Notes from Initial Planning Conference (IPC)
Barents Rescue 2019 29-31 May 2018

Day 1

Information (see ppt)

Reaction to the Event Week Proposal

Norway: It’s a good program and proposal. Would like Training Day to include a combination of practical and theoretical topics, a repetition of the 2015 Landslide Guidelines Training in Finland. Treating casualties in cold weather could be a topic. For Training Day, Norway would like to demonstrate amphibious vehicles and a vehicle with high-capacity pumps.

Russia: It’s a good proposal and a good basis for exercise. Will have additional proposal once the details are clear.

Finland: The structure is alright, the content is the important thing. Would like a prolonged exercise at FTX going into evening or night-time.

Day 2 Working in Working groups

- Alarmex
- Command Post Exercise (CPX)
- Field Training Exercise (FTX)
- Robust Communication (RC)
- Evaluation (EVA)

Day 3 Reports from Working Groups

Robust Communications (Magnus Bergqvist): The RC Working Group needs input from the other groups of their needs to be able to put together a suggestion for supporting communication between the different command layers. Most likely a three-country talking group will be needed, it’s important not to create something just for the exercise but something that would be used in a real situation.

FTX

The work is going well. So far it has been a very good cooperation and participation from all parties and we feel the conditions are very good for the
work to come. All participants from all countries are very committed. We have received many good proposals on what to do at the suggested exercise sites. Already we can see that the river scenario will be a main event that all participants are very interested in. There is also some interest for an exercise at the open cast mine at Mt Luossavaara.

We have also received many good proposals for lesser, shorter rescue operations for two to three units during the FTX on Thursday.

What is important now for the continued work is that each participating country fill out and deliver the Ambitions Document. This documentation will be compiled and used as a basis for the coming work that will then be presented at the MPC in Umeå on 3-5 December.

**CPX**

The discussions in the CPX Working Group followed an agenda designed to determine

1. The needs and objectives for the CPX
2. Possible CPX design
3. Actions to follow the IPC up to the MPC scheduled for 5-6 December 2018.

All Barents Region countries were represented in the group and participated actively in the discussions which carried the planning work forward in a fruitful and productive manner.

**Results**

**The needs and objectives for the CPX**

It was agreed that the overall objectives for BR19, especially 3a, forms a good basis for the CPX. However objective 3 a needs to be broken down into specific objectives, which together specifies the aspects that should be addressed by the CPX. Drafting of specific objectives is ongoing addressing the following areas, as identified as crucial, by the CPX WG

- Establish and exercise a concept for SE-OSOCC incl relation to field teams and strategic level
- Command and control
- SE-OSOCC organisation, manning, work, reporting to and from teams and strategic level, LEMA
- Transformation of strategic directions and decisions to coordination of emergency response measures
Possible CPX design

The exercise is going to be conducted during office hours from 08.00 to 17.00 followed by actorwise hot wash-ups. It will be based on the BR19 overall scenario consisting of varying weather and heat waves. The first two-three hours will be dedicated to start-up of OSOCC but also other Emergency Response Centers (ERC) at actors participating in the exercise. After start-up phase a number of major emergencies will be injected to the exercise by a simulation cell (Distaff) which the players are expected to respond to in a coordinated manner. Field teams will not be participating in the CPX but simulated. CPX will in ways be designed to serve as a pre-exercise for the FTX on Wednesday and Thursday. That is, during CPX, OSOCC will be established and manned and prepared to continue its work for the coming days of FTX-exercise in with Field Teams will step in to the exercise.

Actions to follow

- Drafting of CPX specific objectives will continue. The results will be communicated to the Evaluation WG.
- Prehistory (CPX start situation) will be prepared before MPC.
- The detailed timeline for CPX from 08.00 to 17.00 will be prepared. Proposal will be presented at MPC. The proposal will include injects (accidents/emergencies) that will “occur” at predetermined times during the course of the exercise.

WG EVAL BR 19

SPECIFICATIONS FROM THE IPC

Aim of evaluation
Identify lessons from which overall objectives for BR 21 can be derived

Lessons should serve as to as allow gap between joint objectives and results to be closed (if this condition is fulfilled, it will also be possible to meet the evaluation report with an action plan)

Objective of evaluation
Objective 1: Assess proficiency in the four exercised capabilities

Capability to receive and handle alarm and request for assistance
Capability to execute border crossing
Capability for command and control
Capability for cooperation and collaboration in the field
Objective 2: Determine development potential in the four exercised capabilities

**Evaluation method**

ALARMEX: ALARMEX Evaluation

CPX: AAR and distributed forms

FTX: AAR and distributed forms

Possibly, the evaluation of the four capabilities exercised in BR 2019 will also use the evaluation results of ROBUST COMMUNICATIONS, carried out by another entity, in the analysis of results from CPX and FTX (objective 3a and b, and capability 3 and 4, respectively).

**Required input from other Working Groups:**

**From WG FTX:**
- Participating organizations, spaces of collaboration and cooperation, planned flows of information, resources and injured/casualties.
- Detailed time line for constituting components of exercise
- POC EVAL in WG FTX (preferably WG leader)

**From WG CPX:**
- SE-OSOCC organization including functions, staff and tasks
- Planned flow of information from strategic level (LEMA) and to Commanders on Accident Site.
- POC EVAL in WG CPX (preferably WG leader)

**From WG ALARMEX:**
- POC EVAL in WG ALARMEX (preferably WG leader)

**Required input from each country’s POC:**

Names of maximum 3 candidates per country to take part in AAR training in two stages during MPC and FPC

POC EVAL for each country (who also will be part of WG EVAL)
Additional suggestions:

WG EVAL also suggests the formation of WG BORDCROSS. Required input from WG BORDCROSS will include, but not be limited to:

- Crossing points
- POC EVAL in each convoy, who also will be part of the evaluation organization for Joint Objective/Capability 2

AlarmEx

Ambitions

- The countries are free to offer all possible resources (does not connect to the FTX)
- Detailed request for assistance will be sent from Sweden
- International coordination conference will be held to discuss:
  - offered assistance
  - border crossings
  - further point of contacts
  - etc.

Time Table

28 August:

- Early warning

29 August:

- Request for assistance (appr. 07.00)
- Acknowledgement of request for assistance (directly after request)
- Offer of assistance (appr. 15.00)

30 August:

- Accepted assistance, answer from Sweden of assistance (appr. 10.00)
- International coordination conference

Areas of development before the exercise

- Agenda for the international coordination conference
- Checklist for border crossing
  - together with customs personnel at the MPC
- Propose a seminar about border crossing at the FPC
CONCLUDING REMARKS BY COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES AT IPC BR 19

Anders Gundersen, Norway
Good platform for addressing the task that lie ahead of us. Good group work, everyone has contributed. Norway is happy with the start. Thank you Sweden, for receiving us here at Gimo, and thank you all other countries for your collaboration.

Alexandr Bondar, Russia
Dear colleagues, allow me to express my agreement with Anders – thank you for a good conference. We appreciate the planning model and the professionalism of the working group leaders. It was easy to work in climate allowing for cooperation. We consider this conference a satisfactory point of departure for the remainder of our work. Our ambition is to bring as many of our people as possible to the next planning conference. Thank you also for pleasant activities.

Hannu Rantala, Finland
Dear colleagues, I concur with our colleagues. It was a good idea to include lessons from previous exercises. I would also like to ask you to specify, in the forthcoming information package, the type of personnel from our countries that you wish to have available at the MPC. Thank you also for nice ambiance and atmosphere which has enveloped our work here at the IPC.