

**SEEBRIG DISASTER RELIEF OPERATIONS CONCEPT (SEEDRO CONCEPT)**

(Approved during the 22nd SEDM-CC-PMSC meeting in Sofia, Na2)

- References:
- A. The Agreement on the Multinational Peace Force Southeastern Europe (MPFSEE)
  - B. 2nd Additional Protocol attached to the MPFSEE Agreement
  - C. SEEBRIG Directives
  - D. SEEBRIG Standing Operating Procedures (SOPs)
  - E. The Minutes of 20<sup>th</sup> Politico-Military Steering Committee (PMSC) Meeting.
  - F. EADRCC SOP
  - G. NATO MC 343-1 NATO Military Assistance to International Disaster Relief Operations (IDRO)
  - H. SEESIM Lessons Learned.

**1. INTRODUCTION.**

a. The growing dimension, frequency and complexity of disasters, and the increasing number of people affected, demand capability for military as well as civil response. In disasters of great magnitude, national and international relief capacity may be exceeded. Cooperation and Coordination should be a tool for efficiency in to an integrate operation.

b. The increasing demand for international assistance requires Military and Civil Defense Assets (MCDA) to effectively contribute to Disaster Relief Operations (DRO).

c. SEEBRIG was established by the MPFSEE Nations to contribute to peace and stability in Southeastern Europe. With 2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Protocol, Nations

established an Engineer Task Force (ETF). This initiative is to be oriented towards small-scale civil assistance in the interest of the Parties.

HQ SEEBRIG developed this Concept on Disaster Relief Operations (DRO) in accordance with the References.

## 2. **BACKGROUND.**

a. Throughout its history, Southeastern Europe has experienced multiple disasters that have caused significant loss of life, human suffering and property damage.

b. Increased coordination and cooperation among MPFSEE nations could help saving lives and minimize human suffering.

c. Effective response to the disaster is crucial and must be well planned and executed.

d. Previous planning for SEEBRIG operations did not include disaster relief. The current force structure is organized for small-scale civil assistance like:

- (1) Limited road construction and repair,
- (2) Limited bridging,
- (3) Limited rail repair,
- (4) Earth moving,
- (5) Drainage,
- (6) Limited de-mining, Unexploded Ordnance clearance.
- (7) Any other agreed functional areas within capabilities.

e. The participation in DRO is subject of National decisions.

**3. PURPOSE.**

The purpose of this document is to describe the Concept for SEEBRIG's (ETF) role in DRO.

**4. FORCES/UNITS**

In order to fit SEEBRIG to DRO requirements, an AD HOC task force will be constituted with the following core assets:

- a. SEEBRIG Nucleus staff
- b. SEEBRIG HQ Coy
- c. SEEBRIG Signal Coy
- d. ETF.

The need for other units with specific capabilities depending on the DRO needs, skilled personnel, special equipment (both provided by MPFSEE Nations or third parties) and SEEBRIG CE Personnel (if needed) will be determined at the force generation conference and after the FPLT reconnaissance.

**5. RESPONSIBILITIES.**

The decision for participation or deployment of SEEBRIG in DRO, proposed by PMSC, will be subject to approval by the MPFSEE Nations through their respective national legal procedure.

a. THE PMSC.

- (1) Endorses this Concept and submits it for Ministerial approval.
- (2) Approves SEEBRIG DRO deployment plan.
- (3) Approves the Contingency Operation Plan (COP) for Units that will be involved in DRO.
- (4) Directs SEEBRIG on how to respond to a disaster upon request by an affected nation or an International Organization, such as UN, OSCE, NATO and EU within the South Eastern Europe Region.

(5). Approves the Rules of Engagement (ROE) for Task Force proposed by SEEBRIG HQ.

(6). Defines a financial policy for the SEEBRIG Common Budget to be used during DRO, based on SEEBRIG proposals.

(7) Establishes points of contacts with relevant formations within the framework of UN, NATO, OSCE and EU.

b. SEEBRIG HQ.

(1) Will take into consideration the SEEBRIG generic deployment plan for any DRO.

(2) Prepares relevant documents, including directives, contingency operations plans, Standing Operating Procedures (SOP) and Standard Operating Instructions (SOI).

(3) Issues the ROE draft for Task Force participating in DRO and submits to PMSC proposals concerning the financial policy pertaining to DRO.

(4) COMSEEBRIG will assume the OPCON (Operational Control), as described by MPFSEE Agreement, of the assigned TF starting from TOA.

c. Nations' responsibilities

(1) MPFSEE Nations are responsible for their plans, which have to be sent to SEEBRIG HQ. It will be COMSEEBRIG responsibility to recommend on a case-by-case basis the deadline of readiness for mission accomplishment. Confirmation message has to be sent by contributing nations prior to the transfer of authority.

(2) Nations will declare to SEEBRIG HQ the available unit DRO capabilities after the approval of this concept.

6. **ASSUMPTIONS.**

a. A Nation affected by a Disaster or a relevant International Organization requests SEEBRIG's assistance.

b. SEEBRIG is not already involved in PSO or DRO, when the disaster occurs.

c. The financial burden of assistance provision is approved by the MPFSEE nations, and sufficient funds are allocated in the HQ SEEBRIG on case-by-case basis.

d. Possible Disaster Relief Operations can include:

- (1) Flood response operations
- (2) Landslides.
- (3) Earthquake response operations
- (4) Manmade Disasters.