

Slajd 2

# Emergency Management System in Poland

Dr inż. Witold SKOMRA

Government Security Centre

Slajd 3

## Emergency Management (four phases)

- prevention,
- preparedness,
- response,
- recovery.

Slajd 4

## State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions

Emergency Management Teams – territorial perspective

- Prime Minister
- Cabinet of Ministers
- Government Emergency Management Team
- Government Security Centre
  
- Provincial Governor
- Provincial EM Team
- Provincial EM Centre
  
- County Administrator (starost)
- County EM Team
- County EM Centre
  
- District/Borough Administrator or Mayor
- District EM Team
- District EM Centre\*

\* optional

Slajd 5

## State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions

Government Emergency Management Team

- GEMT is an opinion-forming and advising body for matters concerning the initiation and coordination of emergency management actions.
- The Team may hold both open and closed sessions.

Slajd 6

## State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions

Government Security Centre

GSC is a key component of a comprehensive emergency management system, whose idea is – on the one hand - to increase the ability of competent services and public administration authorities to cope with difficult situations, and – on the other hand – to form a capable response system for crisis situations, when routine resources and operational procedures prove insufficient.

Slajd 7

## State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions

Government Security Centre

- State budget financed unit subordinate to the Prime Minister.
- Managed by a Director appointed by the Prime Minister.

Slajd 8

## State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions

The mission and the main task of the GSC is the assessment of threats/hazards and possible responses on the basis of data received from all centres operating within the structures of public administration and from international partners.

The data provides the GSC with a basis to design programmes and procedures for optimum solutions that can be applied in emergencies; the GSC also facilitates coordination of the transfer of information concerning threats/hazards and notifies of the relevant decisions regarding their control.

Slajd 9

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

The GSC provides the Prime Minister, the Cabinet and the Government Emergency Management Team with necessary assistance in the decision-making processes regarding safety in a broad sense, through the supply of substantive reports and documents, analyses and suggested solutions to emergency situations.

Slajd 10

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

Tasks of the Government Security Centre:

- development of a threat catalogue,
- monitoring of threats and hazards present both in the country and abroad,
- initiating emergency management procedures on the national level,
- implementation of planning and policy objectives in the scope of emergency management and the protection of critical infrastructure,
- supervision of the consistency of response procedures,
- organisation and provision of training and exercises in emergency management,
- implementation of the objectives concerning prevention, control and mitigation of situations resulting from incidents of terrorist nature,
- international collaboration in emergency management, especially with NATO and EU.

Slajd 11

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

Cooperation with the Antiterrorist Centre (ATC)

- The ATC is the immediate source of information for the GSC as regards the monitoring of terrorist incidents in Poland and abroad. It also provides the verification of media reports related to this kind of incidents or the risk of their occurrence.
- **When alerted** by the ATC, the GSC initiates emergency response procedures, as required by the law on emergency management.

Slajd 12

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

From the moment it was established, the Government Security Centre has been actively contributing towards the solution of emergency situations, both in Poland and internationally.

Slajd 13

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

Working parties and groups in which members of the GSC participate:

- Working Group of the Energy Security Policy Team,
- Polish – American Group for Terrorist Threats,
- Interdepartmental Team for Terrorist Threats (ITTT),
- Permanent Expert Group for Terrorist Threats of the ITTT,
- Multinational Team for the Prevention of Illegal Proliferation of the Weapons of Mass Destruction and for the Implementation of the Cracow Initiative (Proliferation Security Initiative, PSI),
- Working Group – Transboundary Crisis Management, operating within the Euroregion Neisse,

Slajd 14

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

Working parties and groups in which members of the GSC participate (continued):

- Senior Civil Emergency Planning Committee,
- Interdepartmental Working Party for the Preparation and Implementation of NATO Crisis Management Exercises in Poland (CMX 2009),
- Civil Protection Committee at the NATO SCEPC,
- EU Council Working Group on Civil Protection (PROCIV).

Slajd 15

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

- Amendment of the definition of emergency management (Art. 2)

The idea of this amendment is to extend the range of measures to include the mitigation of the consequences of crisis situations and to limit the regeneration processes to resources and critical infrastructure.

Slajd 16

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

- Change of the definition of a crisis situation

According to the new definition, a crisis situation can only be referred to as such if a threat or hazard occurs that adversely affects the safety of people, property or environment and – at the same time – significantly constrains the actions taken by relevant public administration authorities due to the insufficiency of resources and measures.

Slajd 17

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

Civil emergency planning tasks for provincial governors, county administrators, and district/borough administrators (mayors):

- preparation of emergency management plans;
- preparation of organisational structures involved in emergency situations;
- preparation and maintenance of necessary resources to perform the tasks specified in the emergency management plan;
- management of necessary databases for the emergency management process;
- monitoring of threats and hazards;
- preparation of solutions for the event of damage to critical infrastructure;
- provision of consistency between the emergency management plans and other related plans and schemes, developed by competent public administration authorities that are obliged to prepare the same under separate regulations.

Slajd 18

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

Introduction of new definitions, essential in the process of emergency management, for the following terms:

- planning cycle,
- safety net,
- threat map,
- risk map,
- incident of terrorist nature.

Slajd 19

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

Maintenance of the continuity of response to threats and hazards

- Response levels
- Permanent monitoring and emergency responding
- Crisis situation
- State of national emergency, i.e.:
  - Natural disaster
  - State of emergency
  - Martial law and state of war

Slajd 20

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

- Introduction of the name of „National Emergency Management Plan”,
- Introduction of emergency management plans on all levels of public administration; the plans shall comprise all phases of emergency management (prevention, preparedness, response and recovery).

Slajd 21

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

- Development of a report on the threats to national security.

The report shall be developed by individual ministers to determine the specific risks related to individual areas of administration.

The law designates the director of the Government Security Centre as the coordinator of the work.

Slajd 22

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

- Establishment of a **National Critical Infrastructure Protection Programme**

(Art. 5b) in order to distinguish the facilities, equipment, installations and services that are essential for the security of the state and its citizens and to ensure efficient functioning of public administration authorities, institutions and enterprises. At the same time, the programme is to enable support of the entities that operate or manage the critical infrastructure in the event of its failure.

Slajd 23

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

The law regulates the principles of cooperation regarding prevention, control and mitigation of the consequences of incidents of terrorist nature, between public administration authorities and owner-like and dependent possessors of facilities, installations or equipment of critical infrastructure (Art.12a).

Slajd 24

**State Emergency Management Structure – system assumptions**

Article 12a underlines the role of governmental bodies that are competent to identify, prevent and control threats, including the specific role of the Head of Internal Security Agency, who is granted statutory power to make recommendations to authorities and entities threatened by incidents of terrorist nature, in order to protect the critical infrastructure. At the same time, the regulation allows providing the parties with essential information for the purpose of preventing the threats or adopting countermeasures. The information may also be obtained in the course of operational activities.

Slajd 25

**Thank you for your attention.**