



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
The Secretariat**

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The 22nd OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum

“Responding to environmental challenges with a view to promoting cooperation and security in the OSCE area”

SECOND PREPARATORY MEETING

Montreux, 19 - 21 May 2014

Fairmont Le Montreux Palace, Grand-Rue 100, 1820 Montreux, Switzerland

DRAFT AGENDA

Monday, 19 May 2014

19.00 – 20.30 **Welcome cocktail hosted by the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities**

Tuesday, 20 May 2014

09.00 – 10.30 **Opening Session** (*open to Press*)

Welcoming remarks

Keynote speeches

Selected topics:

- Making cities resilient to disaster and climate risks
- Nexus between natural disasters and security

Statements by Delegations / Discussion

10.30 – 11.00 **Coffee Break**

11.00 – 12.30 **Session I: Adaptation to climate change and disaster risk reduction at local level**

Selected topics:

- Instruments to reduce disaster and climate change risks at local level: assessing risks, prevention, early warning

- Nexus between climate change and disaster risk management and the implementation of the UNECE Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters: role of the media
- Past examples of integrated flood risk management: case studies, lessons learned and best practices

Discussion

12.30 – 14.00 **Lunch hosted by the 2014 Swiss OSCE Chairmanship**

14.00 – 15.30 **Session II: Coping measures to reduce disaster risks at international, cross-border and national level**

Selected topics:

- Improving international co-ordination for environmental emergencies, search and rescue and the use of military and civil defense assets
- Increasing preparedness for cross-border implications (OSCE self-assessment tool)
- Strengthening the capacity of national co-ordination mechanisms for disaster risk reduction in the OSCE region

Discussion

15.30 – 16.00 Coffee Break

16.00 – 17.30 **Session III: Panel Debate – Cross-dimensional impacts of natural and man-made disasters**

Selected topics:

- Possible impacts of natural and man-made disasters on public security
- Population movements in the context of natural disasters
- Approaches to mitigating these effects

Discussion

17.30 – 18.30 **Concluding Session**

- Wrap-up
- Outlook to the Concluding Meeting of the 22nd Economic and Environmental Forum in Prague
- Organizational remarks concerning field visits on 21 May 2014

Closing Statements

19.30 **Reception hosted by the 2014 Swiss OSCE Chairmanship**

Wednesday, 21 May 2014

Disaster Risk Management in a mountain area: Field visits in the Canton of Valais

Excursion 1: Cross-border co-operation in applied disaster risk management along the transnational route of the Grand-Saint-Bernard (Italy-Switzerland)

A) Aim of the Visit

- Participants are introduced to integrated disaster risk management applied in a mountain area and its practical implementation along a transit route;
- Participants gain an insight into transnational co-operation dealing with natural hazards;
- Participants are made aware that dealing with natural hazards includes a multi-stakeholder approach (different administrative levels, different actors from state entities to civil society).

B) Topics to be addressed

- Integrated disaster risk management approach including a mix of measures (e.g. preventive and preparedness measures);
- Multi-hazard approach (natural and technical hazards);
- Italian-Swiss co-operation.

C) Places to be visited

- Several locations along the transit road.

The route of the Grand-Saint-Bernard is a significant transit route linking Italy and Switzerland in a rough mountain area. The route is often affected by a variety of natural hazards. Risk management relates therefore not only to transport safety, but also to a number of Alpine installations (e.g. settlements).

Excursion 1 will provide insights into the applied integrated DRM approach, including protection measures, early warning systems, traffic control, tunnel safety and the Italian-Swiss co-operation.

Excursion 2: Management of natural and technical risks in the municipality of Monthey

A) Aim of the visit

- Participants are introduced to integrated disaster risk management applied in the plain of River Rhone and its practical implementation in a municipality with a multi-hazard situation;
- Participants are aware that dealing with natural hazards includes a multi-stakeholder approach (different administrative levels, different actors from state entities to civil society).

B) Topics to be addressed

- Integrated disaster risk management approach including a mix of measures (e.g. preventive and preparedness measures);
- Land-use planning as important protection measure;
- Importance of sound fundamentals for disaster risk management (hazard and risk assessments, monitoring, participation);
- Multi-hazard approach (natural and technical hazards, especially industrial accidents).

C) Places to be visited

- Different locations in the municipality of Monthey.

The municipality of Monthey, situated in the “plain of River Rhone”, is not only endangered by natural hazards such as floods from the River Rhone/its tributaries and earthquakes, but also by possible accidents stemming from nearby chemical industry.

Excursion 2 will provide insights into the applied integrated DRM approach, including the "3rd Rhone River correctional training works" (in terms of flood protection, water and terrestrial habitats, land use planning), monitoring and warning systems as well as earthquake retrofitting measures. The excursion will also show the emergency plans and precautionary measures taken in case of a major chemical accident.