

SUMMARY TABLE OF NATIONAL INITIATIVES ON TOPIC A	
SUMMARY TABLE FOR: SINGAPORE	
DISASTER RESPONSE MANAGEMENT	
National Initiative/s	Areas for Possible Common Legislation
<p>In Singapore, there is a common system called Homefront Crisis Management System that brings together all government ministries and agencies to execute the national plan to manage large scale civil and natural disasters.</p> <p>The main legislation supporting emergency preparedness and disaster management activities in Singapore are the Civil Defence Act, Fire Safety Act and Civil Defence Act.</p> <p>The Civil Defence Act provides the legal framework for, amongst other things, the declaration of a state of emergency. This Act was recently amended to update the functions of SCDF, to provide a legal framework for overseas humanitarian assistance and disaster relief deployments and to update the provisions relating to the administrations of the Force. These amendments came into force on 1 February 2011.</p> <p>The Fire Safety Act provides the legal framework to impose fire safety requirements on commercial and industrial premises, as well as the involvement of the management and owners of such premises in emergency preparedness against fires.</p> <p>The Civil Defence Shelter Act provides the legal framework for buildings to be provided with civil defence shelters for use by persons</p>	<p>The ASEAN Agreement on Disaster Management and Emergency Response (AADMER) that was signed by ASEAN Foreign Ministers at the 38th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on 26 July 2005 in Vientiane, Lao PDR entered into force on 24 Dec 2009, following its ratification by all ASEAN Member States.</p> <p>The AADMER provides a legally-binding framework for joint response to disasters through national efforts, regional assistance and international cooperation. The Agreement includes general obligations of the member states on disaster risk identification, assessment and monitoring, on disaster prevention and mitigation, on preparedness, emergency response and rehabilitation as well as specific provisions for the movement of relief assistance, expedited customs and immigration clearance, etc.</p> <p>The AADMER also provides for the establishment of an ASEAN Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance (AHA Centre) to facilitate operational coordination of disaster management activities. The functions of the AHA Centre include consolidating and disseminating information on disaster risk and standby arrangements for disaster relief and facilitating joint emergency response, technical cooperation and scientific/technical</p>

<p>to take refuge during a state of emergency.</p> <p>Besides, at national level, there are various laws enacted that empower respective government ministries and their agencies to prevent and manage crisis. Examples of such legislations are Building and Construction Authority Act, Building Control Act, Environment Protection and Management Act, Environment Public Health Act, Hazardous Waste (Control of Export, Import and Transit) Act, Infectious Diseases Act, National Environment Agency Act and Radiation Protection Act.</p>	<p>research activities. The AHA Centre is located in Jakarta, Indonesia.</p> <p>Given that the AADMER is already in force and has provided a 'common ground' for ASEAN Member States to work together, it may not be necessary to pursue any harmonisation of legislation which would duplicate existing efforts and resources.</p>
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