

Brussels, 2 July 2018 (OR. en)

10615/18

PROCIV 46 JAI 712

NOTE

From:	Presidency
To:	Working Party on Civil Protection
Subject:	Work programme of the Austrian Presidency in the field of civil protection

Delegations will find in the annex the work programme of the Austrian Presidency in the field of civil protection.

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Work Programme of the Austrian Presidency in the field of civil protection <u>July – December 2018</u>

Austria is the third country within the current trio (Estonia-Bulgaria-Austria) to hold the Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The Austrian Presidency will focus in particular on disaster recovery strategies and on finalising discussions on the proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

1. Disaster Recovery

To launch a dialogue on disaster recovery measures, the Presidency will organise a workshop for PROCIV delegates and experts on disaster recovery from the Participating States on 10-11 July 2018 in Vienna.

The aim of the workshop is to examine for the first time within the context of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism how disaster recovery is organised in the Participating States. The exchange of knowledge and good practices will promote a common understanding of challenges and needs in the disaster recovery phase. The question of how recovery can support disaster risk reduction will be discussed. The workshop will also explore which concepts currently exist at national level and whether there is already a basic common understanding of disaster recovery in the EU.

A questionnaire from the Austrian Presidency on disaster recovery was disseminated to the Participating States in May 2018 in order to collect information on the availability and use of such strategies in Europe. The results will serve as the basis for discussions during the Presidency workshop.

Based on the results of the workshop, further policy discussions on the subject of disaster recovery will be held in the Civil Protection Working Party. Recommendations and building blocks could be summarised in a Presidency report which will be presented to PROCIV.

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2. Proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism

In November 2017 the Commission adopted a proposal for a Decision amending Decision 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism, with the aim of strengthening prevention, preparedness and response in the EU.

Following the discussions held in PROCIV during the Bulgarian Presidency, the Austrian Presidency will aim to reach an agreement with the European Parliament at first reading as soon as possible.

3. Other relevant topics

PROCIV will be informed, as and when appropriate, on the status and implementation of the CBRN action plan, the future of the European Programme for Critical Infrastructure Protection (EPCIP), including the review of Council Directive 2008/114 on European Critical Infrastructure, the current status of the arrangements for Integrated Political Crisis Response (IPCR) and the planning and implementation of EU HEX-ML 18 (PACE).

4. Presidency-related events in Vienna

- Presidency workshop on disaster recovery, 10-11 July.
- 41st meeting of Directors-General for Civil Protection of the Participating States of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism, 27-28 September.

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5. PROCIV meetings

- 16 July
- 17-18 September
- 17 October (16 October TBC)
- 8 November
- 3 December

6. Deliverables

A Presidency Report on the progress made in the area of civil protection will be submitted to the Council in December.

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