THE THREE PILLARS OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT

FIRE PROTECTION

CIVIL PROTECTION

INDUSTRIAL SAFETY
Greetings

A new era began in the life of the Hungarian disaster management on 1 January 2012. Having incorporated the lessons learnt of previous years to the system, today, we are able to meet the challenges before us with an up-to-date and uniform State organization. The new Act on Disaster Management was passed with a two-thirds majority of the National Assembly on 19 September 2011, which entered into force on 1 January 2012.

The four pillars of the act are the strengthening of the protection against major accidents involving dangerous substances, the improvement of population protection, the development of the system of civil protection and the establishment of a uniform and strong disaster management body, including the formulation of the maintenance and control of professional fire brigades by the State.

The great number and the extent of recent disasters: red sludge, inland waters and floods, extreme cold spells, storms, earthquakes, droughts, often with cross-border effects, have taken a huge toll of our country and other nations. They ruined the economic infrastructure, destroyed human lives and values, often entire villages; many houses were made uninhabitable.

The Act on Disaster Management, in accordance with Hungary’s new Fundamental Law, improves the safety of life and property by renewing the disaster management system, significantly extending its duties and competences and creating its uniform control. In Hungary, every citizen must feel safe, and that we must strengthen this safety perception. It is an enormous task and responsibility for us, and I hope that our colleagues will be able to meet this challenge.

The protection against disasters is of national importance. To this end, a profound concentration of efforts is necessary, with well-managed and implemented international cooperation. This comprehensive system is designed to coordinate a global effort, which can appreciably increase the disaster-prevention culture of all responders and citizens, and the performance of uniform and coordinated fire protection, up-to-date civil protection and advanced industrial safety tasks.

We should not forget the red sludge disaster which demonstrated that Hungary must strengthen its industrial safety and place it on a new ground in order to avoid the repetition of such or similar disasters in our country.

In the uniform system of disaster management responsibilities, the protection of the population and property necessary for subsistence is a civil protection task, in the performance of which, besides professional disaster management bodies, obligatory and voluntary civil protection organizations should also play a crucial role.
Greetings

With the organizational transformations, the reorganization of the professional fire brigades, the uniform control of the disaster management system and the optimal planning of the personnel and equipment, a more effective and coordinated action, and, not least, the rational use of material resources can take place and be implemented.

By forming disaster management posts the assistance offered by the intervention forces can come closer to the population, improving the safety of life and property, since by this conversion we can significantly reduce the time between the fire detection signal and the start of intervention.

Those, performing their service in the field of disaster management, have not chosen a job, but a profession. Faithful to their oath and pledge, they fulfill their duties, if necessary risking their lives, and do everything – as they have done so far – so as to see everyone is safe to live in Hungary.

Considering all this I kindly recommend this yearbook to the reader, presenting our activities in 2011.

LTG Dr. György Bakondi
Director General

JANUARY
An Integrated EU Presidency Flood Management Workshop was held in Budapest, Hungary, in the spirit of one of the priorities of the Hungarian EU Presidency, with the participation of experts, who represented 26 countries, the European Commission and the Council Secretariat. On this occasion invitations were sent to the Directors General for Civil Protection of the EU Member States, the EEA Member States and the representatives of Croatia. A leading expert of the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) also participated in the international professional forum as an observer.

FEBRUARY
During the Hungarian EU presidency, a PROCIV Council Working Group meeting took place in Brussels for the second time. The delegations discussed, among others, the achievements of the integrated flood management workshop held in Budapest in January, the draft Council conclusions on the integrated flood management and risk assessment, being one of the priorities of the Hungarian Presidency.
A very strong earthquake, 8.8 on the Richter scale, shook the northern part of Japan. As a result, a tsunami was generated. Japan asked for international assistance, including one from the European Union, and requested, among others, urban search and rescue teams.

A European Union civil protection team (EU CP) was deployed to Japan. The deputy head of the 17-strong EU group was the head of the Section for Operations of NDGDM. He was responsible for the safety and security of the team members, for an eventual evacuation and for organizing the daily activities. He, furthermore, coordinated the activities of the two expert radiologists, working with the team of experts. He compiled the daily reports to EU MIC. The Hungarian expert arrived back in Budapest on 9 April.

The Hungarian National Committee of CTIF held its annual meeting at NDGDM and elected its new chairman, COL László Bérczi, inspector general for the fire service.

APRIL

The European Parliament’s Greens faction organized a two-day debate in the context of the Hungarian EU Presidency, including the topic of the lessons learnt from the red sludge disaster. LTG Dr. György Bakondi, Director General of NDGDM, government commissioner provided information and reflected on the controversial issues during the event.

MARCH

The first half of this year’s plenary session of the NATO Civil Emergency Planning Committee (CEPC) was held in NATO Headquarters in Brussels. A three-member delegation of NDGDM attended the meeting, led by Director General LTG Dr. Bakondi.

The Foreign Minister of Hungary decided to activate the EU Civil Protection Mechanism to grant consular assistance in order to evacuate EU citizens from Libya. As a result of the crisis, over five thousand EU citizens were stranded in the African country.

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MARCH
NDGDM and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences organized a conference on the consequences of and the lessons learnt from the red sludge disaster. Agreements were reached during the event on the cooperation between the two institutions.

Three civil protection officers began their operation in Malta. Two persons from NDGDM and one from the Office of Immigration and Nationality traveled to the island country to support the international group, which worked at the British Mission to help evacuate EU citizens trapped in Libya.
A large-scale civil protection exercise was held in the Netherlands, financially supported by the European Commission, in which Hungarian disaster management experts also took part.

The 3rd conference of the UN Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was held in Geneva, attended by NDGDM experts.

In the spirit of the Hungarian European Union Presidency, NDGDM and DG ECHO of the European Commission co-organized in Budapest the 26th Meeting of the Civil Protection Directors General of EU, EEA and candidate countries.

A three-day international conference was held in Budapest on the lessons learnt from the elimination of the consequences of the red sludge disaster.

An international disaster management exercise was held in Tolna County as part of the IRIS European Union Project, simulating the damages caused by a strong earthquake and the rescue of the injured following the disaster.

MAL Ltd. arrived at the final, third phase of the transition to dry technology, so that two fifty-ton filtering devices, manufactured in Graz, were delivered to Ajka.

A two-day international conference was held in Budapest in order to establish the Cooperation Forum of European Civil Protection Organizations and to found the Regional Partnership Cooperation.
JULY

Lyushun Shen, Taiwan’s deputy minister of foreign affairs and its Budapest ambassador visited Devecser and Somlóvásárhely, where they handed over freely usable ten and five thousand dollars, respectively, to the leaders of the two settlements.

A Hungarian energetic expert was sent to Cyprus to provide assistance in the elimination of the malfunction caused by an explosion of the Vassilikos Power Plant operating next to the premises of a naval base.

A celebration was conducted in the Ministry of the Interior to commemorate the successful fulfillment of the Hungarian EU Presidency events in the first half of 2011 and the efficient state supervision of MAL Zrt., where awards were handed over to the beneficiaries.

JUNE

Organized by the Hungarian EU Presidency, the 2nd meeting of EU and US experts on critical infrastructure protection was held in Budapest, attended by some 100 experts from the US, Canada, the European Commission and European Union member states.

In the framework of the DRAVIS 2 Project, an international disaster relief and cooperation exercise was conducted in Harkány, Baranya County.

The disaster management directors general of the V4 countries held their annual meeting in Kistapolisány (Topolčianky), Slovakia on the tasks performed and the possibilities lying within the regional cooperation.

A sequential conference of the “CivPro” international project, to be implemented within the framework of the EU INTERREG IVC Program was held in Miskolc.

The state supervision of MAL Ltd. terminated.

NDGDM organized a National Disaster Risk Assessment Conference involving the Hungarian entities affected.
An exhibition of photos made by news agencies after the terrorist attack on 11 September 2011 in New York was opened in the Fire Museum.

In Poland, at several sites, the EU CARPATHEX 2011 international exercise was conducted, based mainly on chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear threats. The 23-strong Hungarian search and rescue team successfully fulfilled the tasks assigned to it.

In Sweden, at the invitation of the Stockholm fire service, five experts from NDGDM and the Budapest fire service took part in a metro fire exercise.

The Hungarian Parliament adopted the new Act on disaster management by a two-thirds majority.

The fourth meeting of the Joint Committee of Hungarian-Ukrainian Intergovernmental Cross-border Cooperation was held in Ungvár (Uzhgorod).

The EU disaster management directors general held their regular meeting in Krakow, Poland. The Hungarian disaster management was represented by Director General LTG Dr. György Bakondi.

AUGUST

The heads of the Ukrainian and Hungarian disaster management met for the third time in Ungvár (Uzhgorod), Ukraine to renew the cooperation agreement between the two countries in this field.

A professional firefighting delegation from Warsaw visited a group of firefighters of the Hungarian capital.

Experts from the European Investment Bank visited Kolontár, a site of the red sludge disaster.

A 20-person Hungarian rescue team left Szolnok for Moldavia to participate in the NATO CODRII 2011 international exercise, together with the representatives of other 33 countries, between 27 August and 1 September.

SEPTEMBER

Budapest hosted the highest level international search and rescue dog exam, attended by search and rescue experts and their dogs from eight countries.
Experts from the Swedish Social Board visited NDGDM to study the red sludge disaster’s health and medical science lessons learnt.

The President of the Association of the European Union’s Professional Fire Officers Federations (FEU) arrived in Hungary to participate in the twentieth anniversary celebrations of the foundation of HÖTOSZ (Association of Professional Municipal Fire Brigades), and paid a visit to NDGDM as well.

Organized by the Százhalmobatta FER Fire Brigade, the 6th International Conference of Industrial Fire Brigades was conducted there.

The Disaster Management Training Center, the CTIF Hungarian National Committee and Disaster Management Scientific Council elaborated the topic of fire interventions during the recent flood and inland water management efforts at a scientific conference jointly organized by them.

**OCTOBER**

On the first anniversary of the red sludge disaster the Ministry of the Interior, NDGDM and the local governments affected organized a commemorative meeting. In Kolontár, a memorial was inaugurated, in Devecser, an eight-hectare memorial park was handed over, built on the ruins of the demolished houses.

NATO Civil Protection Group held this year’s seminar in Budapest. At the meeting, the risks and emergencies causing work for civil protection, and the challenges evoked by globalization were also discussed.

The meeting of the Hungarian and Austrian directors general for disaster management was held in Sopron.

The Hungarian-Romanian Joint Committee on Disaster Management held its meeting in Szatmárnémeti (Satu Mare). The close-border county disaster management directors also attended the session.

**NOVEMBER**

A five-person delegation, consisting of police experts and disaster management psychologists traveled to Hurghada, Egypt, where a bus transporting Hungarian tourists suffered a road accident. The experts provided post-trauma care for the Hungarian casualties, besides clarifying the reasons and circumstances of the accident.

**DECEMBER**

The Central Fire Orchestra took part in a successful guest appearance in Germany, during the traditional Advent musical and cultural events in Deudesfeld.

A six-strong Hungarian firefighting delegation took part in a flash-over container exercise in Vasteras, Sweden.
Authoritative tasks

In the context of market supervision activities, it performs the licensing of the production and sale of fire safety engineering equipment, extinguishing substances, products and assets. It keeps record in its scope of supervision of service activities and controls the activities of organizations maintaining and reviewing fire extinguishers, of training organizers preparing candidates for examinations of fire protection specialists and the examiners themselves, of remote monitoring services receiving fire signals and errors, furthermore, of designers and maintainers of built-in fire detection and fire extinguishing equipment.

The activities of fire extinguisher, and built-in fire protection equipment maintainers, remote monitoring service providers, training organizers, special examiners and construction equipment dealers were inspected in a total number of 202, compared to 34 inspections planned for 2011.

In the case of 136 inspections, no deficiencies were revealed, so the process was terminated. 20 cases ended with obligation, meaning the termination of the production...
Specialized authoritative activities

The specialized authority took part primarily in the second instance processes conducted by Government Offices, and also in certain activities as a first instance specialized authority. In Budapest and in first instance specialized authoritative processes conducted by county disaster management directorates NDGDM fulfilled the role of second instance specialized authority. In this legal competence, it drafted 60 second instance specialized authoritative statements, and in the case of high-value investments, it acted as a second instance specialized authority or authority in 29 cases.

Numerous conferences were organized, like the “Fire Protection Seminar”, where designers and contractors in the construction business with engineering methods were acquainted. This event was continued at the end of the year at the “Liszt Ferenc” International Airport, where a practical demonstration of engineering methods used in theory took place.

Experts were trained in the framework of a series of training, in accordance with the Decree on the rules of fire safety activities.

MARKET SUPERVISORY INSPECTIONS IN 2011

of construction products and fire safety engineering devices, their further sale and the withdrawal of products sold. In a total of 16 cases, market supervision fines were imposed and the recovery of fines by way of taxes were initiated against enterprises not willing to pay the fines imposed by final judgment.

One of the largest areas of authoritative tasks is the licensing of derogations from certain stipulations of rules and regulations. Approximately 300 decisions were issued by the Inspectorate General within the derogation from the provisions of the National Fire Protection Regulation and from the licensing procedure of built-in fire extinguishers, not regulated by a national standard.

In 2011, 46 persons submitted applications to NDGDM to obtain a fire protection expert permit, of whom 30 passed the examination.

In 204 cases last year, a total of nearly HUF 34.1 million of fire protection fines was imposed.

Interpretations of law, principled position takings and consultations on standards, furthermore, fire safety consultations of different types were conducted 615 times in connection with fire safety related installation engineering cases.
Firefighting, technical rescue

The operation of fire brigades and the renewal of their organization necessitated amending and creating several legal statutes and internal normative regulations. Five new decrees were issued:

- on municipal and industrial fire brigades, and on the rules relating to the contribution to the maintenance of professional fire brigades, municipal fire brigades and voluntary firefighting associations (Gov. Decree No. 239/2011. (XI. 18.);
- on the general rules of firefighting and technical rescue activities of fire brigades (Mol Decree No. 39/2011. (XI. 15.);
- on the scope of services that may be provided by professional fire brigades, and on the rules of benefits of the capacity utilization of properties and equipment serving professional firefighting purposes (Mol Decree No. 42/2011. (XI. 30.);
- on the minimum number of personnel of municipal fire brigades, the minimum quantity and quality of facilities and equipment and on the performance of duty shifts (Mol Decree No. 48/2011. (XII. 15.);
- on the rules of fire investigation (Mol Decree No. 44/2011. (XII. 5). Furthermore, the updated versions of the specialized manuals on firefighting tactics and technical rescue operations, and 11 NDGDM instructions were issued.

Deployment data of fire brigades

Professional municipal fire brigades and voluntary fire brigades with areas of operation had a total of 69,830 deployments, exceeding the average of the previous eight years by 5%; however, generating a number of alerts 27% less than in 2010 (94,714).

Out of 29,920 fire-related activities 25,383 required intervention, 2,702 incidents were eliminated before arrival and 1,835 fires were notified posteriorly.

Out of 28,255 technical rescue-related incidents 27,324 required intervention, 909 incidents were eliminated before arrival, 22 incidents were notified posteriorly. False alarms were submitted 10,114 times, deliberate false alarms were sent 1,541 times to the professional disaster management bodies.

The number of fires increased by 79% compared to 2010, while the number of technical rescue operations decreased by 56.88%. Both alterations are due to the...
The statistical data collection system (KAP-Online), new, compared to previous years, bringing a significant improvement, was introduced on 1 January 2011. The renewal of the statistical system, a more precise categorization of data in the database and flexible query system provides an efficient support to this work.

Fire investigation

From the 29,920 fires in 2011, the investigation of 1,499 fires (5%) were launched. This means an average of 75 investigations per regional body. In the areas of competence of the Budapest Fire Service (327), Pest County DMD (106), Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County DMD (110) and Bács-Kiskun County DMD (108) the numbers of fire investigations were higher than average.

In connection with the fire investigations conducted on first instance, clients appealed at NDGDM four times. In order to uniform fire investigations written informative materials were drafted.

Relations with the Fire Investigation Advisory Board

The Fire Investigation Advisory Board provides assistance in organizing the work of fire investigation. At the meetings of the Board the regulation, issues in connection with the implementation, the equipment and personnel requirements of fire investigation are discussed.
In 25.8% of fire investigations the exclusion of the fire brigade exercising the authoritative competence was requested, therefore the first instance procedure was conducted by the designated authority. Before the amendment of the instructions in April, the ratio of exclusions exceeded 80%, however, the amendment and the uniformization of aspects significantly reduced it.

76% of fire investigations were launched due to death or suspected act of crime. Due to the level of the incident 88 investigations, for professional reasons 238 investigations were initiated. Less than 10 investigations were started due to damage value, firefighter injury, fire in buildings of mass gatherings or malfunctioning of fire detectors.

Besides theoretical advanced training courses, and in the spirit of social responsibility, - offered by and with the participation of E.ON Central Trans-Danubian Gas Network Ltd. and other electricity suppliers – special theoretical and practical training courses were conducted on one hand to prepare for and respond to accidents in the gas industry, on the other hand to respond professionally to incidents in the presence of electric current. Some 600 firefighters and technical rescuers took part in the courses.

Last year, in order to lay down the legal background of the responsibilities of the specialized field of industrial safety – based on the new Act on Disaster Management – the implementation decrees on the protection against major accidents involving hazardous materials, on the disaster management contribution and fine, on the administration service fees, and on the internal regulations in connection were adopted.

One of NDGDM’s main tasks is to operate the authoritative licensing and supervision system relating of 91 lower tier and 78 upper tier hazardous industrial establishment under the Seveso II Directive. In 2011, 38 lower and 67 upper tier hazardous industrial plants went through the authoritative inspection, upon which the authority obliged operators to re-conduct the onsite emergency management plan exercises in 5 cases, to revise the onsite emergency management plan in 3 cases and the safety documentation in 4 cases.

At hazardous industrial plants in 2011, licensing procedures were launched 43 times, during which NDGDM participated in 7 public hearings, and 4 times fines had to be imposed for unlicensed hazardous activity.
Transportation of dangerous goods

The number of ADR inspections by disaster management directorates (DMD) on public roads was 996, while in depots this number amounted to 594.

ADR inspectors checked a total of 13,964 vehicles, out of which 2,175 were vehicles transporting dangerous goods.

In 2011, out of the ADR vehicles inspected during roadside checks, in 175 cases were certain deficiencies or malpractice belonging to risk categories I-III revealed, after which DMDs took the necessary authoritative actions.

In connection with the omissions revealed during the inspections, DMDs issued a total of 69 written notifications and launched procedures 253 times, out of which 233 ended up with fines imposed.
In the period between March and June, extraordinary ADR inspections were carried out at illegal LPG cylinder filling sites. 3,531 LPG cylinder stockists were inspected, unlawful actions conflicting ADR regulations being uncovered at 146 sites. In the decisions issued in 2011, a total of HUF 95,651 million of fines were imposed, the revenue of which amounted to HUF 50,995 million. From the fines imposed in previous years, payments made up in 2011 an additional amount of HUF 16,115 million.

The training for ADR specialized desk officers continued according to the practice of previous years, and a course for dangerous goods managers was also conducted. In preparing to the new tasks, resulting from legislative changes, further training courses were held on the statutory provisions relating to the transportation of dangerous goods by rail, water and air.

**Critical infrastructure protection (CIP)**

In 2011 at the NDGDM, the focus was on the preparation of statutory provisions, public entity organizational control tools
and internal regulations in the field of CIP. As a result, the new Act on Disaster Management contains empowering provisions relating to CIP. Its implementation decree contains the CIP-oriented concept definitions. Minister of the Interior (MoI) Decree No. 62/2011. (XII. 29.) regulates the functions of MoI organs in relation to CIP. NDGDM Instruction No. 49/2011. on the implementation of Government Decree No. 285/2007. (X.29.) on the designation procedures of fundamental and essential users was issued. On that basis, county disaster management directorates, as authorities of first instance, assessed the fundamental and essential consumers.

The sector for CIP of NDGDM – in the context of its international tasks – participated in the compilation of the report to the European Commission, in the working out of the criteria for the national critical infrastructure sectors (transport and energy), and in the preparation of a meeting of CIP national contact points. In the context of the Hungarian EU Presidency, a CIP-related conference was held in June with the participation of experts from the European Commission and the United States. The CIP branch provided representation at the 2011 Seminar of the NATO Civil Protection Group, at NATO CMX II Exercise, and at the 1st CIP Regional Meeting. Under the coordination of the National Safety Inspectorate, the CIP field as a coordinating body, actively participated in NATO “Cyber Coalition 2011” Exercise, with 23 participating Member States.

Under the leadership of NDGDM, the CIP Working Group on Civil Protection was established in September. The CIP branch, in 2012, operates under the National Industrial Safety Inspectorate General.

In the framework of the process leading to the renewal of the system of protection against disasters, the concept on the improvement and development of the disaster management system has been elaborated, leading up to a uniform regulation. The concept covered the strengthening of the disaster management system and main tracks of the legislative amendments to be adopted in order to increase the efficiency of the disaster management measures.

Civil protection tasks were integrated into the system of disaster management, at the same time, into the act on disaster management. The rules on civil protection tasks, organization, operation and structure, as an integral part of the protection against disasters, in line with the challenges of the modern era were formulated. The clear separation of the dual function of civil protection tasks were accomplished. Thus, civil protection tasks relating to the protection against disasters came under the new disaster management system, whilst civil protection tasks during an armed conflict, were subjected to the scope of Act CXIII of 2011 on National Defense and
Raising public awareness

Within the integrated system of disaster management responsibilities, in order to dynamically develop the segments of population protection it was necessary to review and assess the pivotal public awareness-raising duties, through which, common disaster management knowledge, self-rescue skills could be increased, greater social responsibility be achieved. First, youth training was put on new foundations in concert with the act on public education of 2011, along three main directions:

- reform of advanced training for teachers
- disaster management subject in the higher education
- emergency training of pupils.

During the spring flood situation, NIGCP held training courses for teachers, applying a method which focused on past experience combined with local features. Based on the feedback of participants, teachers recognized the importance of the preparation. According to this experience, the module-type insertion of emergency knowledge into the National Basic Curriculum was justified.

Based on the results of the Children’s Safety Conference, organized during the Hungarian EU Presidency, NIGCP announced the 3x3 action plan for children and youth training. Each of the pillars (a total of 9) of the action plan defines specific tasks and responsibilities, the fulfillment of which ensures the development and expansion of the children’s and adolescents’ emergency knowledge as widely as possible. The main goal is to give every child an opportunity to become familiarized
facilities (nearly 40 institutes). Based on this experience, it is planned to extend the training in the school year 2012/2013.

In order to establish, continuously operate and develop the reformed system it was also necessary to revive the network of county public awareness mentors, which was strengthened during the mentors’ professional days. In the second half of the year, based on the agreement with the Ministry of National Resources, the process of the integration of disaster management knowledge into the National Basic Curriculum started. Based on preliminary consultations, the basic skills sets were formulated, which should become part of the primary and secondary school education, adjusted to the curriculum-model.

with the typical local threats of their environment and with the responses to the threats (forms of behaviour), also to personally meet with their professional disaster management officer.

Prevention and safety can thus become an integral part of their everyday lives. The action plan includes a curriculum model, compiled and based on curricular themes, used in public education. The above-mentioned method, from kindergarten to the eighth elementary school grade, makes specific proposals on the possibilities of integrating disaster management skills in different subjects. The curriculum model is used in five counties, in designated test
Rehabilitation and reconstruction

The most important recovery task of 2011 was to remediate the damages caused by the red sludge disaster of 2010, constructing houses for the people living in the area and rehabilitating the area. During the recovery from the red sludge disaster, NIGCP’s primary task was to coordinate activities of cooperation of the partner entities that were involved into the management of the above emergency, decontamination, rehabilitation, donation, and monitoring.

Having summarized the lessons learnt from the response, protection and recovery actions following the red sludge disaster, in order to prevent further similar cases, NIGCP started laying down the Disaster Management Act on a new foundation, which, in addition to creating efficient management and leadership, addressing prevention as a due priority, created an expansion of the disaster management authoritative and specialized authoritative competences, also raising public awareness.

Force majeure subsidy

During the compensation of damages caused by the red sludge disaster, 111 new properties were built and 129 units of used property were purchased. The owners of 72 residential properties asked for cash redemption. The restoration of 54 residential housing units was completed.

To prevent flood damages similar to the ones in 2010, based on the decision of the Government, disaster management actively participated in implementing flood management investments in Borsod County.

In 2011, a total of 601 force majeure applications were financed in the amount of HUF 4 billion 376 million 987 thousand for the municipalities and micro-regional associations to support the additional response spending, and to restore their property, performing mandatory local governmental functions.

In 2011, 43 force majeure advance payment demands were granted to the municipalities in the value of HUF 1 billion 132 million 857 thousand.

Deployable forces

The National Deployment Control Plan (NDCP) ensures the alert, the activation and the all-round support of the use and activities of disaster management, HDF, the Police, prison service, customs personnel in order to manage a flood emergency, occurring in Hungary, as well as rapid response to deployment situations.

Based on NDCP, over 28 thousand persons may participate in response efforts, integrating. The personnel of professional disaster management bodies, civil protection organizations, the National Tax and Customs Office, the Police and the Prison Service.
Nuclear emergency management

In 2011, the modernization of the Mol radiological telemetry network, forming part of the national nuclear emergency preparedness early warning and alert system continued, resulting in the operation of 26 radiological stations. It is planned that three additional stations will be installed in the territory of Slovakia, near Mohi (Mochovce) Nuclear Power Plant. During the year, special attention was paid to continuously monitor and check the Hungarian and the European radiation environment, especially in the neighboring countries.

The transfer from the then Linux platform of the emergency decision support system, the Hungarian RODOS center, working at NDGDM, to the Java-based RODOS (JRODOS) system, used on international level, was completed.

As a new element in public awareness, NDGDM conducted a communication exercise in April and May with the National Media and Infocommunications Authority and the media service providers. In November, NDGDM successfully implemented the national notification and command post, as well as a national trial public alert and warning exercise, combined with a national civil protection mobilization exercise.

Main Duty Service

The 24/7 Main Duty Service of NDGDM and its control department have been operating as an independent organizational unit since July 2010.

As far as the personnel, they are well-trained young officers from different fields, with experience in standby duty work. In addition to experience a great emphasis is laid on fulfilling training requirements and conducting advanced courses.

The establishment of the new county deployment control system and the duty system is going on, with the final date of completion on 30 June 2012. The build out of the county based deployment control system, originating in the new disaster management act and its implementation decrees has started. The fundamental change is, that the reception and handling of emergency calls, and the control of response forces are transferred from local to county level. The Alert and Assistance Plan was replaced by the County Operations Control Plan on 1 January 2012. Duty sections were created at the county directorates, which, besides comprising the Main County Duty Service, include the Operations Control Duty Service, the Disaster Management Operations Service and the Disaster Management Mobile Laboratory.

Economic management of NDGDM

The essential tasks of NDGDM’s economic management were the strict cost saving, the well-designed and proportionate cost expenditure, the implementation of a consequential and disciplined management, and the strengthened governing role of the central control body, supporting the work of the county directorates according to the modified structure and management system, and the preparation of the integration of the professional municipal fire brigades in an economic sense.

The annual budget of the disaster management organization for 2011 amounted to HUF 10 billion 763.2 million of expenditures and HUF 385.9 million of revenues. Following the extraordinary Government action, HUF 7 billion 103 million was granted to professional municipal firefighters and professional fighters under NDGDM for reimbursing their unpaid overtime allowances. The allocation ensured the reimbursement of 8,178 firefighters.
In order to gain access to the subsidy of HUF 120 million, NDGDM invited applicants for the operation of voluntary fire associations, voluntary firefighters’ education and training, and improving technical supply. Against the resources allocated, 315 associations received an average of HUF 380,950 grant application amount. The goal of supporting voluntary fire brigades in 2011 was to ensure the continuity of their standby duty service, as well as to contribute to the maintenance and operational costs. Firefighter federations could spend the amounts allocated to them on supporting their professional and organizational events and on organizing fire competitions for industrial and youth, county and regional, and Budapest firefighters, or on financing the operating conditions.

Fire protection fines and the realized revenues from the 1.5% fire protection contributions of insurance companies amounted to HUF 4 billion 854.7 million in 2011. NDGDM spent the allocation available, in the framework of fire safety engineering upgrades, on purchasing fire appliances and water tenders, on upgrading fire engines, purchasing protection equipment for fire fighters, renovation and construction of fire stations, procuring laboratory materials, and on the operation and upgrade of public monitoring alert and information equipment.

NDGDM set and is setting as a basic target the protection of human life, valuables and property, the preservation of the tranquility of everyday life of common people, victims, and protection of the interests of the helpless. Due to the red sludge spill on 4 October 2010, in the areas of the settlements of Kolontár, Devecser, Somlóvásárhely, Kamond, Tüskevár and Apácatonna the damage was significant in both private property of residents, as well as local government property. Based on a survey, the number of buildings damaged was 367.

Based on mitigation grants in force, a total of 112 newly-built properties were built and 121 used properties were purchased. During the mitigation activities, a total of 377 mitigation contracts were signed on the damages, secondary damages, caused by vibrations induced by transportation vehicles. NDGDM paid HUF 12 billion 577 million in 2011 in connection with the expenditures generated by the red sludge disaster.

In addition to NDGDM’s professional management and financing, as a result of previous applications and in order to ensure appropriate working and housing conditions for professional fire brigades, as well as the performance of the tasks originating in their basic function, the construction of new fire stations started in four settlements: Balatonfüred, Marcali, Monor and Szarvas.

In addition to the project, the renovation 20 fire stations began. During the renovation, besides upgrading and conserving, energy saving solutions necessary for the economical operation of fire stations, primarily thermal and HVAC design improvements, were on the top of the priority list.

From amongst them, the renovation of the fire stations in Mosonmagyaróvár, Baja, Kisújszállás, Kapuvár and Szabadszállás were completed, fifteen other fire stations will be handed over in 2012.

In order to increase the efficiency of the uniform management and supply tasks, a new unified, transparent and cost-effective system of norms, a uniform design was developed and introduced.

When purchasing equipment, the establishment of a central supply system, operated based on actual tasks and needs, began. In 2011, six mid-class fire engines, nine 6,800-liter water transport vehicles, two 8,000-liter water transport vehicles were purchased and nine fire engines were completely renovated, as well as firefighting, technical rescue, and other specialized and protective equipment were procured.
In the field of HR the priority issues were to ensure personnel for the operation of the organization, to prepare the organizational upgrade, to timely implement the changes in the organizational structure, to elaborate new human resources functions and planning and to raise a well-trained and suitable labor force. The planning work went on closely together with the consideration of development ideas coming from the professional and the economic field and the ascertainment of human resources needs.

Several decrees of the Government and the Minister of the Interior, regulating professional work, were amended and several new cooperation agreements were signed. The Disaster Management Human Resources Regulation provides guidance to and assistance in the human resources activities of regional and local bodies and standardizes the order of procedure.

Disaster management agencies, by the end of 2011, had 1,938 (1,175 professional, 750 public servant and 13 government servant) statuses in regulation. The December 2011
Within the framework of the introduction of the uniform law enforcement career model, the disaster management career path was established, the elaboration of which started by the transformation of the training system. At the National University of Civil Service, a Disaster Management Institute was set up with an independent status, covering the entire range of disaster management training, in the preparation of which the educational field had an enormous role.

The professional and examination requirements for fire protection, disaster management and civil protection qualifications were revised and issued for fulfilling duty posts. In the field of special training activities, in order to meet the qualification requirements, 25 training courses were launched for 569 persons, which resulted in a significant quantitative improvement compared to the statistics of previous years.

During the year, the key objective of health and psychological activities were to perform a regular check of the personnel to enforce service and job requirements in order to ascertain whether a staff member is fit for service while performing the duty obligations and before entering the ranks and files, physically and psychically.

Completion rate was 94.5%. No organizational changes were made to professional municipal fire brigades; the total number of personnel was 9,014, which was filled up to 96.7% at the end of the period evaluated.

The data bank of disaster management leaders was compiled for the first time. It will form the basis of the 2012 enrollment plan, and the planning of leadership replenishment.

The quantitative indicator of activities performed was the traffic of personnel files, which reached 3,000 units.

A uniform data management, an effective, timely and accurate human resources and labor force management was implemented. Nationally, a new personnel number reporting structure was established in order to keep central, regional and local bodies’ personnel status up to date.

On the first anniversary of the red sludge disaster 2,000 persons were awarded Order of Merit for Exceptional Deeds and 654 persons received the Minister’s Acknowledgement Certificate, issued to the professionals and public/civil servants and NGOs who took part in the rescue and reconstruction. At four occasions, at national and NDGDM holidays other awards were handed over as well.

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As a result of schooling and training, the personnel of the branch were able to perform their job on an increasing level of excellence. The professional activity in connection with the establishment of the Health, Psychology and Occupational Safety Supply Centers started. Their operation in the future will increase the level of care of the disaster management personnel.

An important task was to reorganize crisis intervention activities. After the first inaugurate meeting of the Crisis Intervention Group (CIG), the organizational and operational policies were established in conjunction with the Home Defense and Law Enforcement Section and Disaster Psychology Section of the Hungarian Psychological Association. Until the complete formation of CIG the crisis intervention activities will be performed by its own personnel.

The psychological operation in connection with a bus accident of Hungarians in Egypt was an outstanding task. In the evening of the tragedy a CIG was waiting for the tourists arriving home and an expert granted psychic support to the victims on the site of the accident.

In 2011, the priority tasks were in connection with the Hungarian EU Presidency, the successful implementation of which was undoubtedly an outstanding objective for the entire organization.

The Hungarian EU Presidency fulfilled its intended results in the context of disaster management; three major Council Conclusions were adopted by the Justice and Home Affairs Council on integrated flood management, disaster risk assessment and in the field of critical infrastructure protection.

The multiple presidency functions of the EU Council PROCIV, Civil Protection Working Group in the first half of 2011 were performed by a Presidency Staff consisting of NDGDM personnel. At EU level, NDGDM presided six PROCIV meetings and adopted three Council Conclusions with consensus. It directed the Working Group on EU’s Emergency and Crisis Coordination Arrangements (EU CCA) “Friends of the EU Presidency” to review EU CCA.
In relation to the direction of the European Union’s disaster relief operations, the Hungarian EU Presidency activated the EU Civil Protection Mechanism three times. In the context of the crisis in Libya, Hungary offered two aircraft to bring EU and third-country nationals in safety. NDGDM, during the disasters evolved under the Presidency, augmented EU MIC with two civil protection officers in Brussels, thus ensuring the smooth operation of the MIC, not least the rapid and accurate flow of information.

In addition, two coordination officers were sent to Malta to facilitate the coordination of evacuation operations. After the earthquake struck Japan, an NDGDM officer fulfilled the post of deputy leader of the EU damage assessment and coordination team. It maintained a duty-level standby service for half a year for the sake of effective coordination of international relief operations.

Hungarian EU Presidency events, organized by NDGDM in Hungary were:

a. Integrated Flood Management Presidency Workshop, 24–26 January
b. 25th Meeting of CCA of the SEVESO II Directive, 05–08 April
c. 26th Meeting of the Civil Protection Directors General of EU, EEA and candidate countries, 23–25 May.
d. 2nd meeting of EU and US experts on critical infrastructure protection, 08–10 June.

Based on the informal evaluation of the representatives in the European Union’s system, the Hungarian Presidency, in a very difficult time, performed more and better than expected, in an imaginative and creative style. The very strong half-year presence of the Hungarian Presidency can set the foundation for the next coming years EU advocacy work.

At the end of the Hungarian EU Presidency, the important personalities of the Commission (Head of Unit Hans Das) and the Council Secretariat General (Director Sabine Ehmkke-Gendron) and the representatives of the large Member States (DE, FR, UK) all congratulated the Hungarian Presidency, acknowledging its performance.

INTERNATIONAL DISASTER RELIEF GRANTED IN 2011

Libya

During the crisis in Libya, the Hungarian EU Presidency activated the EU Civil Protection Mechanism in order to evacuate European Union citizens stranded in Libya. The Hungarian Government offered a 180-seater MALÉV aircraft to evacuate the Hungarian and other European Union citizens stranded in Libya. NDGDM received a 50% co-financing through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. Because of the escalation of the crisis NDGDM sent two civil protection operations officers to Malta in order to assist the multinational maritime and air transport manager group operating at the British mission.

Due to the influx of refugees from Libya, in order to prevent the emerging humanitarian disaster in Egypt and Tunisia, the EU CP Mechanism was re-activated for the repatriation of third country citizens stranded in refugee camps. The Hungarian Government offered an air lift capacity. NDGDM was responsible for organizing the operations.

Japan

Due to the earthquake of magnitude 9 on the Richter scale that occurred on 11 March and in connection with the subsequent tsunami and the nuclear disaster, the EU Civil Protection Mechanism was activated. EU MIC sent a civil protection
International Relations

Besides the Presidency events, there were many important meetings between leaders in 2011, such as with Rashid Khalikov, Director of UN OCHA in Geneva, or the Hungarian-Serbian Directors General Meeting, which was intended to prepare the Disaster Management Government Agreement between the two countries. In June, the Slovak Republic hosted the upcoming V4 Disaster Management Directors General meeting. In August, the Hungarian-Ukrainian Joint Committee Meeting was organized, and in September a two-member delegation represented Hungary at the EU CP Directors General Meeting in Poland. The Hungarian-Austrian meeting of Directors General and the Hungarian-Romanian Joint Committee Meeting also took place.

Next to the meetings above, Hungary also took part in field exercises in 2011. In September, a 23-strong rescue team from the Hungarian disaster management, two observers and two evaluators took part in the EU-CARPATHEX field and command post exercise in Poland, later a 20-strong Hungarian disaster management and rescue team represented Hungary at field exercise NATO CODRII in Moldova. Hungary also closed a good year in the field of NATO activities. In October, in Budapest, the Ministry of the Interior hosted the NATO Civil Protection Group (CPG) Seminar, whose main theme was how to protect against new security challenges. The seminar was attended by personnel from NDGDM and the county DMDs; in addition 23 other NATO countries and the CP-oriented members of the NATO International Staff represented themselves.

Colleagues delegated by NDGDM regularly take part in 12 different courses based on pre-determined country quota, organized by the EU CP Mechanism. By the end of 2011, NDGDM could reach its highest number of experts sent to EU courses with 25 delegates.

Cyprus

On 11 July an explosion occurred in Cyprus’s largest and most modern power plant, resulting in the death of 13 people and a severe power shortage developed. Cyprus asked for the activation of the EU CP Mechanism, through which power generators and technical experts were requested. NDGDM in cooperation with the Hungarian Power Companies designated an expert to the EU MIC team, who took part in the damage assessment and recovery advice.

Bus accident in Egypt

After the tragic accident of a bus transporting Hungarian tourists on 6 November, NDGDM sent a psychologist to Hurghada in order to provide psycho-social care for the injured and their family members.
Quality control system

NDGDM management recognized that quality is the determining factor of operation, and to function effectively, to reach the professional goals and the steady and uniform solidity, integrated quality control system is intrinsic to the legal, professional and international harmony. NDGDM has committed itself to continuous improvement of administration activities, to manage the quality of service as a priority. Because of all this it decided in December 2001 implement and operate a uniform disaster management quality control system. After the development, setup and introduction of the system, it has been operating since 2004 as a quality control system certified by an independent, internationally accredited certifying organization under ISO 9001:2009.

The uniform, process-oriented professional and quality control system is the proven criteria for optimizing and rationalizing work. It is capable of constantly reflecting the qualitative development of operability and efficiency of disaster management. This is NDGDM’s goal in all the areas of activities of prevention, emergency management and rehabilitation. Within the quality control system of NDGDM the organizational units perform their professional activities under controlled processes. The control, service and support processes form a process model consisting of 18 processes. The system regulates the relationship between the individual processes as well as their combination and interaction.

NDGDM management regards quality as a decisive factor in the operation of the uniform state disaster management organization. With commitment and by ensuring the resources available it stands up for quality work and expects the same from all its employees.

NDGDM strives to meet the expectations of the society against disaster management activities, enhance the quality of professional work, improve service quality and customer satisfaction. All this is proven by the fact that the regular auditor’s review procedures have been ending with continuous maintenance of certification under the ISO 9001:2009 standard for years.

The top themes of communication of the disaster management organization in 2011 were the news on the implementation of professional tasks in the context of Hungary’s EU Presidency, the comprehensive communication on the reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts following the red sludge disaster in 2010 and the detailed communication on the supervisory activities of the Government Commissioner. Also, a highlighted part of the communication efforts was to gain support by the society of the changes caused by the amendment of the act on disaster management and the promotion of its acceptance. Another mission was to coordinate the cooperation needed to implement the goals originating in the act on the media.

NDGDM provided up-to-date and authentic information on the organization’s activities, achievements and goals to the press, professional and social organizations, and the population.
NDGDM traditionally celebrated the Hungarian national holidays, professional holidays like the national Civil Protection Day or the Firefighters' Day. Other events were the International Women's Day, the ceremony of handing over Press Awards for Excellence and Santa Clause Day for the children of the personnel. Another outstanding event was the joint scientific conference together with the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, where the two parties signed a cooperation agreement. The annual spring start-up of the Lake Balaton and Lake Velencei storm warning systems also attracted the attention of both the press and the population.

Many valuable entries were submitted to the now traditional “Dr. Imre Balogh” Memorial Contest, the prize ceremony of which took place after the evaluation of the works.

In July, one of the most highlighted events of the year was the visit of the Minister of the Interior to the rehabilitated areas that were stricken by the red sludge disaster in 2010, and the following press conference, which attracted considerable international press coverage to Kolontár and Devecser. On 4 October, the Kolontár Memorial Monument and the Devecser Memorial Park were inaugurated, in the context of which (also commemorating the International Disaster Risk Reduction Day) a series of celebrations were organized. Besides the numerous invitees from the political life, several hundred persons, taking part in the response, reconstruction and rehabilitation, participated at the presentation of the rehabilitated areas, the wreath-laying and prize ceremonies. Also, the opening of the exhibition of the regional children’s drawing contest and the prize ceremony were conducted there.

The Mensch International Foundation created an open memorial exhibition, commemorating the tenth anniversary of the terrorist attacks of 11 September 2001, supported by the US Embassy in Budapest, co-organized by the Fire Museum.
Disaster management is of national importance. The year 2011 created the legal bases for a uniform disaster management organization. It opened the way to establish a uniform state disaster management organization. This meant a profound legislative work for our organization’s experts. 2011 was the year of preparation in order to enable disaster management to fulfill its basic function: be able to prevent emergencies and protect the lives and property of citizens, be prepared for the necessary interventions in the hour of need and be capable of eliminating the consequences of disasters and rehabilitating.

In the first half of 2011, Hungary, fort he first time, fulfilled the role of the EU Presidency, so the EU member states’ disaster management organizations were also coordinated by Hungarian experts.

The reconstruction and recovery efforts following the country’s worst industrial disaster, the red sludge calamity, were a continuous process. On the first anniversary
Serving Hungary’s Safety

of the disaster, 4 October, the Minister of the Interior handed over a memorial park and several parts of the settlement rehabilitated during a ceremony to the local inhabitants.

An investment ensuring the long-run flood protection of the Sajó Valley, implemented based on the lessons learnt during the flood management efforts in Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County. By doing so the Government remedied deficiencies of several decades.

Besides rehabilitation and flood protection investments, the Hungarian Government, as it had promised, took action to arrange for the overtime salary of firefighters unpaid between 2004 and 2007, thus also indicating its attention and appreciation. Our colleagues granted assistance to Japan, proactively participated in the management of the crisis in Libya. At numerous domestic and international exercises, they proved their expertise and suitability.

The events in 2010 reflected on the deficiencies of protection administration and civil protection and also on the necessity to change the authoritative supervisory system. The tragedy in the club West-Balkán in January showed the problems of the licensing process.

With all this taken into account, the Act of Parliament No. CXXVIII of 2011 on disaster management and the amendment of some other related Acts of Parliament, and several decrees on its implementation were elaborated and adopted.

The National Deployment Control Plan, the renewed mobilization plan of civil protection organizations, the Manual on Firefighting Tactics and Rescue, and the National Fire Protection Regulation were completed. The rules of performing duty shifts and interventions were also put on a new foundation.

The focus of the work has been shifted to the authoritative function.

As a new element, a national communications exercise, conducted twice together with the National Media and Infocommunications Authority had a successful debut, founding emergency communication to the public, during which Hungary’s population could get acquainted with the new channels of disaster management communication and alert.

The new act on disaster management entered into force on 1 January 2012, brought epoch-changing modifications and put the system and organization of disaster
management on a new platform. Response to emergencies and the prevention of disasters became much more effective and organized in Hungary.

The act, in accordance with the Fundamental Law, guarantees the safety of the lives and property of people living in Hungary, by strengthening the organizational system and increasing the role of the state in order to meet the society’s expectations. It ensures the business continuity in Hungary. Disaster management is one of Hungary’s most disciplined and efficient law enforcement bodies. All the personnel must be equally efficient in prevention, directing of response, and in rehabilitation and reconstruction. Heroism is important, but avoiding troubles by prevention, plays even a greater role. To effectuate all this, dedication to the profession and team spirit are musts.