



Document title	Involvement of NGOs in national and international emergency cooperation
Code	4-2
Category	INF
Agenda Item	4 - EWG OWR activities
Submission date	20.5 2020
Submitted by	Secretariat
Reference	

Background

The attached document contains information provided by Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany and Latvia on the involvement of NGOs in national and international emergency cooperation.

The information has also been uploaded to the restricted [EWG OWR workspace](#).

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to take note and discuss of the information provided by the Contracting Parties on the involvement of NGOs in national and international emergency cooperation.

Authority-NGO relationships in the BSR

Country	Authority-NGO arrangement(s)	Formal or informal?	Related to a plan?	Annual activities	Report by
Contracting Parties					
Estonia	Agreement between the Environmental Board of Estonia and Estonian Fund for Nature (ELF)	Formal contractor.	Agreement is related to plan.	Trainings and keeping of volunteer's network are running, regular communication between parts of contract.	Environmental Board
Denmark	In Denmark we do not, work together with NGOs when it comes to oiled birds. The Nature Agency is responding when oiled birds are seen and they have a list of hunters who volunteer helping the Nature Agency to put down the birds affected by oil. When an accident happens, The ministry of environment and food protection sends out a press release telling people to contact the Nature Agency if they see any oiled birds.	It is formal. The volunteers gets a contract with the Nature Agency and the police are informed that hunters will be in a specific area to look for oil birds and put them down.	The cooperation is related to the Management plan for marine mammals and oilbirds 2003. The plan is currently subject of review and updating.	There is no annual network meeting with the hunters.	Sea Alarm
Finland	There is cooperation between NGOs (namely WWF Finland) and the Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE), the Finnish Border Guard and Regional Rescue Services. NGOs are called upon by authorities in wildlife incidents, and are also invited to exercises in the field of shoreline and wildlife response.	Has previously been formal, with an agreement between SYKE and WWF Finland. With a change in the oil spill response legislation and the transfer of oil spill response duties from the Ministry of Environment to the Ministry of Interior, and operational duties from SYKE to the Finnish Border Guard, no	A draft plan exists but due to the mentioned changes has to be updated and has not been formalised.	A draft plan exists but due to the mentioned changes has to be updated and has not been formalised.	

		such formal contract exists at the moment.			
Germany	National authorities represented by CCME are aiming at working together with NGOs under defined circumstances (regarding safety at work, ensured hierarchy, aligned public relations, certified facilities, etc.) only. By now, only one NGO as an operator for a rehab-centre in Schleswig-Holstein is part of the OWR-Plan.	Formal contractor.	The cooperation is related to the OWR-Plan of Schleswig-Holstein.	Annual meetings and trainings as well as integration in bigger incident exercises with this NGO are scheduled and conducted on a regular basis.	LKN.SH
Latvia	Latvia has not signed and approved National Oiled Wildlife response plan, so NGO involvement in response is not strictly defined and known yet.				
Lithuania					
Poland					
Russia					
Sweden					