

The Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defence,
Emergencies and the Elimination of consequences of Natural
Disasters (EMERCOM of Russia)

The Ministry of the Russian Federation for Civil Defence, Emergencies and the Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters (EMERCOM of Russia) was set up in accordance with the Decree by the President of the Russian Federation on the 10th of January, 1994. But the real birthday of the Ministry can be considered as the 27th of December, 1990, when the Russian Rescue Corps was established and assigned a mission of rapid and efficient response in case of emergencies.

The tasks of the Ministry

EMERCOM of Russia is an agency of federal executive power. Its main tasks are:

- development of proposals and initiatives in the area of state policy, concerning the issues pertaining to the Ministry's responsibility;
- management of Civil Defence and Search and Rescue Service in the Russian Federation;
- further development of the Russian System of Disaster Management (RSDM);
- coordination of all activities aimed at the elimination of consequences of large-scale disasters and catastrophes;
- coordination of the activities by federal agencies, local administrations, enterprises and institutions aimed at the prevention and elimination of consequences of nuclear disasters;
- education of the population, training of government agencies and forces in disaster management and response;
- organization of international cooperation.

The Ministry actively maintains its public relations and contacts with the mass media on the issues of civil defence, disaster prevention and response.

In order to coordinate the implementation of certain tasks the following specialized commissions and boards were set up: