

STATUTE

of the Regional Forum – Meeting of the heads of state bodies of the Central Asian countries authorized in the sphere of prevention and elimination of emergency situations on strengthening regional cooperation in the field of disaster risk reduction

I. General provisions

The Regional Forum – Meeting of the heads of Central Asian countries (hereinafter referred to as the Regional Forum) is created in accordance with outcome documents adopted during the regional ministerial conferences, conducted in 2013-2015 in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic:

- Regional Ministerial Conference “Regional cooperation on Disaster Risk Reduction in Central Asia”, 16-18 October, 2013, Bishkek;
- The second Regional Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Central Asia within the framework of “Central Asia plus Japan” Dialogue, 18-19 September, 2014, Bishkek;
- Central Asia and South Caucasus Regional Ministerial meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction, 29-30 January 2015, Bishkek.

Participating countries of the Regional Forum are the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.

The Regional Forum is a complementary mechanism for coordination of the state bodies authorized in the sphere of emergency prevention and elimination in Central Asian countries, and acts as a permanent consultative platform on strengthening regional cooperation in the field of disaster risk reduction.

The Regional Forum carries out consultative-and-advisory assistance in defining strategic directions of the activities of state bodies authorized in the field of emergency management in Central Asian country-members of the Regional Forum.

The Regional Forum is guided by the objectives of the Agreement between the Republic of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan on cooperation in the field of emergency management dd. 17 July 1998, Cholpon-Ata city, Kyrgyzstan, the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic on cooperation in the field of civil defense (protection), prevention and elimination of emergency situations dd. June 16, 2009, Astana city, Republic of Kazakhstan and the Agreement between the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan on establishment of the Center for Disaster Response and Risk Reduction in Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan dd. 17 May 2013.

In its activity, the Regional Forum will be guided by, and keep to the principles and priorities set out in the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World “Guidelines for the Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation of Consequences”, the outcome principles of the Hyogo Framework Action Program for 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities and Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. The Regional Forum will follow principles with due regard of the national priorities and in accordance with national legislation and international obligations.

II. Tasks and functions

The Regional Forum shall implement the following functions:

- Coordination of the main activities of regional cooperation in the field of disaster risk reduction;
- Assistance in strengthening the capacity of disaster risk reduction, prevention of emergency situations at the regional, national and local levels;
- Cooperation with international, governmental and non-governmental organizations of other countries to study advanced achievements and exchange of experience in the field of emergency prevention and elimination;
- Professional development of experts and specialists of emergency departments by assisting in organizing and conducting the exchange of experience, workshops, training courses and other events;
- Review and approval of analytical and methodological materials on harmonization of the laws of the member states of the Regional Forum, introduction of a common terminology;
- Support of scientific and technical programs for the prevention and investigation of the causes and consequences of emergency situations;
- Control of the expert group activities, including approval of the work plans and results.

III. Composition and authority

The Regional Forum shall comprise a head of the state body authorized in the field of prevention and elimination of the emergencies of each country.

The Regional Forum is entitled to make decisions within its competence. In case of impossibility to attend the meeting for a good reason of any head of the state body authorized in the field of emergency management, his/her functions can be temporarily assigned to the authorized representative of the country concerned, with notification of the Chairman of the Regional Forum.

IV. Working body of the Regional Forum

The expert working group of the state bodies authorized in the field of emergency management of the member countries of the Regional Forum shall act as the Working body of the Regional Forum.

V. Chairmanship

Presidency of the Regional Forum is performed by the head of the state body authorized in the field of emergency management, representing the country on which territory the regular meeting of the Regional Forum takes place. The chair is carried out for a period of one year.

VI. Organization of activities

Regular meetings of the Regional Forum are held without fail, but at least once a year.

The chairing party distributes the draft agenda and the proposal on the timing of the meeting for approval to member countries of the Regional Forum not later than two months prior to the meeting.

Extraordinary meetings of the Regional Forum may be convened upon the proposal of one or more of the participating countries. In such a case, the initiating party shall send in writing to the Chairman of the Regional Forum a proposal, stating the purpose of convening of an extraordinary meeting, time and place of the meeting and the proposed agenda.

Decisions of the Regional Forum are taken by consensus.

Following the meeting of the Regional Forum, the protocol is executed and signed by the heads of delegations of the Regional Forum participating countries.

Expenses related to the participation of national delegations shall be covered by the sending party.

The receiving State shall create favorable conditions for a meeting of the Regional Forum.
