

Preparedness for Handling a Mass Casualty Event

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ABSTRACT

This presentation is objected to perform the response building process for dealing with a mass casualty and WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction) terror event. In the last decade in Israel, changes were done 3 times in the organizational structure due to the changes in the threats and the scenario definition.

The processes include:

1. Risk assessments of terror or of natural disasters.
2. Defining the Policy.
3. Defining the Scenario: Balancing between the threats effect and costs:
 - a. Defining the event evolvement.
 - b. Reaction time of the first responders.
 - c. The expected casualties – to be prepared for.
4. Defining the policy:
 - a. Leading organization and responsibilities,
 - b. Quality level of the services,
 - c. Level of personnel and public awareness,
 - d. Law and rules,
 - e. Measures for evaluation, and
 - f. Budget allocation.
5. The general levels of responses:
 - a. Immediate Response – Security personnel and people on site.
 - b. First responders.
 - c. Recovery
6. Respiratory protection:
 - a. Open systems – filtering respirators for level C and for escape
 - b. Closed systems – supplied respirators for level A & B
 - c. Collective systems
7. Decontamination equipment and decontamination of the hit point are also involved.
8. Implementation
9. Training
10. Preparing of the population.

Summary: Performing a better Homeland Security System. By: real risk assessment, deciding on policy and doctrine for each threat and for all needed levels and acting accordingly, will save lives and conduct the efforts and funds to the right channels.