



**GUYANA**



## **Civil Defence Commission (CDC)**

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### **1. Legislation:**

There is legislation in place that provides for declaration of disaster and emergency state. The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) Model Legislation is in draft state.

The Civil Defence Commission is not yet a legislatively approved body, however the Civil Defence Commission was reconstituted by executive order and inaugurated on Saturday 16th August 1997.

Before its reconstitution, the Commission operated under the aegis of the Prime Minister. In 1993, the Cabinet mandated its transfer to the Office of the President; this position has been preserved to date.

### **2. Mission:**

The mission of the CDC is:

- To develop, implement and maintain a National Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Programme incorporating the Sectoral/Services of the Central/Regional Government and Non-Governmental Organisations and the Citizenry into a National Disaster Response Mechanism;
- To prevent or mitigate the impact of all kinds of disasters, and
- To provide rescue, evacuation, shelter, relief and rehabilitation.

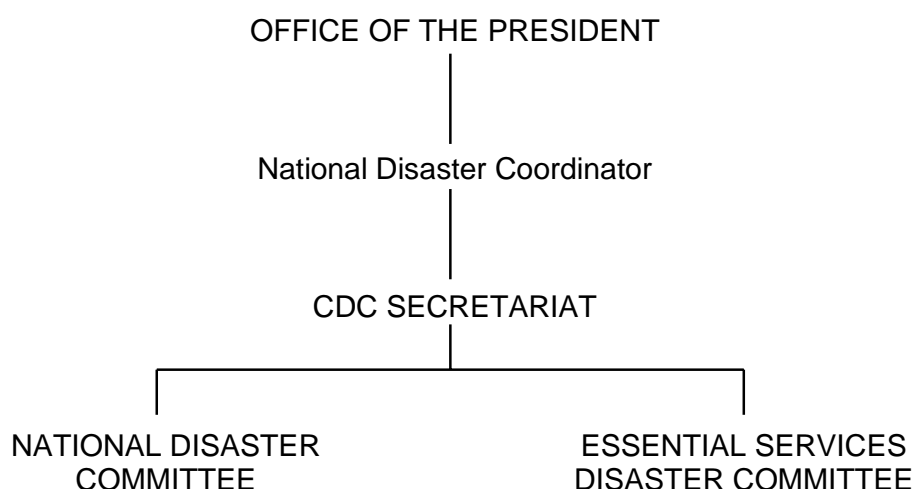
### **Terms of Reference:**

- To identify disasters according to established criteria and classification;
- To produce plans for the Management of National Disasters;
- To identify and implement mechanisms for disaster response and mitigation;

- To maintain a permanent body, to enhance the National capacity for Disaster Management Services;
- To train human resources involved in disaster response mechanisms;
- To educate at all levels in the tenets of Disaster Responses.

### **3. Regulation and Procedure:**

The Civil Defence Commission is organised as follows:



All Ministries participate in the Disaster Management Organisational System (DMOS). The responsibility for the National Disaster Programme rests on the Office of the President. Emergency Agencies represented in the DMOS are: Police, Fire, Military, Coast Guard, and Ambulance. Utilities represented are Water and Electricity. NonGovernmental Organisations represented are: Red Cross, St John's Ambulance Brigade; Salvation Army, Service Clubs and Church Organisations. Hindu, Muslim, Guyana Council of Churches.

### **4. Staff:**

The permanent staff assigned to the CDC is as follows:

- 1 Commissioner
- 1 Operations & Training Officer
- 1 Logistics Officer
- 1 Administrative Officer
- 1 Operations Clerk
- 2 Accounts Clerks
- 1 Driver

- 1 Janitor
- 4 Security Personnel

### **5. Training:**

Training has so far been centralised, as the CDC's limited finances does not allow for decentralization. Training programmes are of duration of three days to one week. The types of training that have been done are as follows: Basic Disaster Management, Basic Disaster Seminar, SUMA Training, National Disaster Workshop, Mass Casualty Management, National Consultation-Management of Relief Supplies, SUMA-Relief Tracking System Workshop, Incident Command System Workshop, Contingency Planning for Health Sector Facilities course, and Stress Management in Disasters.

CDC Staff has been trained in Basic Disaster Management, Relief Operations Management, Emergency Operations Centre Management, Design, and Delivery of Disaster Management training, Advance Disaster Management, Mass Casualty Management, Stress Management, and Contingency Planning for Health Sector Facilities.

### **6. Equipment:**

The Civil Defence Commission possess the following type of equipment /appliances:

#### Electronic Equipment:

- Computers - Desktop & Laptop / Internet access
- Scanner
- Laser Printer
- Fax Machines
- Televisions
- Multimedia Projector
- Video Cassette Recorder
- Overhead Projector
- Slide Projector
- Camcorder

#### Vehicles:

- 1 x Toyota Pickup 4x4
- 1 x Chevrolet Pickup 4x4
- 1 x Front-end Loader
- 1 x 18-wheeler long tray bulk carrier
- 1 x Tipper Truck
- 1 x Water Tank - 400 gal (mobile)
- 1 x Trailer

***7. Finances:***

The administration of the CDC is financed through half yearly subventions from the Office of the President. Disaster Relief Operations are financed by allocations from the National Contingency Fund. The CDC training programmes are supported by external agencies e.g. PAHO, WHO, CDERA etc.

## **Colonel Chabilall Ramsarup**

**CDC Commissioner**