

Topic 1: Preparation for an Earthquake

TIMEMUN: Knesset committee

Character: The Minister Of Labor And Social Services

The Israeli Ministry of Labor and Social Services is committed to take all necessary actions in order to respond quickly and effectively to an earthquake emergency.

In this paper:

1. the relevant historical background of earthquakes is presented,
2. the UN's programs which relate to earthquake response are cited
3. and a three step implementation solution :strengthening infrastructure , population preparedness measures and a well planned and budgeted reconstruction process is proposed.

Historical Background

Significant earthquakes pose a huge threat to the economy, security and life in the world.

In the earthquake that occurred in 1759, the number of dead was between 10,000 and 40,000 in the areas that are now Lebanon, Syria and Israel.

This was a huge number considering these areas were much less populated at the time.

Earthquake damage costs the global economy an average of \$45 billion per year between 2000-2019.

In addition, according to the UNDRR (United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction), thousands of major catastrophic events were recorded during the period of 2000-2019, including significant earthquakes that claimed approximately 1.23 million lives, affected billions of people, and resulted in global economic losses of approximately \$2.97 trillion.

This represents a sharp increase compared to the previous 20 years.

UN Programs

The UN has previously responded to natural disasters such as earthquakes.

The United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), managed by OCHA (United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs), is one of the fastest and most effective ways to support a rapid financial response to people affected by natural disasters, helping to restore life and functional continuity after an earthquake significantly.

The United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination System (UNDAC) is also managed by OCHA, the OCHA committee mobilizes UNDAC teams mainly in the case of a natural disaster, when the country affected by the disaster has requested international assistance and requires additional international coordination resources.

The United Nations convened 3 world conferences for disaster risk reduction (including natural disasters) which adopted strategies and action plans for 1: a safer world in 1994, 2: building the resilience of countries and communities to disasters during the years 2005-2015, and 3: a framework for reducing disaster risks for the years 2015-2030.

Furthermore, in order to try to minimize the damages caused by an earthquake, the technical support and capacity development of the UNDRR (United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction) committee, assists in the development of national multi-hazard disaster risk reduction strategies that include and share the review of national legislation and standards to promote a risk-informed approach to development and climate action in all sectors.

It should be noted that Israel has played an active role in providing emergency aid in the event of large-scale natural disasters to countries around the world. For example, Israel search and rescue teams assisted in finding survivors after an earthquake that occurred in Turkey last year.

The current situation The head of the government's earthquake preparedness committee warned lawmakers in February that central cities are not fully prepared for a major earthquake. A previous auditor's report found that 600,000 buildings in Israel do not meet the standard for earthquake resistance.. The Ministry of Labor, which is responsible for the personnel department in emergencies, provides efforts to continue the functional continuity of factories.

They provide essential services such as the supply of water, food, or electricity as well as the provision of hospitalization and health services, sanitation, communications and mail.

The Ministry of Labor invests its efforts in strengthening the economy with dedicated manpower in critical professions, from existing manpower reserves and the employment service's pool of job seekers.

We must take into consideration the fact that a significant earthquake is a likely possibility .It will cause severe damage if we are not prepared for the day after. Therefore, preparedness and rehabilitation plans are very critical and will dictate our primary response. All government ministries must work together to create a full preparedness and rehabilitation plan. Being prepared should be our top priority.

Suggested measures for implementation .

The Ministry of Labor and Social Services wishes to offer solutions and initiatives at the national level to minimize the threats posed by future earthquakes.

These solutions will also help in maintaining the functional continuity of the Israeli economy as well as the susceptible communities in the country that will probably be financially harmed for which the Ministry of Labor is responsible.

1. The Ministry calls on the Knesset committee to allot the necessary resources for strengthening of buildings as well as to provide funding of out of the 64 billion shekels of the security budget 50 million shekels per year for upgrading infrastructures for energy, water, sewage, and waste disposal. Funding must also be allocated to strengthen transportation and communication facilities such as roads, trains, ports and airports. As well as public buildings, essential factories, private buildings, and residences all over the country.

2. The Ministry calls on all relevant government ministries in the Knesset to prepare an earthquake preparedness and practice plan that will include practice of the rescue and emergency forces, practice and population preparation, including raising awareness of what steps to take during an earthquake and strengthening private buildings. all this will be from the budget of the home front command, 200 thousand shekels out of 1.18 million shekels of its budget.

3. The Ministry further urges the Knesset to prepare a budgeted reconstruction plan this year. includes a budget (that will consist of the ministry of defense budget and also the balance of the government compensation fund to which the tax provision must be returned) for the event of a significant earthquake that will include maintaining the functional continuity of basic infrastructures of electricity, gas, fuel, and water as well as ensuring the supply of essential products such as food and basic equipment. and will include the operation of the essential factories, public and educational institutions, and the local authorities for a more targeted rehabilitation.

Topic 2: Writing a constitution

TIMEMUN: Knesset committee

Character: The Minister of Labor And Social Services

The Israeli Ministry of Labor and Social Services is committed to take all necessary actions in order to create the best optimal and effective constitution for the state of Israel.

In this paper:

1. the relevant historical background of constitution in israel is presented,
2. the UN's assistance programs which relate to a constitution writing are cited,
3. and a five step implementation solution: The preservation and respect of all ethnic minorities in the country, restriction of public institutions, business and the economy on shabbat, the verification of balance between the 3 authorities, Ensuring that every israeli citizen over 18 enlists for a service in the IDF and Basic laws are proposed.

The Importance Of A Constitution:

A constitution is a necessary instrument for the state, it contains the most important rules of a political system, protects the rights of citizens in the state, and defines the state institutions - what their authority is and how they are allowed to use their authority.

A constitution helps ensure the protection and promotion of human dignity, equality, rights, and freedom. 193 out of 195 countries in the world already have a constitution. Constitutions and constitution-making processes are central to the 2023 agenda of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Committee. The lack of a written constitution for the State of Israel creates conflicts and problems in the daily life of the citizens and the state's legislation.

UN Assistance Programs

The UN assisted several countries in writing a constitution. The International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance International IDEA is an intergovernmental organization that supports sustainable democratic change around the world, including support for the process of creating the constitution.

This organization works in cooperation with the UN to help different countries in drafting and creating a constitution. Since 2006 the IDEA organization provides support in the provision of resource materials and the convening of dialogues between national political parties and the constitutional process in the process of creating the constitution in Nepal. The UN emphasizes the purpose of its aid, which is to promote state building, strengthening the rule of law, human rights, good governance and inclusion. International IDEA also convenes workshops, training and dialogues with colleagues from other countries or closed discussions on the process and design of the text of the constitution to ensure its assistance in various regions and legal systems that need it.

The Ministry Of Labor And Social Services

The Ministry of Labor aims to include in the future constitution the basic law of freedom of occupation and the rights of the workers - thus it will preserve the basic law of human dignity and freedom in the economy as well.

The Ministry of Labor focuses on the values of equality, especially in the areas relevant to it, such as the employment economy. It focuses on every group or ethnic minority being equal and getting the rights they deserve. We must take into account the fact that in a democratic country, the constitution places limits on

the government, to prevent it from abusing its powers. The constitution protects basic human rights and collective rights of minority groups. A constitution is more than necessary in a country with a democratic government like Israel. We must work in cooperation and unite all government ministries to ensure the formulation of an optimal and optimal constitution for the State of Israel. An optimal constitution should be our top priority to prevent exploitation and disregard of minorities and basic rights, and government abuses of citizens at the national level.

Suggested measures for implementation.

The Ministry of Labor and Social Services wishes to offer a five step implementation solution at the national level for writing the best optimal constitution.

These solutions will also help in maintaining the functional rights continuity of the Israeli economy while respecting all citizens rights as well as the ethnic minorities in the country.

1. The Ministry calls on the Knesset committee to ensure the preservation and respect of all rights of all ethnic minority communities in the country including Israeli Arabs, Druze, Bedouin and others in all areas, including the labor market, political representation and full participation, legal protection of these communities, and Including the ensuring of the defense of their status and the equal treatment of them already this year.
2. The ministry calls on the Knesset committee to emphasize the strictness that public institutions, businesses and the economy will be closed on Shabbat (the day of rest), and on Israeli holidays - from the beginning of the Sabbath or the end of the day, including determining a limited number of open kiosks: A maximum of 4 kiosks for small cities and a maximum of 120 kiosks for large cities that will be allowed to be open on Shabbat and Israeli holidays. Except for essential institutions such as: Pharmacies, hospitals, railway stations, ports, telecommunications companies, banks, airlines, Essential plants of water, energy, electricity and gas in all local authorities since this year.
3. The ministry calls on the Knesset Committee to urge the verification of a balance between the three authorities: the Knesset, the government and the courts by making sure that each of these authorities has the authority to limit and check the other two.
4. The ministry calls on the Knesset committee to Ensure that every Israeli citizen over the age of 18 enlists for a minimum of two years of service in the Israel Defense Forces. Except for medically or mentally unfit groups such as: married women, pregnant women and mothers and people with difficult personal mental cases, Except for girls who declare themselves to have a religious lifestyle, yeshiva students who declare that they dedicate their lives to Torah studies including various minorities. And except for Druze and Circassian men. All of these groups are given the option of volunteering.
5. The ministry calls on the Knesset committee to include the 11 basic fundamental laws: The Knesset, Israel's lands, The President of the State, The government State economy laws , Defense Army for the State of Israel, Jerusalem the capital of Israel, the judicial system, The State Comptroller, Freedom of Occupation and Human dignity and freedom.