

S T A T E M E N T
ON PREPAREDNESS OF THE BALTIC STATES FOR NATURAL DISASTERS

The Baltic Assembly,

taking into consideration that a scope of possible threats is widening and their consequences are assuming new dimensions;

understanding that major crises have a trans-boundary aspect resulting in threats of violent crime and terrorism;

emphasising that international co-operation in crisis preparedness, prevention and management is of utmost importance;

confirming readiness to support actions of the national governments aimed at solving the matters pertaining to co-operation and mutual assistance in the event of emergencies,

recommends the Baltic Council of Ministers:

to initiate inter-state agreements on the co-ordination of joint actions in the event of an emergency in the Baltic States;

to consider a possibility to set up a joint Baltic States' team of rapid response to emergencies with the purpose of participating in joint operations by providing assistance to each other as well as to other states;

recommends the Governments of the Baltic States:

to constantly inform each other on potential emergencies;

to prepare and co-ordinate joint action plans of mutual assistance with a view to solving potential social problems in the event of an emergency both in the Baltic States and in the neighbouring territories.

Vilnius, 17 December 2006