## **ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (MONITORING AND INFORMATION CENTRE) OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND THE** ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT (EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT **AUSTRALIA) OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF CIVIL PROTECTION**

In view of the shared interest in reducing disaster risk to Australian and European communities, in light of the ongoing dialogue on this issue between the Attorney-General's Department of the Commonwealth of Australia represented by Emergency Management Australia and the Directorate-General for the Environment of the European Commission represented by the Monitoring and Information Centre (the Services), and bearing in mind the need for continuous improvement in emergency management, both Services intend:

- To exchange and regularly update relevant contact details, including 24/7 points of contact, in order to ensure continuity of dialogue, to facilitate coordination when required and to carry out appropriate communication exercises;
- To exchange relevant information as appropriate on the actions in response to major emergencies where both Services are involved;
- To invite members of each Service to participate in relevant conferences;
- To exchange information on emergency management best practices including education and training, public awareness of disasters, community information and warning systems, community and organisational resilience and risk assessment, and to that end exchange relevant experts where appropriate; and
- To consider engagement of both Services in joint research in emergency management and civil protection related matters.

This non-binding arrangement will not entail additional financial commitments for either Service. Each Service bears its own costs deriving from the actions taken under this arrangement.

## 0 1 SEP. 2008

For the DG Environment of the **European Commission** 

Jos Dełbeke

For the Attorney-General's Department of the Commonwealth of Australia

Antony C Pearce Acting Director-General for the Environment Director General of Emergency Management Australia