REFORMS IN THE SYSTEM OF CRISIS MANAGEMENT, PROTECTION AND RESCUE

In the Republic of North Macedonia after the achievement of the Prespa Agreement, which resolves the thirty year long dispute with the Republic of Greece, significant reforms are taking place in a number of areas, but the most important are those in the judiciary, the public administration, security, media as well as in the crisis management, protection and rescue management system.

A comprehensive analysis of the crisis system was conducted which showed certain weaknesses, especially from the aspect of dualism in the focus of activities, inefficiency, lack of coordination, lack of unity, rivalty et cetera, which is a result of unsuitable system setup, weaknesses in the functioning of the fire- fighting and other units for protection and rescue.

We are approaching a process of serious reforms, using comparative experiences. Those reforms will include scientific as well as expert assistance from the European Union.

Main priorities are:

- Building a system of prevention and early warning of possible disasters.

- Unification of the entire system and entities which are dealing with crisis, through the provision of a unique system, its functionality and command.

- Defining catastrophe threats, in particular the consequences of climate change, air pollution, terrorism threats , action in conditions of migrant crisis and many more.

The National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction is also being developed in which the priorities of the Sendai Framework for Action are built up, where priority is given to increasing disaster resilience through an integrated water management system, high standards in the construction of schools, hospitals, sports objects and so on.

The influence of the media and the non-governmental sector in the actualization of the need for taking systemic measures for protection and rescue, reducing the consequences in crisis conditions and eliminating the consequences of the crises is being emphasized.

I would like to thank all the countries which supports the reforms in North Macedonia and we hope that the reforms can be used from other countries as well that are working on crises management reforms.

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