Administrative Arrangement

between

the Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection of the European Commission

and

the Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova

on cooperation in the field of Civil Protection

The Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection of the European Commission and the Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova, hereinafter referred to as the Services,

Having regard to Article 61 of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova,

Considering that natural and man made disasters are increasing both in frequency and intensity,

Recognising the need for effective disaster prevention, preparedness and response,

Have come to the following mutual understanding:

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Administrative Arrangement is:

- 1) To enhance disaster resilience, reduce disaster risk and improve international disaster response and coordination between the Services;
- 2) To explore processes and share best practices for facilitating coordination during disasters; and
- 3) To expand the respective knowledge bases concerning disaster prevention, preparedness, response, recovery and resiliency activities.

II. Scope – Exchange of Information and Cooperation

- 1) The Services intend to create a framework for information sharing and knowledge exchange under this Administrative Arrangement to further foster coordination in disaster management. To that effect, the Services intend to:
- Exchange and regularly update contact details in order to ensure continuity of dialogue and in order to be able to contact each other on a 24-hour basis;
- Exchange on a 24-hour basis early warnings and updated information on large scale emergencies affecting the States participating in the EU Civil Protection

Mechanism and the Republic of Moldova, including requests for and offers of assistance;

- Exchange, where appropriate, relevant information during emergencies in third countries where the EU Civil Protection Mechanism is activated;
- Exchange templates for early warning on emergencies and requests for and offers of assistance;
- Exchange best practices regarding education and training, public awareness of disasters, early warning systems, community and organisational resilience and risk assessment; and
- Conduct communication exercises on an agreed basis.
- 2) Cooperation in the field of Civil Protection between the Services may in addition encompass the following:
- Facilitating the provision of mutual assistance in the case of emergencies, as appropriate and subject to the availability of sufficient resources;
- Cooperating on host nation support when requesting/providing assistance;
- Cooperating on disaster risk reduction by addressing, inter alia, institutional linkages and advocacy; information, education and communication; best practices aiming at preventing or mitigating the impact of natural hazards;
- Cooperating on improving the knowledge base on disasters and on hazard and risk assessment for disaster management;
- Collaborating in the assessment of possible environmental and public health impact of disasters;
- Inviting on an ad hoc basis experts of each Service to participate in relevant technical workshops, symposia and forums;
- Involving on an ad hoc basis observers from each Service in exercises and training organised by the Services; and
- Strengthening administrative cooperation on the issues of disaster prevention and preparedness, focusing on early warning systems.

3) The Services may jointly decide specific guidelines and/or work plan for the activities contemplated or planned under this Administrative Arrangement.

III. Contact Points

- 1) The Services appoint the following Contact Points:
- For the Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection of the European Commission: the Monitoring and Information Centre referred to in Article 2(5) of Council Decision 2007/779/EC, Euratom of 8 November 2007 establishing a Community Civil Protection Mechanism.
- For the Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova: Civil Protection Directorate which acts on the basis of the Law no. 93 – XVI of 05.04.2007 on Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Service.
- 2) Any communication, correspondence or message to be exchanged between the Services will be sent to the Contact Points.

IV. Financial Commitments

This Administrative Arrangement does not entail financial commitments from either Service. It is understood that each Service bears the cost deriving from the actions undertaken pursuant to this arrangement.

V. Legal Nature

This Administrative Arrangement does not entail any legally binding effects in respect of either Service.

VI. Final arrangements

- 1) This Administrative Arrangement is unlimited in time.
- 2) This Administrative Arrangement may be discontinued:

- a. by either Service, upon notification of a ninety days advance written notice to the other Service; or
- b. at any time by written mutual consent of the Services.

Done in Brussels on 30 May 2012 in two original copies in English.

For the Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection of the European Commission

For the Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova

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