**Environment Friendly Mobile Dam Against Quick Floods**

23 September 2016

On September 22 at the closing conference of the Project "Protection with Mobile Dam in Flooded Areas", what was supported by a grant from Switzerland through the Swiss Contribution, the water fillable mobile dam was presented by experts. The mobile dam was procured within the frame of the Project, what is coming to its end.

The general purpose of the pilot Project is to improve the ability to control floods, thereby ensuring the effective protection of human lives and material values. The realized complex flood protection means that the protection will be quicker in a cost effective way and the security of the people, who live in a flood endangered area, is increasing.

Participants of the event were welcomed by Col. Ibolya Tóth deputy CEO, CFO of the National Directorate General of the Disaster Management (NDGDM). She told that the NDGDM applied for the grant of Swiss-Hungarian Cooperation Programme, their application won and the Project started on 1 September 2012. Following the opening of the conference, Brig. Gen. Dr. Ferenc Tóth, head of the national civil protection informed the participants about the flood endangered areas of Hungary, the most significant floods of the recent years and the rescue works. He emphasized the advantage of the mobile dam compared to the previous protection methods. Dr. János Matuz, project leader presented the whole period of the implementation of the Project and emphasized the cost effective and environment friendly features of the mobile dam.

The Swiss BEAVER Schutzsysteme AG, who won the open EU level public procurement tender in 2014, supplied 12,5 km mobile dam, its accessories and five containers to NDGDM for a net consideration of THUF 591.494. Water fillable mobile dams typically provide effective protection against quickly developing floods and in case of slow decrease of floods for protection of sections and serves as a relief for the rescue teams. Deployment is extremely quick both in downtown areas and far from the cities with difficult access and poor traffic infrastructure. Its deployment requires small HR resources, its storage requires small place, it is easy to transport and it is suitable for use on sand, grass, cobble and concrete without the need to fix. It is completely environmentally friendly, no hazardous waste is produced during its use.

Due to the fact that the Swiss Franc became much stronger compared to the Hungarian Forint than it was at the time of concluding the Project Agreement four years ago, NDGDM realized an exchange rate gain. NDGDM prepared a proposal for the use of the exchange rate gain, what increases the speed of the protection ability. NDGDM procured a loading container truck with a trailer and with containers, what are suitable to transport and store the mobile dam, and other supplementary goods such as clips and additional tubes. The staff of NDGDM was trained in Budapest and fourteen other cities and almost 1000 professional and volunteer people participated in the trainings.

Mr. Balázs Zám, National Programme Officer of the Swiss Contribution Office and Mr. Adrián Savanyú, Head of Department, Prime Minister's Office were also present at the conference, and they emphasized the importance of the Project since the mobile dam protects human lives and material goods.

At the end of the conference the participants could see the mobile dam in operation. Maj. Maté Simon Head of the Subdivision of the Depot of the Logistic Center of NDGDM presented in details the features of the mobile dam and its use.