in relation to fulfilment of their contractual obligations;
4. insure volunteers for all insured social risks;
5. (amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009, SG No. 88/2010, effective 1.01.2011)

submit to the director of the Fire Safety and Protection of Population Directorate General of the Ministry of Interior an application for entry on the register under Article 47(1), item 1 of the voluntary formation and for issue of a certificate of its unique code under Article 47(1), item 2.

(2) Costs under paragraph (1) shall be covered from the national budget as incurred for an activity, delegated by the state.

Article 43. (1) (Amended, SG No. 88/2010, effective 1.01.2011) During the periods of training or performance of tasks on prevention or control of disasters, fires and emergency situations and elimination of consequences thereof, volunteers shall be treated as using unpaid

leave for performance of civic or public duty, which will qualify as length of service or employment.

(2) During the periods of participation in activities under paragraph (1), individuals shall receive compensation from the central budget under terms, procedure and in amounts, prescribed by the Council of Ministers.

Article 44. Mayors shall be obliged to:

1. notify employers of or any bodies, hiring the volunteers, of their participation in activities under Article 43(1);
2. issue documents, certifying such participation of volunteers not later than three days after the end of the activity;
3. provide upon request to employers of or any bodies, hiring the volunteers, the training curriculum and results;

Article 45. (Supplemented, SG No. 88/2010, effective 1.01.2011) Volunteers shall not be obliged to perform their activities in cases, where they or members of their households may be directly affected by disasters, fires and emergency situations, and they shall inform mayors of such circumstances in due course.

Article 46. (Amended, SG No. 88/2010, effective 1.01.2011) Volunteers, who have no employment or service legal relationships at the time of being summoned for training or performance of tasks on prevention or control of disasters, fires and emergency situations and elimination of consequences thereof, shall receive compensation from the central budget under terms, procedure and in amounts, prescribed by the Council of Ministers.

Article 47. (1) (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009, SG No. 88/2010, effective 1.01.2011) The director of the Fire Safety and Protection of Population Directorate General of the Ministry of Interior shall:

1. maintain a register of voluntary formations;
2. designate unique codes to voluntary formations;
3. assign a personal identification number to each volunteer;
4. maintain a register of instructors for training of volunteers.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) The procedure for setting up, maintaining and keeping the registers under paragraph (1), items 1 and 4, as well as for designation of the unique codes under paragraph (1), item 2 and personal identification number under paragraph (1), item 3, shall be prescribed by the Minister of Interior.

Chapter Five

DECLARING A STATE OF DISASTER

Article 48. State of disaster shall denote a regime, which is imposed in the disaster-stricken area by the bodies, defined by law, related to implementation of measures for a specified period of time, in order to bring the disaster under control and perform rescue and emergency repair and recovery works

Article 49. (1) Municipality mayors shall declare by order state of disaster with regard to the entire municipality territory or a part thereof.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) Copies of the orders under paragraph (1) shall be delivered forthwith to the regional governor and the Minister of Interior.

Article 50. (1) Regional governors shall declare by order state of disaster with regard to the entire region territory or a part thereof:

1. if necessary for activation of the regional disaster protection plan;
2. upon a motivated request by mayors of municipalities from the region.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) Copy of the order under paragraph (1) shall be delivered forthwith to the Minister of Interior.

Article 50a. (New, SG No 35/2009, effective 12.05.2009; amended, SG No. 93/2009,

effective 25.12.2009) The Council of Ministers shall declare an emergency situation by virtue of a decision on the territory of more than one region or on the territory of the entire country on a proposal of the Minister of Interior."

Article 51. (1) (Supplemented SG No 35/2009, effective 12.05.2009) The orders under Article 49(1) and 50(1), and in the decision under article 50a shall indicate:

1. any circumstances, serving as grounds to declare state of disaster;
2. justification of the need to declare state of disaster;
3. the boundaries of the territory, on which state of disaster would be valid;
4. measures for bringing disaster under control, including any temporary restrictions of rights of citizens applied;
5. bodies and officials, responsible for implementation of the measures taken;
6. the day of declaring state of disaster and the term of its validity, not exceeding 30 days.

(2) (Amended SG No 35/2009, effective 12.05.2009) Where required, such term of validity may be extended:

1. by the mayor of the municipality following consultations with the regional governor;

2. (amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) by the regional governor following consultations with the Minister of Interior;

3. with a decision of the Council of Ministers.

(3) (Amended SG No 35/2009, effective 12.05.2009) The state of disaster shall be lifted ahead of schedule by the body which declared it if the circumstances that served as a basis to introduce it are no longer valid.

(4) (Amended SG No 35/2009, effective 12.05.2009) The acts under paragraphs 2 and 3 shall become effective forthwith and shall be publicised through the media."

Article 52. (1) In cases where state of disaster was declared, the following may be restricted to the extent and for the period unavoidably required:

1. sanctity of the person or of the home in cases of temporary evacuation from places, where the life or health of individuals would be under direct threat;

2. rights of use of property due to the need to protect life, health or property of individuals or the environment;

3. freedom to move or stay in certain sections of the territory, threatened or stricken by disaster;

4. right to engage in activity, which could prevent or impede performance of rescue works.

(2) Where a state of disaster had been declared, the following may be taken as measures required:

1. temporary evacuation of persons, domestic animals or livestock;

2. prohibition to enter, stay or move in certain areas or territories;

3. immediate completion of construction projects, construction works, land reengineering or demolishing structures in order to reduce or prevent any threat, related to the disaster;

4. care for children and adults at a social disadvantage, if such care may not be provided in state of disaster conditions by individuals, customarily providing them;

5. priority provisioning of child care, social care, medical or health establishments and rescue teams.

Article 53. (Repealed SG No 35/2009, effective 12.05.2009).

Chapter Six

RELIEF AND RECOVERY

Article 54. (1) (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) An Interagency Relief and Recovery Committee shall be established with the Council of Ministers, hereinafter referred to as "the Committee". The Committee shall be headed by the Minister of Interior.

(2) Members of the Committee shall be Ministers and heads of agencies or their deputies, which have competencies relevant to the Committee activities. Members of the National Association of Municipalities of the Republic of Bulgaria, as well regional governors, shall participate in the Committee meetings in advisory capacity.

(3) The list of names of the Committee members shall be determined by order of the Prime Minister.

(4) (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) The Fire Safety and Protection of Population Directorate General of the Ministry of Interior shall provide support for the Committee.

(5) Where required, the Committee shall be entitled to recruit experts from Ministries and agencies, as well as from other organisations.

(6) The Council of Ministers shall adopt Rules of the organisation and activities of the Committee, determining the terms and procedures for requesting funding and the criteria for rating the funding requests received.

Article 55. (1) Relief and Recovery in cases of disaster shall include rendering of emergency and rehabilitation assistance to victims and conduct of recovery works after disasters.

(2) Emergency assistance shall be organised, ensured and made available by municipality mayors and shall include:

1. providing food and temporary shelter to victims of disaster, domestic animals and livestock;

2. distribution of clothing and household belongings to victims of disaster;

3. undertaking of other necessary measures.

(3) Recovery assistance to victims of disaster shall be provided under terms, procedures and in amounts, determined by the Rules under Article 54(6) .

(4) Emergency recovery works after disasters shall be organised by the executive authorities in accordance with their functions, determined under this Act, in specific laws and secondary legislation.

Article 56. (1) The Committee shall adopt decisions for disbursement of special purpose funds from the national budget, earmarked for preventing, bringing under control and overcoming the impact of disasters and control their purposeful spending. Such funds shall be provided for:

1. funding of preventive activities, part of the National Program under Article 18, included in the annual plan;
2. covering contingencies with regard to rescue and emergency repair works in events of disaster, incurred by the forces and means of the integrated rescue system, which were engaged via operational communications centres.
3. funding of emergency recovery works;
4. providing recovery assistance;
5. organisation and funding of control inspections to verify implementation of Committee decisions;
6. follow-up checks of complaints and signals;
7. compensating natural and legal persons, under terms, procedures and in amounts, prescribed by the rules under Article 54(6), for damages, actually caused to them during or with regard to performance of legally prescribed disaster protection activities.

(2) The Committee shall coordinate collection and distribution of aid and donations.

Article 57. (1) The funds made available shall be purposefully used in accordance with the Committee decisions.

(2) Changes to the purpose of the funds made available may be introduced only by decision of the Committee, upon request of the executive authorities.

(3) Accounting of the funds made available shall be conducted in accordance with instructions of the Minister of Finance and Committee decisions.

(4) In the event of stage-by-stage funding of emergency recovery works, appropriation of new funds for the next stage shall take place after submission of reports of any expenses incurred to the Committee and to the Minister of Finance.

Article 58. Regional governors shall exercise control over fulfilment of Committee decisions on the territories of regions.

Chapter Seven

RESOURCE SUPPORT

Article 59. Financial and material and technical support for disaster protection shall include:

1. running costs of the forces and means of the integrated rescue system;

2. production, repair, supply of machinery, equipment and other property, required for disaster protection;
3. design and performance of capital construction, building and maintenance of early warning and notification systems in cases of disaster;
4. management of real properties and movable objects - in state ownership, made available to ministries and agencies for the purposes of disaster protection.
5. maintaining international economic, scientific and technological cooperation in the area of disaster protection;
6. social and support activities;
7. control over production, certification and attestation of machinery and other special products, intended for disaster protection;
8. accumulation and maintenance of crisis reserves of material, fuels and motor oils, for the purposes of ensuring protection of the population in cases of disaster;
9. making available state and municipal real properties and movable objects for protection needs;
10. other activities, related to assuring disaster protection.

Article 60. Unified control shall be applied in the course of management of funds, in order to ensure their lawful spending.

Article 61. Financial and material and technical support of disaster protection shall be funded from:

1. Ministries' and agencies' budgets;
2. municipal budgets;
3. commercial companies and sole proprietors - with regard to their own facilities.

Chapter Eight

FUNCTIONS OF EXECUTIVE AUTHORITIES IN RELATION TO DISASTER PROTECTION

Article 62. (1) The Council of Ministers shall formulate the state policy in the area of disaster protection.

(2) The Council of Ministers shall:

1. ensure overall management of disaster protection;
2. adopt a National Disaster Protection Program and the annual plans for its implementation;

3. adopt a National Disaster Protection Plan and a National Plan for Performance of Rescue and Emergency Repair and Recovery Works;

4. (new, SG No 35/2009, effective 12.05.2009; amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective

25.12.2009) introduce a National System for Early Warning and Alert for the executive bodies and the population in case of disasters and specify with a regulation the terms and procedures for its operation on a proposal of the Minister of Interior;

5 (renumbered from Item 4 - SG No 35/2009, effective 12.05.2009) .appropriate funds for the purposes of disaster protection.

(3) The competent body, depending on the nature of disaster, shall make available to the President of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Speaker of the National Assembly information regarding disasters occurring on the territory of the country, which shall be identical in scope and content.

Article 63. (1) Within the scopes of their competencies, Ministers and bodies under [Article 19\(4\) of the Administration Act](#), shall:

1. analyse potential sources of risks and implement preventive activities, in order to eliminate or limit the impact of risk factors, which could cause occurrence of disaster.

2. participate in the elaboration of disaster protection plans, of plans for performance of rescue and emergency repair and recovery works and of external emergency plans;

3. maintain prepared forces and means and ensure the participation of the structures, reporting to them, as component parts of the integrated rescue system, in accordance with the plans for performance of rescue and emergency repair and recovery works;

4. implement protection activities in compliance with the protection plans;

5. exercise control over the implementation of protection measures in the sphere, regulated or directed by them.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) Coordination and control headquarters shall be established by order of the Prime Minister to assist the competent Minister or head of agency, depending on the nature of disaster.

(3) The functioning of such headquarters shall be supported by the respective Ministry or agency.

Article 64. (1) Regional governors shall:

1. organise and direct disaster protection within the respective regions;

2. organise the elaboration and approve regional disaster protection plans;

3. endorse the regional plan for performance of rescue and emergency repair and recovery works;
4. organise and be in charge of training regional administrations in modes of behaviour and action in events of disaster and implementation of the protection measures required;
5. coordinate and control preparations for disasters, performed by regional administrations, territorial bodies of Ministries and agencies, legal and natural persons in the regions;
6. organise and control implementation of preventive measures for excluding or reducing consequences of disasters;
7. provide data needed for the elaboration of the National Disaster Protection Plan;
8. set up an organised system for disaster notification;
9. (amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) make available to the Ministry of Interior annual activity reports on disaster protection.

(2) In the event of occurrence of disaster on the territory of any region, its governor may:

1. activate implementation of the regional disaster protection plan;
2. declare state of disaster on the region's territory or a part thereof;
3. (amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) maintain exchange of information with the operational communications and information centre of the Ministry of Interior and using it he/she may mobilise additional forces and means.
4. organise, coordinate and control the process of disaster protection and recovery;
5. coordinate any rescue and emergency repair and recovery works, launched on the region's territory, if the same go beyond the borders of a single municipality, if and when the municipality mayor so requests;
6. (amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) in the cases under item 5, coordination headquarters shall be created.

Article 65. (1) Municipality mayors shall:

1. organise and direct disaster protection within their municipalities' territories;
2. organise the elaboration and submit for approval by the municipal councils the municipal disaster protection plans, provide data for the elaboration of the regional plan and approve external emergency plans;

3. organise, coordinate and conduct preventive measures for excluding or limiting consequences of disasters;
4. assure timely notification and making the population aware in the event of threat or of a disaster occurred;
5. appropriate funds in the draft municipality budgets for ensuring of activities under the municipal disaster protection plans, as well as reserves for emergency expenses or contingencies, related to protection of the population;
6. Submit to the regional governors annual activity reports with regard to disaster protection.

(2) In the event of occurrence of disaster on the territory of any municipality, its mayor:

1. shall coordinate any rescue and emergency repair and recovery works;
2. (amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) shall create headquarters for coordination of any rescue and emergency repair and recovery works;
3. may declare state of disaster on the municipality territory or a part thereof;
4. (amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) shall exchange information with the operational communications and information centre of the Ministry of Interior in the region;
5. may recruit legal and natural persons for the purpose of rendering personal or material assistance, depending on their capabilities;
6. may also involve in protection activities any voluntary formations established;
7. may request the regional governor to carry out coordination;
8. shall organise and coordinate temporary evacuation and provide emergency assistance to victims of disaster;
9. shall organise and coordinate provision of rehabilitation assistance to the population in the event of disaster;
10. shall organise and control performance of emergency recovery works in the event of disaster.

Article 66. (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) Regional governors and municipality mayors, if conducting management and coordination of rescue and emergency repair and recovery works, shall be obliged to submit to the Ministry of Interior written information on their progress.

Chapter Nine
(Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009)
MINISTRY OF EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

Section I
(Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009)
Ministry of Emergency Situations

Article 67. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Section II
(Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).
National Civil Protection Service General Directorate

Article 68. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 69. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 70. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 71. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 72. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 73. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 74. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 75. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 76. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 77. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 78. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 79. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 80. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 81. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Section III

(Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009)

Powers of the Bodies of the Ministry of Emergency Situations

Article 82. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 83. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 84. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 85. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 86. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Chapter Ten

CONTROL

Article 87. (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) Control over compliance with this Act shall be exercised by the Minister of Interior and by officials authorised by the Minister.

Article 88. (1) (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) The Minister of Interior shall issue orders for performance or temporary restriction of any activities, if they threaten the population.

(2) The orders under paragraph (1) shall be issued upon emergence of threat of disaster.

(3) Orders under paragraph (1) shall be fulfilled without delay.

(4) The municipality mayor shall be notified of any order under paragraph (1) without delay. Orders shall be made public via the mass media or in any other appropriate manner.

(5) (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009, supplemented, SG No. 39/2011) Orders under paragraph (1) may be appealed to the Supreme Administrative Court by the persons or organisations concerned within 7 days, via the Minister of Interior. The appeal

shall be reviewed in open court, with a judgement delivered within 3 days from the appeal receipt date. The judgement shall be definitive and may not be contested.

(6) Validity of such orders shall be terminated upon expiry of their term or by ruling of the court under paragraph (5) or when the grounds for their issue cease to exist.

Article 89. (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) Officials authorised by the Minister of Interior shall conduct inspections of facilities, surprise checks, verifications based on a plan, approved by the Minister or other activities.

Chapter Eleven

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPULSION MEASURES

Section I

Enforcement Administrative Measures

Article 90. (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) In order to prevent or cease any violations related to performance of the obligations under this Act, as well as to eliminate any adverse consequences thereof, the Minister of Interior, or officials authorised by the Minister, shall be entitled to halt construction, commissioning and operation of facilities, installations, devices and equipment, as well as to halt other activities, which may pose a threat to the population in the event of disasters.

Article 91. (1) The order for implementing enforcement administrative measures shall be subject to appeal under the procedure of the [Administrative Procedure Code](#).

(2) The order under paragraph (1) shall be subject to preliminary implementation, unless ordered otherwise by court.

Section II

Penal administrative provisions

Article 92. Any person, failing to fulfil an obligation herein, shall be punishable by a fine from BGN 100 to BGN 300 or a property sanction from BGN 300 to BGN 1,000.

Article 93. Any official, failing to fulfil an obligation, assigned to him/her herein, shall be punishable by a fine from BGN 200 to BGN 500, unless subject to a more severe penalty.

Article 94. State bodies, heads of organisations or legal entities, mayors of municipalities and individuals, who fail to fulfil any obligations, envisaged herein or in the regulatory instruments for its implementation, shall be punishable by a fine from BGN 200 to BGN 2,000.

Article 95. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 96. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 97. (Repealed, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009).

Article 98. Any manager of a commercial company, head of organisation or sole proprietor, who, after state of disaster had been declared, refuses to provide to any competent body any delivery or service on a priority basis, if it would be objectively feasible, shall be punishable by a fine from BGN 500 to BGN 1,000 or a property sanction from BGN 1,000 to BGN 3,000.

Article 99. Any person expending funds or material resources, provided by the Interagency Relief and Recovery Committee, not in compliance with their purpose, shall be punishable by a fine from BGN 200 to BGN 2,000 unless such deed constitutes a crime and shall be obliged to reimburse such funds.

Article 100. (1) (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) Any acts of statement of administrative violations shall be drawn up by officials, authorised by the Minister of Interior.

(2) (Amended, SG No. 93/2009, effective 25.12.2009) Penal decrees shall be issued by the Minister of Interior, or by officials authorised by the Minister.

(3) Ascertainment of violations, issue, appeal against and enforcement of penal decrees, shall take place under the procedure of the [Administrative Violations and Sanctions Act](#).

(7) (New, SG No. 61/2010) The measures envisaged in the flood risk management plans under paragraph (6) shall be included in the annual plans for implementation of the National Disaster Protection Program.

Article 10. (1) Spatial development, urban development, construction and other technical measures, aimed at preventing or mitigating adverse disaster consequences and facilitating protection and conduct of rescue operations, shall be applied in the process of spatial development, construction and operation of any facilities and infrastructure.

ADDITIONAL PROVISION

§ 1. Within the meaning of this Act:

1. "Natural phenomena" shall denote events of geologic (geophysical, geologic), hydro-meteorological and biological nature, such as earthquakes, floods, landslides (landslips, mudslides, avalanches), storms, hail, large snow pilings, freezing, drought, wildfires, mass infections of epidemic and epizootic character, invasions of pests and the like, caused by the forces of nature.

2. "Incident" shall denote an unforeseeable or unlikely event, limited in terms of duration or spatial effect, with a high intensity of forces or caused by human activity, threatening the life or health of humans, property or the environment.

3. "Accident" shall denote a large-scale incident, affecting roads, highways and air traffic, destruction of hydro-technical installations, incidents, caused by activities at sea, nuclear incidents and other environmental and industrial accidents, caused by human activity or acts.

4. "Industrial accident" shall denote a sudden technological failure of machinery, equipment and assemblies or performance of activities involving risk substances and materials in the process of manufacture, processing, use, storage, loading, transportation or sale, where those lead to a risk for the life or health of humans, animals, property or the environment.

5. "Risk substances and materials" shall denote such materials, the manufacture, carriage, storage, use or disposal of which may adversely affect or pose a danger to human life and health and to the environment.

6. "Disaster zone" shall denote the disaster-stricken territory.

7. "Special forces and resources" shall denote units, services and other operational structures, intended for performance of rescue and emergency repair and recovery works, consisting of trained personnel, equipped with specialised machinery and equipment, outfits, instruments and materials.

8. "Extent and period unavoidably required" shall be those, under which the rights under Article 52 may be affected in the minimum degree and for the shortest time feasible, in order to enable taking the required disaster protection measures.

9. "Potentially threatening site" shall be the one, which due to its functions, size or service area may, upon repeated deviations from normal operation or when damaged or destroyed, cause large-scale damage to the health of the population, death, material losses or disruption of critical social and economic operations.

10. "Potentially threatening operation" shall be any type of human activity which, in the event technological rules applying to it are not observed or on account of any other reasons, may cause large-scale damage to the health of the population, death, material losses or disruption of critical social and economic operations.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

§ 2. The following amendments shall be made to the [Ministry of the Interior Act](#) (promulgated, SG No. 17/2006, amended SG No. 30/2006)

1. The words "disasters, accidents" shall be deleted from [Article 97](#) , items 1 and 2.

2. The words "and under Articles 37, 38 and 39 of the Crisis Management Act" shall be deleted from [Article 110 \(2\)](#) .

3. In [Article 150 \(2\)](#) - item 3 shall be repealed.

§ 3. The following amendments and supplements shall be made to the [Republic of Bulgaria Defence and Armed Forces Act](#) (promulgated, SG No. 112/1995, amended SG No. 67, 122/1997, 70, 93, 152, 153/1998, 12, 67, 69, SG No. 49, 64, 25, 34/2001, 1, 40, 45, 119/2002,

50, 86, 95, 112/2003, 93, 111/2004, 27, 38, 76, 88, 102, 105/2005, SG No. 30, 36, 56, 82, 91/2006):

1. In [Article 30 \(3\)](#) , after the phrase "the Minister of Regional Development and Public Works" the phrase "the Minister of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents" shall be added.

2. A new [Article 44a](#) shall be introduced, reading:

"Article 44a. The Minister of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents shall organise and coordinate fulfilment of the tasks of civil protection, prescribed by the Geneva conventions of 12 August 1949 (not published), ratified by Decree No.181 of the Presidium of the National Assembly of 1954 (Izvestia, No.43/1954) and the Supplementary Protocols to the Geneva conventions of 1977, ratified by Decree No.1586 of the State Council of 1989 (SG, No. 62/1989).

§ 4. A new paragraph (4) shall be introduced into [Article 69](#) of the Social Insurance Code (promulgated, SG, No. 110/1999, No. 55/2000 - Judgment No. 5 of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Bulgaria, No. 64/2000, No. 1, 35, 41/2001, No. 1, 10, 45, 74, 112, 119, 120/2002, No. 8, 42, 67, 95, 112, 114/2003, No. 12, 38, 52, 53, 69, 70, 112, 115/2004, No. 38, 39, 76, 102, 103, 104, 105/2005, No. 17, 30, 34, 56, 57, 59, 68, 82, 95/2006), reading:

"(4) In the event of termination of the legal relationship, employees of the National Civil Protection Service General Directorate of the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents, performing any of the activities under Article 71 (1), items 3 - 6 of the Disaster Protection Act, shall be entitled to draw a pension, irrespective of their age, if they had accumulated 25 years of contributory service, of which two thirds actually served in the civil protection system or if they had served 15 years in the position of "diver"."

§ 5. In [Article 42 \(4\), item 4 of the Forestry Act](#) (promulgated, SG, No. 125/1997; No. 79, 133/1998, No. 26/1999, No. 29, 78/2000, No. 77, 79, 99/2002, No. 16, 107/2003, No. 72, 105/2005, No. 29, 30, 34, 36, 82/2006), after the phrase "the Ministry of the Interior, the phrase "territorial units of the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents" shall be added.

§ 6. The following amendments and supplements shall be made to the [Health and Safety at Work Act](#) (promulgated, SG, No. 124/1997; No. 86/1999; No.64, 92/2000; No.25, 111/2001; No.18, 114/2003; No. 70/2004; No.76/2005; No.33, 48/2006):

1. In [Article 2 \(2\)](#) the phrase "Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".

2. In [Article 20 \(2\)](#) the phrase "the Chairman of the Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Minister of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".

§ 7. At the end of [Article 19 \(2\), item 1 of the Personal Income Tax Act](#) (promulgated, SG, No.118/1997, Constitutional Court Ruling No.6 of 1998 - SG No.35/1998; amended, No. 71, 153/1998; No.50, 103, 111/1999; No. 105/2000; No.110/2001, No. 40, 45, 61,118/2002; No.42, 67, 95,112/2003; No.36, 37, 53, 70,108/2004; No. 43, 102, 103, 105/2005; No.17, 63/2006), the following phrase shall be added: "the allowance amounts under Article 75 of the Disaster Protection Act".

§ 8. The following amendments and supplements shall be made to the [Labour Code](#) (promulgated, SG, No. 26, 27/1986; No.6/1988; No. 21, 30, 94/1990; No.27, 32, 104/1991; No. 23, 26, 88, 100/1992; Constitutional Court Ruling No.12 of 1995 - SG No.69/1995; amended, No. 87/1995; No. 2, 12, 28/1996; No.124/1997; No.22/1998; Constitutional Court Ruling No.11 of 1998 - SG No.52/1998; amended, No. 51, 67, 110/1999, No.25/2001; No. 1, 105, 120/2002; No.18, 86, 95/2003, No. 52/2004; No.19, 27, 46, 76, 83, 105/2005; No. 24, 30, 48, 57, 68, 75/2006):

1. In [Article 144](#) , item 2, after the word "crises" the phrase "and disasters" shall be added.
2. In [Article 157](#) (1), item 7, the phrase "crises response" shall be replaced by "disaster protection".
3. In [Article 218](#) (1) and (2), after the word "crisis" the phrase "or disaster" shall be added.

§ 9. The following supplements shall be made to the [Civil Servants Act](#) (promulgated, SG, No. 67/1999; amended, No.1/2000; No.25, 99, 110/2001; No. 45/2002; No.95/2003; No.70/2004; No.19/2005; No.24, 30/2006):

1. In [Article 62](#) (1), item 8, the phrase "crises response" shall be replaced by "disaster protection".
2. In [Article 77](#) (1) and (2), after the word "crisis" the phrase "or disaster" shall be added.

§ 10. The following amendments shall be made to the [Road Traffic Act](#) (promulgated, SG, No. 20/1999; amended, No.1/2000, No. 43, 45,76/2002; No.16, 22/2003; No. 6, 70, 85,115/2004; No. 79, 92, 99, 102, 103, 105/2005; No.30, 34, 61, 64, 82, 85/2006

1. In [Article 91](#) (3) the phrase "Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".
2. In [Article 140](#) (4) the phrase "Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".

§ 11. In [Article 114 \(2\) of the Health Act](#) (promulgated, SG, No.70/2004; amended, No. 46, 76, 85, 88, 94, 103/2005, No. 18, 30, 34, 59, 71, 75, 81 and 95/2006), the phrase "with the Standing Committee for Protection of the Population from Disasters, Accidents and Catastrophes" shall be deleted and the phrase "Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".

§ 12. The following amendments shall be made to the [Carriage by Road Act](#) (promulgated, SG, No. 82/1999, amended, No.11 and 45/2002, No.99/2003, No.70/2004, No. 88, 92, 95, 102, 103, 105/2005; 30, 85, 92/2006):

1. In [Article 89 \(2\)](#) , item 4, letter "b" the phrase "Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".
2. In [Article 89a](#) (3), item 2 the phrase "Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".

§ 13. In [Article 195 \(3\) of the Criminal Code](#) (promulgated, SG, No.26/1968; corrected, No.29/1968; amended, No.92/1969; No.26, 27/1973; No.89/1974; No.95/1975; No.3/1977; No.54/1978; No.89/1979, No.28/1982; corrected, No. 31/1982; amended, No.44/1984; No. 41, 79/1985; corrected, No. 80/1985; amended, No.89, corrected, 90/1986; amended, No.37, 91, 99/1989, No.10, 31, 81/1990, No.1 and 86, corrected,90/1991; amended No.105/1991, No.54/1992, No.10/1993; No.50/1995; Constitutional Court Ruling № 19 of 1995 - SG No. 97/1995; amended, No.102/1995; No.107/1996; No. 62, 85/1997, Constitutional Court Ruling № 19 of 1997 - SG No. 120/1997; amended, No. 83, 85, 132, 133,153/1998, No. 7, 51, 81 of 1999, No.21, 51/2000, Constitutional Court Ruling № 14 of 2000, SG No.98/2000; amended, No. 41, 101/2001, No.45, 92/2002, No. 26, 103/2004, No. 24, 43, 76, 86, 88/2005, No. 59, 75/2006) the phrase "Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".

§ 14. The following amendments shall be made to the [Environmental Protection Act](#) (promulgated, SG, No.91/2002, corrected, 98/2002; amended, No.86/2003, No. 70/2004; No.74, 77, 88, 95,105/2005, No. 30, 65 and 82/2006:

1. In [Article 23](#) (1) the phrase "Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".

2. In [Article 110a](#) (2) the phrase "the Chairman of the Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Minister of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".

3. In [Article 157a](#) (2) the phrase "Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".

§ 15. In [Article 9 \(14\) of the Agricultural and Forestry Machines and Equipment Registration and Control Act](#) (promulgated, SG, No. 79/1998; amended, No.22/2003, No. 74, 88/2005, No. 30, 34, 82/2006), the phrase "Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".

§ 16. In [Article 18 \(1\), item 3 of the Supply and Sewerage Services Regulation Act](#) (promulgated, SG, No. 18/2005, amended, No. 30 and 65/2006) the phrase "with the Standing Committee for Protection of the Population from Disasters, Accidents and Catastrophes" shall be deleted and the phrase "Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".

§ 17. In [Article 21 \(3\), item 5 of the Roads Act](#) (promulgated, SG, 26/2000; amended, No.88/2000, No.111/2001; No. 47, 118/2002, No. 9, 112/2003; No. 6, 14, 88, 104/2004, No.30, 36, 64/2006), the phrase "Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".

§ 18. In [Article 3 \(2\), item 4 of the Clean Ambient Air Act](#) (promulgated, SG, No.45/1996, corrected, 49/1996; amended, No.85/1997; No.27/2000; No.102/2001; No.91/2002; No.112/2003; No.95/2005), the phrase "Civil Protection State Agency" shall be replaced by the phrase "the Ministry of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents".

§ 19. In the Annex to [Article 12 \(1\), item 5 of the Public Sector Internal Audit Act](#) (promulgated, SG, No.27/2006, amended, No.64/2006), item 12 "Civil Protection State Agency" shall be deleted.

§ 20. (1) Within three month of entry of this Act into force, the Council of Ministers shall adopt the Rules under Article 54 (6).

(2) The lower level regulatory acts, issued on the legal grounds of the currently repealed [Relief Public Calamities Act](#) (promulgated, SG, No. 304/1948, corrected, No. 308/1948; amended by Izvestia, No. 17/1955, SG, No. 63/1978, repealed, SG, No. 19/2005), shall remain in force pending adoption of the rules under paragraph (1).

§ 21. Within 6 months of entry of this Act into force the Council of Ministers shall adopt the ordinances under Article 10 (2), Article 12 (4) and Article 13 (3).

§ 22. Within four months of entry of this Act into force the Minister of State Policy for Disasters and Accidents shall issue the Rules under Article 15 (2), the Ordinance under Article 47 (2) and any instructions under Article 71 (2),

This Act was adopted by the 40th National Assembly on the 6 Day of December 2006 and the Official Seal of the National Assembly was affixed thereto.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

to the Act on the National Emergency Call System Employing the Single European Number "112"

(SG, No. 102/2008)

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§ 10. Throughout the Disaster Relief Act (promulgated, State Gazette, No. 102/2006; amended, Nos 41 and 113/2007 and No. 69/2008), the phrases "the Ministry of State Policy on Disasters and Accidents", "Ministry of State Policy on Disasters and Accidents", "the Minister of State Policy on Disasters and Accidents" and "Minister of State Policy on Disasters and Accidents" shall be replaced by "the Ministry of Emergency Situations", "Ministry of Emergency Situations", "the Minister of Emergency Situations" and "Minister of Emergency Situations", respectively.

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TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

to the act to amend and supplement the Ministry of Interior Act.

(SG, No. 88/2010, effective 9.11.2010)

§ 98. Throughout the Disaster Protection Act (promulgated, State Gazette, No. 102/2006; amended, Nos 41 and 113/2007 and No. 69 and 102/2008, Nos 35, 74 and 93/2009 and No. 61/2010) the following amendments and supplements shall be made:

.....

9. Everywhere else in the act the words "Civil Protection Directorate General" shall be replaced by "Fire Safety and Protection of Population Directorate General"

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§ 117. The Act shall become effective from the day of its promulgation in the State Gazette, except § 1 - 23, § 25, § 27 - 30, § 32 - 34, § 40, § 41, § 43 - 55, § 63 - 89 and § 91 - 114, which shall become effective from 1.01.2011.

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