**Questionnaire Guidance**

Overall, the questionnaire assessment aims to identify potential gaps in crisis response preparedness systems, focusing on the phases of early warning, pre-crisis, crisis management, recovery, and return to the situation before the outbreak of the crisis. After receiving the responses to the questionnaire, an analysis process will take place at E-ARC, where the essential elements for each respondent regarding the current situation, recorded difficulties, possible solutions, conclusions, and likely trends could be highlighted, if the Nations are willing to receive it.

These analyses will be structured, along with the entire questionnaire, around the seven NATO baseline requirements (BLR) domains, and our aim is to develop comprehensive documents relevant to the Southeastern European region. However, it is important to note that the accuracy of the regional analyses will increase as the number of responses received grows.

Thus, it can be estimated that, upon receiving 2, 3, or 4 responses from 15 member states (excluding the USA), the analyses will be more in the form of case studies than regional analyses.

It is also important to note that, , the identity of the sender will not be a focal point in the E-ARC analysis, and the processing will be conducted in an objective manner.

Therefore, depending on the number of responses to the questionnaire, two types of final analytical products are likely: regional analyses and case study reports (if are requested). In both cases, these documents will be structured according to the seven NATO BLR domains.

The evaluation includes an assessment of the need to strengthen cooperation among the member states of the South-Eastern European Defence Ministerial (SEDM) by refining regional agreements focused on the resilience.

The questions are very general and belong to the unclassified domain. Responses are expected to be unclassified.

**Questionnaire for Assessing the Resilience of SEDM Member States**

**in Relation to the Seven Basic Resilience Requirements**

**Established During the NATO Summit in Warsaw in 2016**

NATION

1. **Assessment of Resilience in the Domain of Government Continuity and Critical Services**
2. Has a National Continuity of Government Plan been developed, based, updated, and designed to effectively respond to crises that could affect the functioning of the government and the provision of essential services?

(YES/NO/IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT/ELABORATION)

1. Has the development of the National Plan for Government Continuity, or a similar document, been coordinated between civil and military institutions and approved at the state leadership level?

(YES/NO/IN DEVELOPMENT)

1. Does this plan, or the national-level programmatic document, include an assessmeny of risks and threats associated with a wide range of areas, including crises caused by natural disasters, man-made disasters, cyberattacks, and hybrid threats, etc.?

(YES/NO)

1. Are national essential functions, lines of succession, and delegation of authority clearly outlined within the continuity plans?

(YES/NO/IN DEVELOPMENT)

1. Are alternative locations (strategic command points) designated for the execution of essential governmental functions in the event of a major crisis?

(YES/NO/IN DEVELOPMENT)

1. Is there a designated National Crisis Management Center, recognized as critical infrastructure, equipped to operate autonomously for at least one month?

(YES/NO/IN DEVELOPMENT)

1. Is the National Crisis Management Center/similar facility protected against CBRN and cyber threats?

(YES/NO/IN DEVELOPMENT OF THIS CAPABILITY)

1. Are collaboration protocols established with critical infrastructure and service operators, including public-private partnerships?

(YES/NO/IN DEVELOPMENT)

1. Are backup systems in place for essential communications between government institutions and between them and civil society?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Are these backup systems periodically tested to ensure the functionality of communications during a crisis?

(YES/NO/UNDER TESTING)

1. Are national continuity of government and critical services exercises organized regularly/periodically that involve all government levels and relevant partners?

(YES/NO/IN PLANNING-ORGANIZING)

1. Does the national plan/similar document incorporate measures to ensure the minimum essential resources, including human resources, for the effective operation of activities during high-impact civil crises (such as pandemics, disasters)?

(YES/NO)

1. Is there a national public communication strategy during crises that includes prepared/predefined messages for the population?

(YES/NO/IN DEVELOPMENT-APPROVAL)

1. Is there an early warning system to alert the population about the imminence of a crisis?

(YES/NO/IN THE PROCESS OF ELABORATION/IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Are there mechanisms in place to allow rapid coordination between the Ministry of Defense and other national authorities during crises?

(YES/NO/IN DEVELOPMENT)

1. Do national planning mechanisms ensure the continuity of critical services in cases of unavailability of key infrastructure or significant personnel reduction?

(YES/NO/UNDER EVALUATION)

1. Are lessons learned from previous exercises or events integrated into the national continuity plans?

(YES/NO/IN IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Do you consider it necessary to strengthen cooperation among SEDM member states by formalizing an agreement in the area of governance continuity resilience?

(YES/NO)

1. **Evaluation in the field of energy system resilience**
2. Is there a national document elaborated regarding the current placement of existing energy sources and resources?

(YES/NO/IN DEVELOPMENT)

1. Is there a national document developed regarding the assessment of domestic consumption dependency on external sources? specifically evaluating the dependence of domestic consumption on external sources?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Is there a national document/plan/procedure established to ensure the continuity of energy supply in the case of major disruptions?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Is there a national document/plan/procedure regarding physical, cyber, and CBRN protection measures for critical infrastructure?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Have the possibilities and mechanisms for the rapid restoration/replacement/diversification of energy supply sources and routes been identified (e.g., strategic reserves, cross-border/regional interconnections, renewable energy)?

(YES/NO/IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT)

1. Are there national mechanisms/programmatic documents for prioritizing the energy needs, allocations, and consumption of critical users (armed forces, emergency services, etc.) in the event of a crisis?

(YES/NO/IN PROGRESS)

1. Are there national mechanisms/documents regarding the identification and assessment of vulnerabilities in energy supply chains, including dependencies on imports?

(YES/NO/IN ASSESSMENT-DEVELOPMENT)

1. Are periodic/regular exercises organized involving public and private operators to test the resilience of the energy system against multiple threats (physical, cyber, hybrid), as well as risks associated with the consequences of climate change and the aftermath of natural or man-made disasters? (YES/NO/IN PLANNING-ORGANIZATION)
2. Are there established protocols, including classified ones, for the exchange of information between governmental institutions and private operators responsible for managing energy infrastructure?

(YES/NO/IN DEVELOPMENT)

1. Are there storage capacities/units within the country for fossil fuel volumes (natural gas, petroleum products, etc.) that are equivalent to the estimated cumulative national consumption for a minimum duration of one month?

(YES/NO/IN DEVELOPMENT)

1. In the electricity sector, are there infrastructure connections with neighboring countries that, in crisis/emergency situations, ensure the import of at least 60% of the national electricity demand?

(YES/NO/IN DEVELOPMENT)

1. Do you consider it necessary to strengthen cooperation among SEDM member states by formalizing an agreement in the field of energy resilience?

(YES/NO)

1. **Evaluation of the Capacity to Manage Large-Scale Population Movements**
2. Is there a national-level planning or management mechanism or document in place to address the management of the impact of uncontrolled movements of large groups of people, including in the case of a massive influx exceeding 2% of the national population?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Do the aforementioned planning/management mechanisms/documents include measures for the simultaneous management of civilian population movements and those of military/security forces, as well as provisions for the separation of these flows?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Have the planning/management mechanisms/documents mentioned earlier taken into account the minimization of the environmental impact of civil protection/intervention operations?

(YES/NO)

1. In the development of the documents/procedures referenced, were triggering factors of crises such as climate change, the occurrence of unpredictable natural phenomena (earthquakes), or the occurrence of phenomena that, although predictable, are characterized by a high destructive potential, taken into consideration?

(YES/NO)

1. Do you believe that the reference documents/training activities facilitate a comprehensive and coordinated approach to managing large-scale population movements, addressing emergencies at different scales and ensuring efficient allocation of resources and response efforts?

(YES/NO/REQUIRES UPDATES)

1. Are designated transport routes and corridors for civilian use in place that will not interfere with military deployments in the event of a crisis?

(YES/NO/UNDER IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Is there a legal basis and operational arrangements for restricting the freedom of movement of individuals in exceptional circumstances (e.g., natural disasters, epidemics, CBRN threats, etc.)?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Are national-level exercises organized that include scenarios for managing large-scale population movements, involving Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC)?

(YES/NO/IN PLANNING-ORGANIZATION)

1. Are there established protocols to ensure the fulfillment of fundamental needs (physical security, food, water, shelter, health) and the protection of vulnerable groups in the event of a major uncontrolled influx of people?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Have the resources required to meet primary/essential needs (shelter, food, water, medical services, security, transportation) been identified and quantified in anticipation of short- and medium-term management of a large-scale population movement within the national territory?

(YES/NO/UNDER IDENTIFICATION)

1. Have strategically significant private entities that control essential resources for the management of large-scale population movements been identified?

(YES/NO/UNDER IDENTIFICATION)

1. Are these entities incorporated into plans for managing a large-scale population movement? Do they have a role starting from the planning phase?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Do strategically important private entities holding essential resources participate in exercises or other forms of training for the management of large-scale population movements?

(YES/NO/IN PLANNING-ORGANIZATION)

1. Are there procedures and protocols for coordination between military/public order structures at the central level and local authorities in the scenario of a massive population movement?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Are designated routes and corridors planned for the rapid and large-scale transport of humanitarian aid to any region of the country, including the use of military corridors, provided there is a legal framework for such use?

(YES/NO/UNDER IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Do you consider it necessary to strengthen cooperation among SEDM member states by formalizing an agreement in the field of managing the movement of large masses of people?

(YES/NO)

1. **Evaluation of the Resilience of Food and Water Resources**
2. Is there an appropriate national system for monitoring the quality, detecting, testing, and reporting contamination of food and water sources and resources, including associated critical infrastructures (e.g., storage facilities, tanks, silos, etc.)?

(YES/NO/UNDER IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Are detailed emergency plans in place that outline alternative sources of food and water supply in the event of disruptions to supply chains?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. If so, do these plans consider the national/regional/local dimension and interdependencies with other sectors, such as energy and transportation?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Have critical dependencies between sectors (e.g., energy, transport, information technology) that may impact food and water supply chains been identified?

(YES/NO/UNDER IDENTIFICATION)

1. Are periodic national/regional/local exercises organized involving public and private actors, as well as civil-military cooperation, to test the resilience of food and water supply chains?

(YES/NO/UNDER PLANNING-ORGANIZATION)

1. Are specific pre-established measures or procedures in place for the physical and cyber protection of critical infrastructure within the food and water sectors?

(YES/NO/UNDER IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Are there established protocols for the operational communication of critical information between governmental authorities and private operators within the food and water sectors in the context of crisis situations?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT-IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Are there sufficient strategic reserves of food and water to meet the national consumption requirements for a minimum period of one month, in the absence of import capabilities?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Are there cooperation agreements with neighboring countries for the emergency supply of food and water and/or the facilitation of their transit in crisis situations?

(YES/NO/UNDER IMPLEMENTATION)

1. If so, are there plans for the transportation and distribution of these reserves throughout the national territory?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Has a risk analysis of food and water supply chains been conducted?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Is there a national mechanism for the examination of foreign direct investments in the food and water resources sectors and their associated distribution systems?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Are there established protocols and/or procedures for the timely distribution of food and water resources from strategic reserves/stocks to the population in the event of a major crisis?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. If so, do these protocols and/or procedures include provisions for coordination between central military/public order maintenance structures and local administration?

(YES/NO/UNDER MODIFICATION)

1. Do you consider it necessary to strengthen cooperation among SEDM member states by formalizing an agreement in the field of resilience of food and water resources?

(YES/NO)

1. **Evaluation** **of Resilience in Managing Health Crises and Mass Casualties**
   1. Is there a national plan or procedure for managing mass casualty events or other health crises with disruptive effects, covering all stages of response (first aid, transportation, hospital care, and post-crisis stage)?"

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

* 1. Have the national critical resources been identified and inventoried (intensive care/burn beds, isolation units, personal protective equipment, blood, plasma, and derived products, etc.) necessary for managing a large number of casualties?

(YES/NO/UNDER IMPLEMENTATION)

* 1. Are there means to monitor the critical resources mentioned in the previous point, so that their availability is known at the central level at all times in the event of mass casualty incidents or other health crises with disruptive effects?

(YES/NO/UNDER IMPLEMENTATION)

* 1. Are there communication means/automated systems, including secure ones, for real-time transmission of specific medical information, including in the event of mass casualty incidents or other health crises with disruptive effects?

(YES/NO/UNDER IMPLEMENTATION)

* 1. Are there mass medical evacuation capabilities (e.g., aircraft, trains, ships, etc.) for the simultaneous transport of a large number of patients to national public/private medical facilities?

(YES/NO/UNDER IMPLEMENTATION)

* 1. Are periodic national exercises conducted that simulate complex mass casualty management scenarios and involve CIMIC coordination?

(YES/NO/UNDER PLANNING-ORGANIZATION)

* 1. Are there established protocols for the rapid distribution of essential medical resources and the mobilization of personnel in the event of a major health crisis?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

* 1. Have strategically important private entities that hold essential resources for health crises and mass casualties been identified?

(YES/NO/UNDER IDENTIFICATION)

* 1. Are these entities and their available resources included in the action plans/procedures for such situations?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

* 1. Do private entities of strategic importance, which possess essential resources, participate in exercises where such events are simulated?

(YES/NO/UNDER PLANNING-ORGANIZATION)

* 1. Has a risk analysis been conducted for the supply chain of medicines, medical supplies/equipment, or other categories of resources specific to such situations?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

* 1. Are there protocols in place to ensure the protection of strategic healthcare facilities (hospitals, clinics, laboratories, medical storage, etc.) by military/public order structures during a health crisis?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

* 1. Do you consider it necessary to strengthen cooperation among SEDM member states by formalizing an agreement in the field of resilience in managing health crises and mass casualties?

(YES/NO)

1. **Evaluation of the Resilience of Civil Communication Systems**
2. Is there a national methodology, involving both public and private stakeholders, for identifying critical communication networks and services?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Are periodic risk assessments conducted for critical civil communication infrastructure? If so, are the results coordinated between governmental authorities and private operators?

(YES/NO/UNDER IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Do national contingency plans include measures to protect communication infrastructures against identified physical, cyber, and other types of threats?

(YES/NO/UNDER IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Is there a document/procedure that regulates access for institutions with responsibilities in state security to communication networks during crises?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Has any mechanism, plan, or procedure been established and tested for the rapid restoration of critical communication networks, including collaboration with private operators and/or international partners?

(YES/NO/UNDER IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Are there nationally established training programs designed to assess the restoration capabilities of critical communication networks and to enhance interoperability between governmental authorities and private operators?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Is there a national mechanism in place for reviewing foreign direct investments in communication networks, systems, and services?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT-IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Have strategically important private entities that own/control/operate critical communication infrastructures, networks, and systems been identified?

(YES/NO/UNDER IDENTIFICATION)

1. Has a risk analysis of the communication equipment supply chain been conducted? If so, does it include civil infrastructures, networks, and systems?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Is there a legal framework regulating the exchange of classified information with strategically important private entities that own or operate communication infrastructures and networks?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Do you consider it necessary to strengthen cooperation among SEDM member states by formalizing an agreement in the field of resilience of civil communication systems?

(YES/NO)

1. **Evaluation of the Resilience of Civil Transport Systems**
2. Is there a legislative framework, procedures, or national mechanisms for identifying, organizing, testing, and prioritizing transport routes during crises?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT-IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Are there protocols/procedures for establishing priority transport corridors for civil and military transport, including for equipment, hazardous materials, or oversized vehicles?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT-ESTABLISHMENT)

1. Are periodic exercises planned to assess the functionality of transport infrastructures (rail, road, air, maritime) and rapid restoration mechanisms in crisis situations?

(YES/NO/UNDER PLANNING-ORGANIZATION)

1. Are there national protocols for the physical and cyber protection of critical transport infrastructures (railways, stations, ports, airports, highways) and their respective command centers?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT-IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Is there a Single National Point of Contact (SNPoC) established for coordinating the movement and deployment of forces (including NATO for member states)?

(YES/NO/UNDER ESTABLISHMENT)

1. Is the transport infrastructure designed, constructed, and maintained to support the deployment/transit/temporary stationing of forces (including NATO for member states) without dysfunction?

(YES/NO/UNDER IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Is there a national mechanism for verifying foreign direct investments in critical transport infrastructures and networks (rail, road, air, maritime)?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT-IMPLEMENTATION)

1. Have privately-owned entities of strategic importance, which own/control/operate critical transport infrastructures and networks (rail, road, air, maritime), been identified?

(YES/NO/UNDER IDENTIFICATION)

1. Do these entities participate in preparedness exercises or tests designed to assess the operational capacities of critical transport infrastructure (rail, road, air, maritime) and the rapid restoration mechanisms during crises?

(YES/NO/UNDER PLANNING-ORGANIZATION)

1. Is there a legal framework governing the exchange of classified information with private entities of strategic importance that own or operate transport infrastructures?

(YES/NO/UNDER DEVELOPMENT)

1. Do you consider it necessary to strengthen cooperation among SEDM member states by formalizing an agreement in the field of resilience of civil transport systems?

(YES/NO)