



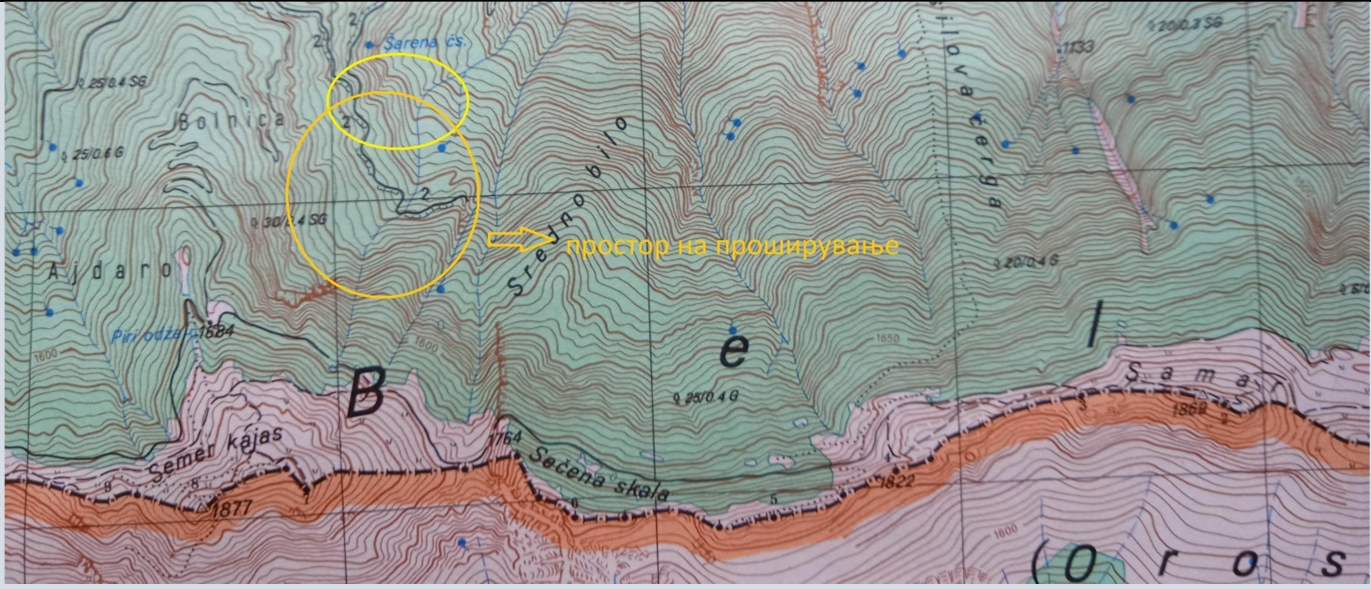
**SCENARIO FOR CONDUCTING OF A TWO-DAY FIELD EXERCISE "EXTINGUISHING FOREST FIRES ON THE MOUNTAIN BELASICA" 03 & 04.09.2021**


DAY	ITEM	TIME	LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	ACTIVITY	ORGANIZERS/ PARTICIPANTS	SUPPLIES
1	1.	09:30	RCMC <sup>1</sup> Strumica Operation Center	<b>START OF THE EXERCISE</b> Notification by mobile phone by a group of recreational mountaineers, for a forest fire on Mount Belasica, above location "Sharena cheshma", alt. 1300 meters, near the mountain lodge. Around 08:30, from a distance, two groups of unknown persons, probably illegal migrants, were noticed moving away from a place near the location of the fire, in the east-west direction towards the village of Mokrievo.	Receipt of the report by mobile phone by the operative on duty at RCMC Strumica. It's proceeding according to SOP (identification, detailing, etc.)	Operational duty officer in RCMC Strumica; Tourist / recreational mountaineer	Mobile phone Emergency tel. number 195
				 <p>The area of the initiation of the forest fire is marked with yellow colour.</p>			
	2.	09:35	RCMC Strumica Operation	<b>Notification of the competent entities from the Crisis Management</b>	Notification from RCMC Strumica to the main	Operational Duty Officer in RCMC Strumica;	Tel. line Mobile phone


<sup>1</sup> RCMC – Regional Crisis Management Centre

			Center	<b>System (CMS)</b>	Operation Centre of CMC (OPCEN) and PE National Forests-Forest economy "Belasica" -Strumica for a forest fire on the mountain Belasica, above location "Sharena Cheshma", alt. 1300 meters; Reporting to the Forest Police; Notification to Police in Strumica; Notification to Firefighting Brigade (FFB) Strumica; Notification to the Protection and Rescue Directorate – Regional Office in Strumica (PRDRO); Notification to the municipalities of Strumica, Bosilovo and Novo Selo Notification to other entities in the CMS from the area. Further action of the operative in RCMC Strumica following the foreseen SOPs.	Fire Protection Officer in FE "Belasica" -Strumica On-duty Police Officer in Police in Strumica Shift Commander in FFB Strumica Operational Duty Officer in PRDRO Strumica On-duty Commander in the forest police	MKFFIS and NICS systems
	<b>3.</b>	<b>09:40</b>	FE "Belasica" - Strumica	<b>Mobilization of FE "Belasica" - Strumica</b> Acting on the information, directions and instructions received from RCMC Strumica	Mobilization of their mobile teams / operational forces for extinguishing forest fires in FE "Belasica" -Strumica / area in the vicinity of the v. Smolare	Fire Protection Officer in FE "Belasica" -Strumica; Director of FE "Belasica" - Strumica; Employees, members of mobile firefighting teams	Tel. line Mobile phone Radio communications
	<b>4.</b>	<b>09:40</b>	FFB Strumica	<b>Mobilization of FFB Strumica</b> Acting on the information, directions and instructions received from RCMC Strumica	Mobilize their mobile teams / operational forces to extinguish forest fires	Commander of FFB Strumica Duty Commander in FFB Strumica Employees, members of mobile firefighting teams	Tel. line Mobile phone Radio communications

	5.	10:00	RCMC Strumica Operation Center	<b>Information to the Police in Strumica</b> Further action of the Officer from RCMC Strumica after the received information about the movement of illegal migrants, especially because of the probability of setting fire by them	Informing the duty service at the Police HQ in Strumica about the movement of a group of illegal migrants in the mountain Belasica in the direction east-west from the location Sechena Skala to the village of Mokrievo	Operational duty officer in RCMC Strumica; On-duty officer in the Police HQ in Strumica; On-duty officer in the Regional Centre South in Kavadarci	Tel. line Mobile phone NICS system
	6.	12:00	Proximity to the location Sharena Cheshma, alt. 1,300 m, near the Mountain Lodge Sharena Cheshma	<b>Arriving at the location</b> The arrival of the first mobile teams of FE "Belasica" -Strumica and FFB Strumica for extinguishing the forest fire 	The arrival of the first mobile teams of FE "Belasica" - Strumica for forest fire extinguishing A quick insight into the field situation; Assessment of the current situation; Development of an action plan for mobile teams; Their deployment and coordination; Notification to FE Belasica, FFB Strumica, RCMC Strumica	Members of the mobile teams of employees in FE „Belasica“- Strumica and FFB Strumica; Commander of the incident from FFB Strumica / responsible to the groups	Off-road vehicles for the transport of persons; Off-road vehicle water supply tank; Motocross vehicle Backpacks; Rakes, Radio communication devices; Chainsaws and other special equipment; Personal protective equipment; NICS system
	7.	13:30	Location Piri Hodja	<b>Expansion of the fire</b> Due to the inaccessible terrain, the strong wind from the north intensifies the fire and spreads it in the belt towards location Piri Hodja, alt. 1645 m. That is why volunteers from the mountaineering association "Enthusiast" from Strumica, which manages the "Sharena Cheshma" home located near the area affected	The arrival of additional teams of FE "Belasica" - Strumica and FFB Strumica Getting to know them field condition and assessment of the current condition; Preparation of an action plan for the joint teams and their redeployment and	Operational duty officer in RCMC Strumica: Employees in FE "Belasica" -Strumica Firefighters from FFB-Strumica; Volunteers from the mountaineering association "Enthusiast" from Strumica which	Off-road vehicles for the transport of persons; Off-road vehicle water supply tank; Backpacks; Rakes; Radio

			by the fire are mobilized.	coordination; Notification to RCMC Strumica	manages the "Sharena Cheshma" home located near the fire-affected area; Spatial forces from the local population in the Municipality of Novo Selo	communication devices Chainsaws and other special equipment; Personal protective equipment; NICS system
 <p>A bigger yellow circle presents the area of expansion of the initial forest fire.</p>						
8.	14:30 (EEST)	Greece-North Macedonia Borders	The Greek side receives the information from CMC for a possible expansion in Greek territory and immediately sends a team to assess the situation.	<b>Continuous information and mutual coordination of the home teams</b>  <b>The activities of both countries are coordinated following the established protocols and standards for action.</b>	Duty officer of Civil Protection, Firefighters from Hellenic Fire Service, and CMC	Tel Lines, Mobile phones, Radio Communications,
9.	15:30	Greece-North	The team arrives at the operation	<b>The system (container)</b>	Duty officer of Civil	Tel Lines,

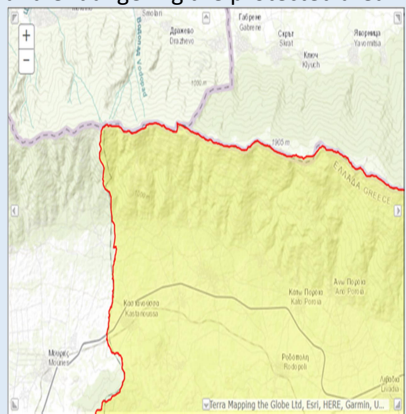
		(EEST)	Macedonia Borders, Kastanousa Serron Operation Center (Container)	area, makes an assessment of the fire and informs CMC through HELP (Container) that is established in Kastanousa, Municipality of Serres	informs the North Macedonian authorities for the situation to operation area	Protection, Firefighters from Hellenic Fire Service, and CMC	Mobile phones, Radio Communications,
10.	15:00	RCMC Strumica Operation Center	<p><b>The second expansion of the fire</b>  Due to the inaccessible terrain and the frequent change of the wind direction, the fire intensifies and its spread to the location Semer Kajas alt. 1877 and Sechena Skala, alt. 1764 m. At the top of Sechena Skala only on the territory of North Macedonia, the Green Horse (<i>Alnus viridis</i>) can be found which is a deciduous shrub or low tree, usually up to 5 m. High. In the National Biodiversity Assessment and Evaluation, it is listed as an endangered forest community. The spread of the fire could endanger its habitat and must be responded to promptly.</p>  <p>That is why forces from FFB Radovish and FFB Valandovo are called. For possible medical support, a team from the Red Cross-Strumica is</p>	Notification from RCMC Strumica to RCMC Radovish, RCMC Valandovo, FFB Radovish, FFB Valandovo, Red Cross-Strumica	Operational duty officer in RCMC Strumica, employees in RCMC Radovish and Valandovo; Shift commanders in FFB Radovish and Valandovo, Duty officer and secretary of the Red Cross-Strumica	Tel. line Mobile phone MKFFIS and NICS system	

				activated.			
<b>11.</b>	<b>15:30</b>	RCMC Strumica Operation Center	<p><b>Information on lost tourists in the wider area of the fire</b></p> <p>A group of recreational mountaineers, on a two-day mountaineering tour, located in the "Sharena Cheshma" hut informs the RCMC that they have no communication with 2 members of their group. They are presumed to have been lost near the location Devil's Bridge, alt. 1522 m in relative proximity to the place of the spread of the fire.</p>  <p>Devils Bridge location</p>	<p>Informing the duty service at the Police HQ in Strumica about lost recreational mountaineers on Mount Belasica.</p> <p>Informing the duty service at RC South - Kavadarci PRDRO in Strumica Mountaineering Association "Enthusiast" from Strumica Red Cross - Strumica</p>	<p>Operational duty officer in RCMC Strumica: Police in Strumica and Novo Selo; MIA-RC South-Kavadarci; The mountaineering association "Enthusiast" from Strumica Red Cross-Strumica Forming search teams</p>	<p>Tel. line Mobile phone MKFIIS and NICS system</p>	
<b>12.</b>	<b>16:00</b>	RCMC Strumica / Municipal building in Novo Selo	<p><b>Convening of the Regional Headquarters for Crisis Management in a shortened composition</b></p>	<p>Due to the urgency of the event, the head of RCMC Strumica convenes the Regional Headquarters for Crisis Management in a short composition</p>	<p>Head of RCMC Strumica, mayors of Novo Selo and Strumica and representatives of the municipalities, representatives of FE Belasica, PRDRO Strumica, FFB Strumica, representatives of PE, Red</p>	<p>Tel. line Mobile phone and NICS system</p>	

						Cross-Strumica	
<b>13.</b>	<b>17:00</b>	Location Sharena Cheshma	<b>The arrival of the search forces</b>	The arrival of the search teams composed of members of the Police forces from Strumica and Novo Selo, PRDRO Strumica and Mountaineering Association "Enthusiast" from Strumica Red Cross-Strumica Getting to know them on the field condition and assessment of the current situation with the fire; Preparation of an action plan for the joint teams and their redeployment and coordination; Notification to RCMC Strumica	Operational duty officer in RCMC Strumica: Police HQ in Strumica and Police Station in Novo Selo; MIA-RC South-Kavadarci; The mountaineering association "Enthusiast" from Strumica Red Cross-Strumica	Off-road vehicles for the transport of persons; Means of radio communication Personal protective equipment; NICS system.	
<b>14.</b>	<b>17:30</b>	Location Piri Hodja	<b>The arrival of the forces of FFB Radovish and FFB Valandovo and OO Red CroFE-Strumica</b> Due to the inaccessible terrain and the frequent change of the wind direction, the fire intensifies and its spread from the location Piri Hodja to the location Semer Kajas alt. 1877 m and the location Sechena Skala, 1764 m.	The arrival of the teams of FFB Radovish and FFB Valandovo and Red Cross-Strumica. Getting to know them on the field condition and assessment of the current situation with the fire; Preparation of an action plan for the joint teams and their redeployment and coordination; Notification to RCMC Strumica	Operational duty officer in RCMC Strumica: Firefighters from FFB-Strumica; Firefighters from FFB Radovish; Firefighters from FFB Valandovo; Mountaineers, members of the mountaineering association "Enthusiast" - Strumica, Spatial forces from the local population in the municipality of Novo Selo The team from Red Cross-Strumica	Off-road vehicles for the transport of persons; Special off-road vehicles for extinguishing forest fires; Off-road vehicle water supply tank; Backpacks; Racks; Means of radio communication Chainsaws and other special equipment;	

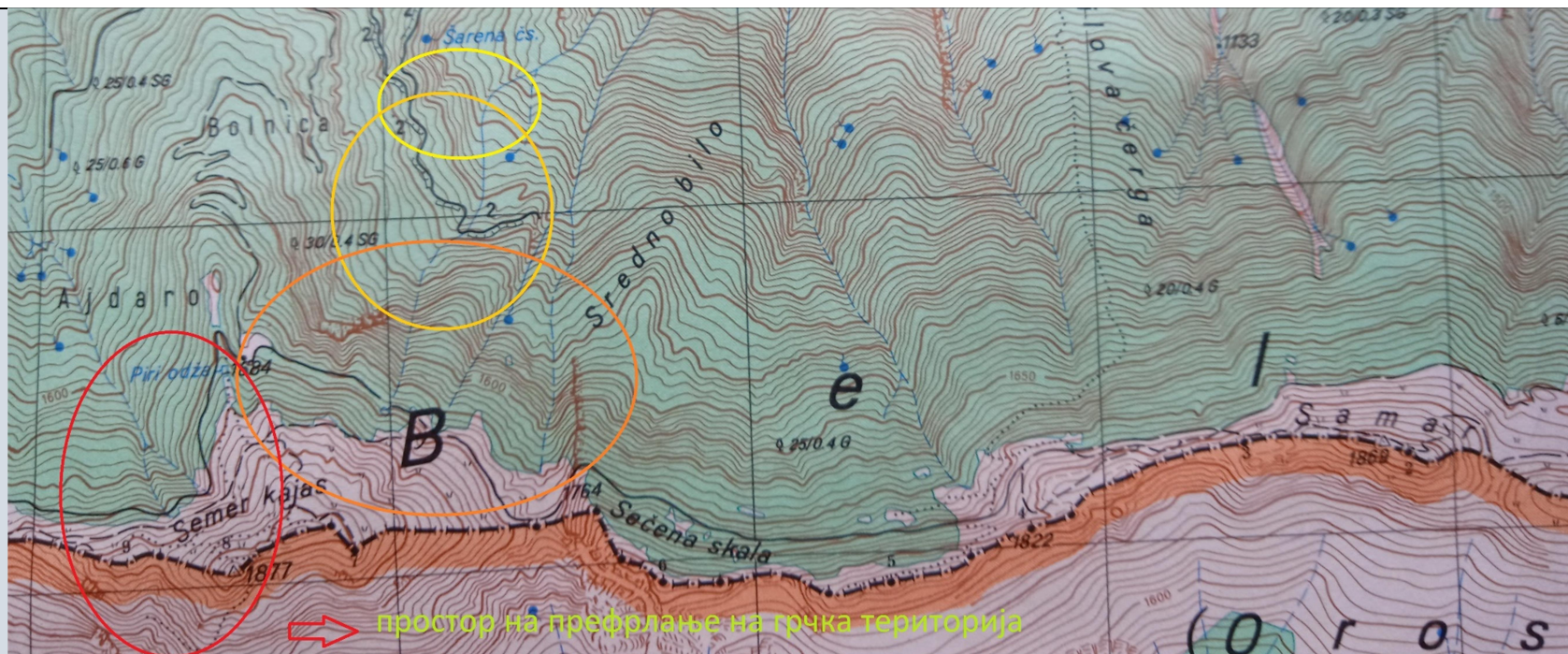
							Personal protective equipment; Medical equipment for first aid, NICS system.
The third and orange circle is presenting the additional extension of the forest fire towards the borderline							
15.	19.00	Location Semer Kajas	<b>Possible expansion of the fire on the territory of Greece</b> Due to the intensification of the wind intensity and change of its direction, the fire intensifies and spreads. Due to the relief, the "canalization" directs it to the ridge of the Belasica Mountain, towards the location Semer Kajas, threatening to expand on the territory of Greece. In that area within the Prefecture of Serres, there is a protected area Natura 2000	Forces of the PRDRO Strumica are activated; Acting upon SOPs provided for their activation and action; Through the HELP (Container) system, the competent Greek authorities are informed about the high probability of the fire on the Belasica Mountain to be transferred to Greek	Operational duty officer in RCMC Strumica, OPCEN CMC, Members of the spatial forces of the PRDRO Strumica. Operational centre in Greece	Tel. line Mobile phone Container, electronic messages and NICS system	



				<p>GR1260001<sup>2</sup> and it is necessary to act promptly to prevent the spread of fire and endangering the protected area.</p>  <p>That is why the Greek services are informed and information about the fire and the spreading path is shared.</p>	<p>territory. The activities of both countries are coordinated following the established protocols and standards for action.</p>		
	<b>16.</b>	<b>20:30</b>	Above the village Smolare	<b>The 2 lost mountaineers have been found</b>	<p>Information from the search teams of the Ministry of Interior – Police in Strumica and Novo Selo, PRDRO Strumica and Mountaineering Association "Enthusiast" from Strumica Red Cross-Strumica to RCMC Strumica that the lost mountaineers were found, alive and well, under psychological stress from the situation. The team of the Red Cross-Strumica takes care of them and provides them with first aid.</p>	<p>Operational duty officer in RCMC Strumica: Police HQ in Strumica and Police Station in Novo Selo; MIA-RC South-Kavadarci; PRDRO Strumica and Mountaineering Association "Enthusiast" from Strumica Red Cross-Strumica</p>	<p>Phones, radios, etc. NICS system Emergency medical equipment</p>
	<b>17.</b>	<b>22:00</b>	Location Semer Kajas	<b>Crossborder expansion of the fire</b> By using tactical measures (performing averages, counter-fires,	The action of all activated entities from CMS in the field,	RCMC Strumica Mobile teams of employees in FE "Belasica"	Off-road vehicles for the transport


<sup>2</sup> <https://natura2000.eea.europa.eu/Natura2000/SDF.aspx?site=GR1260001>

				<p>etc., the fire is kept under control on our territory. However, due to its intensity, strong wind from the north, the direction of spread, it is transferred to the territory of Greece, at the location Semer Kajas alt. 1877 m.</p>	<p>Continuous information and mutual coordination of the home teams The system (container) informs the competent Greek authorities for the transfer of the fire to Greek territory; The activities of both countries are coordinated following the established protocols and standards for action.</p>	<p>-Strumica; Firefighters from FFB-Strumica; Firefighters from FFB Radovish; Firefighters from FFB Valandovo; Members of the spatial forces of the PRDRO Strumica; Mountaineers, members of the mountaineering association "Enthusiast" - Strumica, Spatial forces from the local population in the municipality of Novo Selo; Red Cross-Strumica</p>	<p>of persons; Special off-road vehicles for extinguishing forest fires; Off-road vehicle water supply tank; Backpacks; Rakes, Means of radio communication Chainsaws and other special equipment; Personal protective equipment; System for coordination of interstate joint activities in firefighting and localization of fire NICS system</p>
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The fourth, red circle is presenting the area where the fire crossed the borderline and expanded on the Greek territory

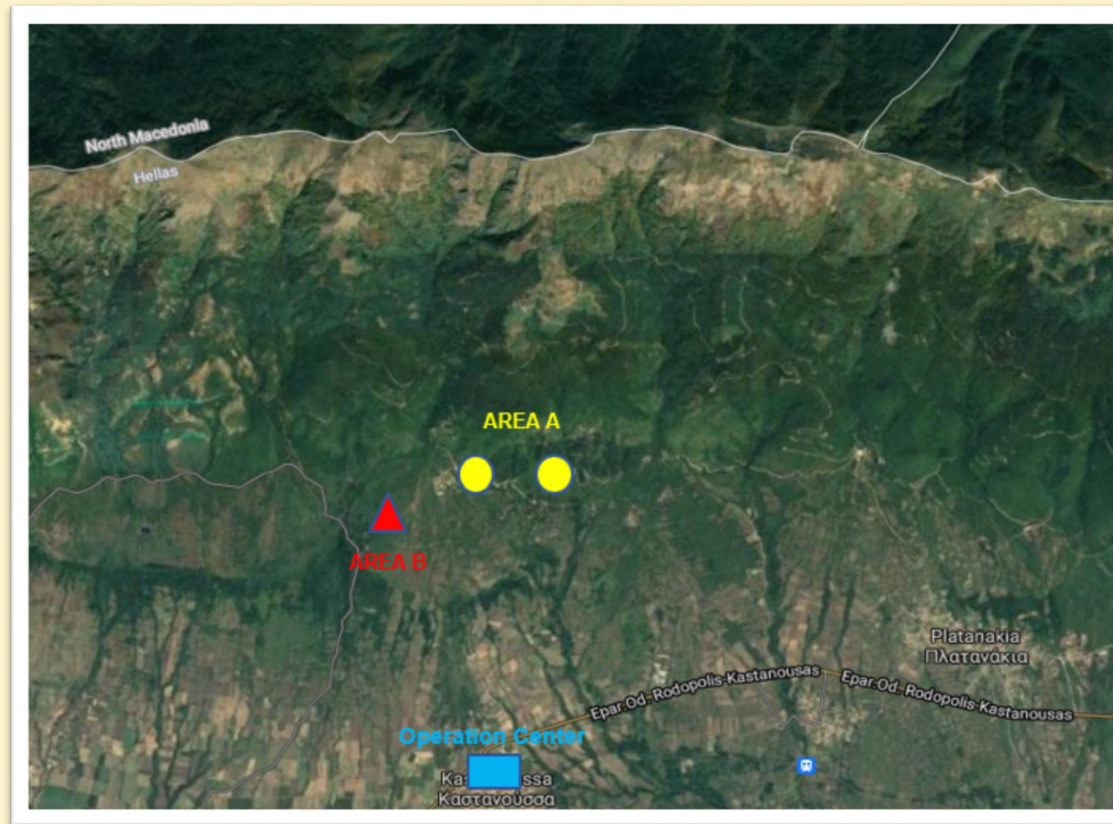
2	18.	07:00 09:00	Location Semer Kajas on the side of the territory in North Macedonia and the location of the expanded fire on the Greek side	<p><b>Extinguishing the fire on the territory of both countries</b></p> <p>The fire on the Greek territory is actively extinguished and endangers the protected area Natura 2000, while the fire on the territory of North Macedonia is localized and under control</p>	<p>The action of all activated entities from CMS in the field,</p> <p>Continuous information and mutual coordination of the home teams</p> <p>- through the system (container) the competent Greek authorities are informed about the transfer of the fire on Greek territory and the situation on both sides of the border zone;</p> <p>Information and data on the situation on the ground and the steps taken and planned are shared activities of both</p>	<p>RCMC Strumica</p> <p>Mobile teams of employees in FE "Belasica" -Strumica;</p> <p>Firefighters from FFB-Strumica;</p> <p>Firefighters from FFB Radovish;</p> <p>Members of the spatial forces of the PRDRO Strumica;</p> <p>Mountaineers, members of the mountaineering association "Enthusiast" - Strumica,</p> <p>Spatial forces from the</p>	<p>Off-road vehicles for the transport of persons;</p> <p>Special off-road vehicles for extinguishing forest fires;</p> <p>Off-road vehicle water supply tank;</p> <p>Backpacks;</p> <p>Means of radio communication</p>
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					countries are coordinated following the established protocols and standards for action	municipality of Novo Selo; Red Cross-Strumica	Rakes, Chainsaws and another special equipment; Personal protective equipment; System for coordination of interstate joint activities in firefighting and localization of fire NICS system
 <p>Sechena Skala location and the view of the Tromejja area.</p>							
19.	10:00 (EEST)	Greece-N. Macedonia Borders	<b>Expansion of the fire on Greek territory</b>  The Greek authorities are informed from N. Macedonian authorities about the transfer of the fire on Greek territory and the situation on both sides of the border zone. In N. Macedonia	<b>The Civil Protection of Greece are informed from the CMC about the fire and the situation on both sides of the border zone. Information and data on the situation on the ground, as well as the steps taken and planned, are shared; and both</b>	Operational duty officer of Civil Protection, CMC	Mobile phone Emergency tel. number 112, Radio Communications	



					countries' activities are coordinated in accordance with established protocols and standards for action.		
20.	10:30 (EEST)	CIVIL PROTECTION Operation Center	The strong wind intensifies and spreads the fire due to the inaccessible terrain and NW winds are blowing in the area, the Civil Protection mechanism is activated. HRT receives a call for assistance from the Government agencies.	The HRT radio operator who receives the call informs the HRT Director of Operations who in turn notifies the rescuers.	Civil Protection; HRT radio operator; HRT Director of Operations	Tel Lines, Mobile phones, Radio Communications, other specialized firefighting equipment; Equipment for personal protection.	
21.	10:30 (EEST)	HRT HQ	<b>Mobilization of HRT.</b>  The organization is acting on the information, directions and instructions received from Civil Protection.	Mobilization of HRT operational forces for extinguishing fires to the operational area	HRT Rescue Volunteers, HRT Operations Commander	Tel Lines, Mobile phones, Radio Communications, other specialized firefighting equipment; Equipment for personal protection.	
22.	11:30 (EEST)	Proximity to the location at Mountain Belles alt 1100m.  Operation Area A	The arrival of first mobile teams of Hellenic Fire Service and HRT for extinguishing the forest fires at the location of the operating area A.	The arrival of first mobile teams of Hellenic Fire Service and HRT at the predefined meeting point. A quick assessment of the situation on the ground; Analyzing the current situation; Development,	Civil Protection, Hellenic Fire Service, HRT	Person-carrying off-road vehicles; off-road vehicle water tanks; Motocross vehicle	

distribution and coordination of a mobile team action plan

backpacks; rakes, radio communication devices; chainsaws and other specialized equipment; Equipment for personal protection



Operation Area of fire (A) Operation Area of missing hikers (B) Kastanousa Serron Operation Center						
<b>23.</b>	12:00 (EEST)	Mountain Belles Operation Area B	Information on hikers who have gone missing in the fire's wider area. On a mountaineering tour, a group of hikers informs Civil Protection that two members of their group have gone missing. They are thought to have gone missing near the Operation Area A, which is close because of the fire spread.	Notifying the Police HQ duty service about missing mountaineers on Mount Belles. Informing the duty service operation commander. Civil Protection also informs HRT about the missing persons.	Civil Protection, Local Police Department, Hellenic Fire Service and HRT	Tel Lines, Mobile phones, Radio Communications, GPS
<b>24.</b>	12:15 (EEST)	Mountain Belles	Arrival of the search and rescue forces at the Operation Area B	The arrival of the search teams, which included members of the local police department and HRT. Getting to know them in the field and assessing the current situation	Civil Protection, Hellenic Fire Service, HRT	Person-carrying off-road vehicles; radio communication devices; personal protective equipment
<b>25.</b>	12:45 (EEST)	Mountain Belles	The two missing hikers have been found with minor injuries.	According to information from the Police and HRT search teams, the missing hikers were discovered alive with minor injuries and under psychological stress as a result of the situation. The HRT team evaluates their situations	Civil Protection, Hellenic Fire Service, HRT, Local Police Department	radio communication devices; personal protective equipment and first aid equipment.

				and provides them with first aid. An immediate transportation to the MED container is required to treat their injuries.		
 <p>MED Container at the Kastanousa Serron Operation Center</p>						
<b>26.</b>	<b>13:00</b>  <b>14:00 (EEST)</b>	Location Semer Kajas in the direction of Sechena Skala	<b>The fire was extinguished on the territory of North Macedonia</b>	The action of all activated entities from CMS in the field, Continuous information and mutual coordination of the home teams - through the system (container) the competent Greek authorities are informed about the transfer	RCMC Strumica Mobile teams of employees in FE "Belasica" -Strumica; Firefighters from FFB-Strumica; Firefighters from FFB Radovish; Members of the spatial forces of the PRDRO	Off-road vehicles for the transport of persons; Special off-road vehicles for extinguishing forest fires; Off-road



					<p>of the fire to Greek territory; The activities of both countries are coordinated following the established protocols and standards for action. Duty teams from FE Belasica and FFB Strumica are established to control the burned area and prevent re-ignition</p>	<p>Strumica; Mountaineers, members of the mountaineering association "Enthusiast" - Strumica, Spatial forces from the local population in the municipality of Novo Selo; Red Cross-Strumica</p>	<p>vehicle water supply tank; Backpacks; Special extinguishing tool; Radio equipment, etc. type of communication; Chainsaws and other special equipment; Personal protective equipment; Manual means for extinguishing forest fires; System for coordination of interstate joint activities in firefighting and localization of fire NICS system</p>
	27.	<p><del>14:00</del> 13:30 14:30 (EEST)</p>	The Greek side of Belasica	<b>The fire was extinguished on Greek territory</b>	<p>The action of all activated entities from CMS in the field, Continuous information and mutual coordination of the home teams - through the system (container) the competent Greek authorities are informed about the transfer</p>	<p>Operational duty officer in RCMC Strumica, OPCEN CMC, Operational centre in Greece  Civil Protection, Hellenic Fire Service, HRT</p>	<p>Tel. line Mobile phone Container, electronic messages and NICS system</p>

					of the fire to Greek territory; The activities of both are coordinated states according to the established protocols and standards of conduct		
<b>28.</b>	<del>14:30</del> <b>13:45</b>  <b>14:45</b> <b>(EEST)</b>	RCMC Strumica Operation Center (Container) <b>Kastanousa Serron Operation Center (Container)</b>	<b>End of exercise</b>	Informing all involved entities Information through the container on the Greek side	Operational duty officer in RCMC Strumica, OPCEN CMC, entities involved, Operational center in Greece  Civil Protection, Hellenic Fire Service, HRT	Tel. line Mobile phone Container, electronic messages and NICS system	
<b>29.</b>	<del>15:00</del> <b>14:00</b>  <b>15:00</b> <b>(EEST)</b>	RCMC Strumica (Home of the ARM Strumica or the Municipal building in Novo Selo  <b>Kastanousa Serron Operation Center (Container)</b>	<b>Brief evaluation of the exercise</b>	According to the rules and practices, an evaluation of the exercise is held, which determines the procedures, measures and activities that have been applied, the level of coordination, communication and cooperation, both in the national and in the cross-border part, and codified lessons learned. The head of the RCMC will prepare a report from this evaluation.	Exercise Director (from CMC) Regional Crisis Management Headquarters in shortened composition Representatives of the CMS entities from the area of RCMC Strumica who were involved in the event  Director of the exercise (Greece), Civil Protection, Hellenic Fire Service, HRT	Presentation, Discussion, Evaluation Report	