



**DENMARK**



## ***Danish Emergency Management Agency***

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### ***1. Legislation :***

Emergency intervention by the rescue preparedness, including the National Rescue Corps (formerly The Civil Defence Corps), is regulated by The Danish Preparedness Act of 23 December, 1992 (law no. 1054) and decree no. 219 of 29 May, 1982.

The Danish Preparedness Act has replaced the Civil Defence Act, the Fire Services Act and the Civil Preparedness Act..

### ***2. Mission :***

According to the Danish Preparedness Act, the task of the rescue preparedness is to prevent, reduce and remedy any damage inflicted on people, property and environment by accidents and disasters including war actions or imminent danger of war.

### ***3. Regulation and procedure :***

At national central level the Ministry of the Interior and Health, The Danish Emergency Management Agency, manages the supreme administrative guidance of the national rescue preparedness and the supervision of the municipal rescue preparedness. The agency includes a nuclear inspectorate and a chemical laboratory.

In peacetime the Minister of the Interior and Health is entitled to bring the rescue preparedness in action abroad in the event of disasters which cause serious damage on or constitute an imminent danger to people, property or environment.

The national regional preparedness system consists - in peacetime - of 6 regional Centres for the National Rescue Corps.

The rescue preparedness in the 275 Danish municipalities is administrated by preparedness commissions appointed by the local councils. The municipal rescue preparedness is capable of handling common fire and rescue operations and of receiving, billeting and feeding evacuees and other distressed persons including e.g. victims of floods and other natural disasters.

40 major municipalities are able to provide an instant and more extensive turnout against the consequences of acts of war.

#### **4. Organisation :**

The Danish Preparedness Act forms the legal basis for the development of a single-strand, integrated preparedness system :

- « Single-strand » a system where there is only one preparedness authority at the municipal level, one at the national regional level, and one at the national central level.
- « Integrated »: a system where the performance of all preparedness duties is based on the existing peacetime factors. The carrying-out of wartime duties is consequently seen as an intervention against the most serious of all disasters.

The fundamental principle is that the operational area is dealing with a three level rescue preparedness system :

- The municipal rescue preparedness may be committed swiftly - with or without the support of other municipalities' rescue preparedness systems - to counter accidents generally occurring across the country (level 1) ;
- 7 support stations and the 6 national regional centres provide an extended assistance to the rescue preparedness in other municipalities, should it be considered necessary (level 2) ;
- Operations in respect of rarely occurring accidents or large accidents are carried out with the assistance of the national regional rescue preparedness (level 3).

Besides the municipalities, other preparedness - and rescue - responsible public authorities may call in assistance from the National Rescue Corps. It is also possible to receive assistance from the National Rescue Corps by contract and local agreements with the Danish Emergency Management Agency and the Regional Centres respectively. Large-scale rescue operations are coordinated by the local chief police authority.

#### **5. Staff and equipment :**

*National Resources :*

The Danish system of conscription allows the national rescue preparedness to establish and train a preparedness reserve in peacetime. By calling up this reserve and bringing the stockpiles of equipment and vehicles into operation the national rescue preparedness can be substantially increased in event of a crisis or war.

In peacetime the national rescue preparedness has 650 employees including 200 officers and 100 NCOs. Every year 1400 conscripts of which 500 receive a six months training and 900 a three months training at the Regional Centres for the National Rescue Corps, which means that each centre constantly has approx. 80 conscripts at its disposal.

The National Rescue Corps possesses 650 motor vehicles, i.e. tank lorries, hose-tenders, fire engines, pioneer vehicles, radio communication vans etc. In addition, a number of private vehicles have been earmarked for requisition in case of mobilization

*Local resources :*

The local governments (councils) are responsible for the build-up and maintenance of the municipal rescue preparedness in accordance with detailed standards laid down by the Minister of the Interior.

The Council may enter into agreement with e.g. the private rescue company Falck Redningskorps Ltd. to carry out tasks within the municipal rescue preparedness. The agreement shall be approved by The Danish Emergency Management Agency.

In Denmark there are 72 municipal rescue preparedness stations, 110 Falck stations and 39 stations with volunteer personnel. The personnel consists of 1700 employed full-time, 3300 part-time and 1600 volunteers.

The total number of turn outs is approx. 28000 per year

## **6. Training :**

The training or education is related to functions and is the same for personnel doing the same function in the preparedness system wherever the person is employed. This means for example that the training of fire service personnel is the same for all personnel no matter whether they are full-time, part-time, conscripts or volunteers.

Every year The Danish Emergency Management Agency implements a number of training sessions and courses in the field of emergency management, fire fighting, rescue services, technical operations, environmental protection, etc.

The target groups for these activities are employees and volunteers from the rescue preparedness and the civil preparedness.

There are 3 educational establishments under the responsibility of The Danish Emergency Management Agency, i.e.

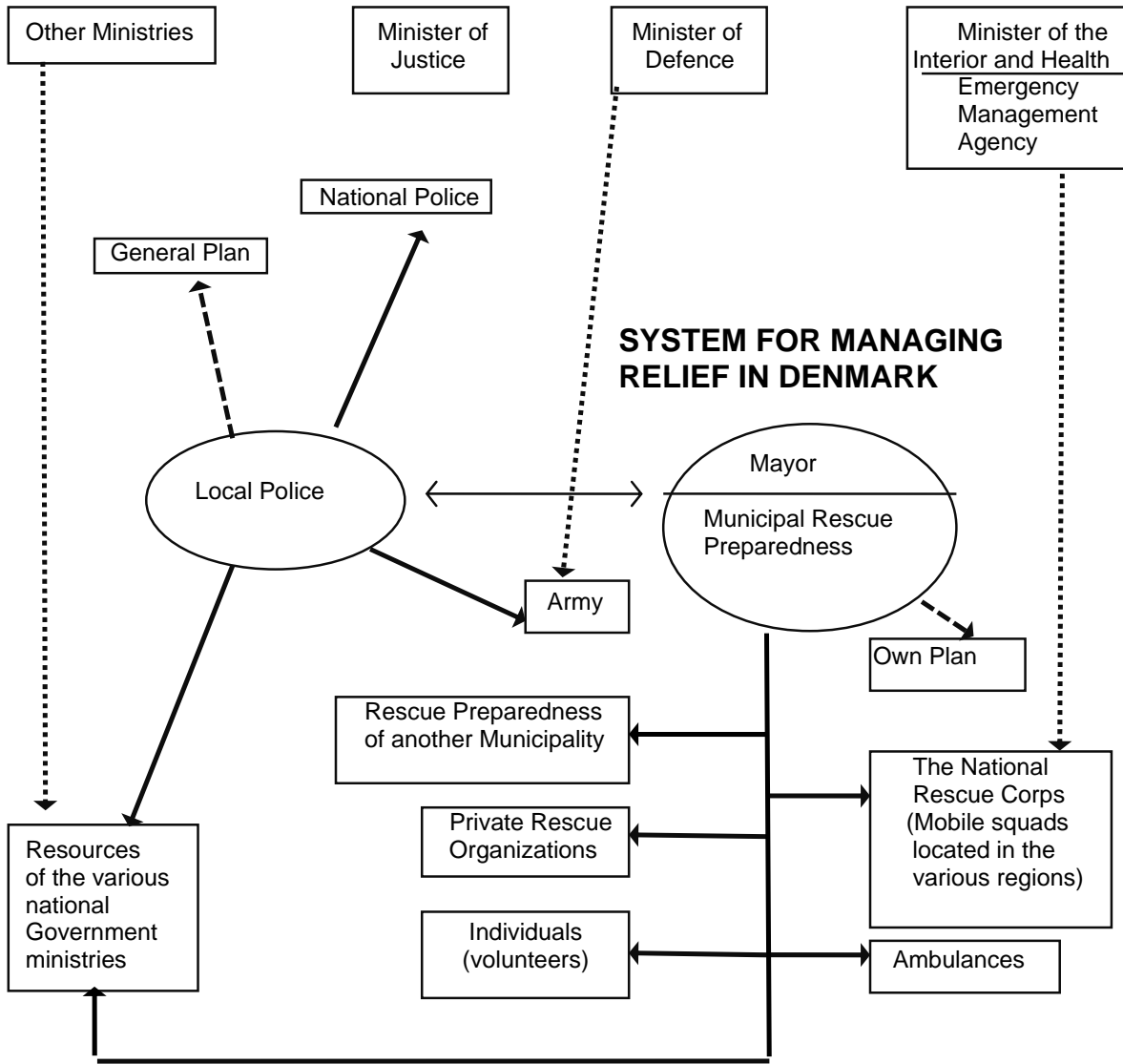
- DEMA Academy,

- DEMA Staff College and
- DEMA Technical College.

**7. Finances :**

The annual budget of the national rescue preparedness is 400 million DKK (approx. 54 millions €).

**DISASTER RELIEF IN DENMARK**



**LEGEND :**

- > Planning
- ====> Request for assistance
- .....> Granting of assistance
- ====<==== Communication and cooperation

**Mr. Frederik Schydt**

**Director General**