Information

on early warning of the population by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources about expected hazardous hydro-meteorological events during 2017

The Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources according to its regulation in the manner prescribed by the legislation provides the population, institutions, enterprises and organizations with hydrometeorological data, warnings on hazardous atmospheric events, meteorological and agro-meteorological forecasts, information on climatic characteristics, hydrological regime of surface waters, hydrometeorological characteristics of the Caspian Sea in order to inform the population about the expected hazardous hydro-meteorological events in Azerbaijan and to ensure access to these information, as well as to cooperate closely with relevant agencies.

Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources ensures preparation of warnings on hazardous and particularly hazardous hydro-meteorological events (floods, strong winds, hurricanes, flooding of coastal areas, snow avalanches, strong frosts, droughts etc.) and submits this information to state management authorities, relevant organizations and the public.

Daily observed weather data and weather forecasts, as well as information on flooding, inundation and actual water level of rivers, are regularly placed on the web page of the Ministry (www.eco.gov.az). 2 and 3 days weather forecasts and warnings about sharp fluctuations in weather conditions and river inundations for different regions of the Republic and Baku and Absheron peninsula are submitted to state organizations, relevant institutions as well as to the Ministry of Emergency Situations. Specialists of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources were regularly interviewed by press on the actual and expected condition.

In 2017, with regard to sharp fluctuations of weather conditions in the regions of the Republic (strong wind, abrupt fall in air temperature, sharp heats, short-term flood and flood events in rivers) warnings with a total number of 77; of them 6 in January and February, 9 in March, 7 in April, 10 in May, 8 in June and July, 4 in August, 5 in September, 6 in October, 4 in November and December, with regard to sharp fluctuations in weather conditions in Baku and Absheron peninsula warnings with a total number of 30; of them 4 in January, 2 in February, 1 in March, 3 in April, 1 in May, 5 in July, 2 in August, 3 in September, 2 in October, 3 in November, 4 in December as well as warnings on strong winds and waves in Caspian sea were submitted to the relevant state organizations, Ministry of Emergency Situations, local executive authorities and mass media.

Annual forecasts of spring-summer floods and flow forecasts of river inundations has great significance in reducing to the minimum of damages which could suffer population and infrastructures. To this end, results of the snow measurement activities carried out by the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources in March to define the snow resources of the country, as well as considering the monthly and seasonal weather forecasts the forecasts of spring-summer floods for April, May, June months and flow forecasts of flood event in the rivers of the republic were prepared and submitted to the relevant state organizations as well as Ministry of Emergency Situations, mass media and placed on the web page of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources for population and public awareness raising.

4 automated radiolocation management stations, installed in the area of the Republic, enable tracking of cloud and atmospheric precipitation and related hazardous hydro-

meteorological events and prepare their short-term forecasting. With the assistance of automatic radiolocation observation complexes, installed in MRL-5 locators of Aghstafa, Shaki, Goygol, and Shamakhi regions, the automated observation of torrential rains, floods and hail were conducted, short-term storm warnings were delivered to the population in a timely manner.

Since November 2014, based on the international experience and methods the application of “Metcap+” system has been initiated to improve the quality of forecasts and warnings. Along with the necessary actual information used in the preparation of forecasts, the numerous forecasting maps, results of digital models, satellite data renewed in every 3 hours are made available through this system and exchange of information is carried out.

Data on the observed and expected intensive rainfall during the spring-summer and autumn periods was tracked in the map form through the system and analysis were carried out on expected floods in the region and western part of the republic on the basis of different models within the project of “Unexpected Inundation Early Warning System” implemented in the Black Sea and Near East region with the support of WMO.

Under the contract with Finland's VAISALA company, the installation of the automatic meteorological stations MAWS-310 were continued. Currently, 68 automated meteorological stations are operating.

In order to ensure the transmission and distribution of meteorological observation data (MESSIR COMM), as well as the modernization of the storage and processing (MESSIR CLIM) process an agreement was signed with the French company “COROBOR SYSTEMS” and the system was bought in October 2016 and its utilization has started.

Since January 2017, data from automatic meteorological stations directly entered to "COROBOR" system are collected in the base.

In May 2017, the National Hydrometeorology Department signed a contract with the British company “Interout” for joining to the Regional Meteorological Communication Network of the “Corobor system” and joined to the network. Through this network, data from 17 meteorological stations were transmitted to the international broadcasting. Thus, 10 of this information was sent to Russia and 7 to the World Meteorological Organization.

At the same time, the climate data of 14 meteorological stations via Turkey's “METCAP” system was sent to Turkey.

In 2009, the early warning radiological monitoring systems were established in the six frontier regions to control gamma radiation exposure from neighbouring countries. The received data from the stations is stored and controlled by the central server stations established in the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources and the Ministry of Emergency Situations.