



EUROPEAN CENTRE
FOR DISASTER MEDICINE

CEMEC



Press Release.

San Marino, 22 March 2023

Prof. Roberto Mugavero, director of the Security Training Center of the University of the Republic of San Marino, is the new president of the European Centre for Disaster Medicine - CEMEC.

CEMEC, a specialized center of the Council of Europe, has been a centre for cooperation in the field of natural and technological emergencies and public health since 1987. The topics covered by CEMEC are in particular: knowledge, prediction, prevention and management of risk, post-crisis analysis, in relation to the main dangers and threats.

Today The world is facing an increasing number of complex challenges: climate change, geopolitical tensions, terrorism, slowing global growth, economic inequalities.

Major climate and lifestyle changes in recent decades have dramatically increased the danger of outbreaks of emerging or re-emerging diseases.

Events such as the Bhopal gas tragedy, the Seveso chemical disaster, and the Chernobyl and Fukushima nuclear power plant accidents are proof of how other kinds of dangers, linked to the progress of technology and innovation, are real and concrete.

Such new scenarios make it necessary, now and in the future, to devote efforts and resources to prevent major emergencies from turning into disasters.

The approach for a comprehensive transition to better risk management, particularly in small states, must focus on governance, capacity-building, training, technical cooperation, and knowledge and information sharing.

Therefore, CEMEC's mission to protect public health, infrastructure and the environment, also requires an evolution towards approach of risk prediction, prevention and management according to the "All Hazards" methodology where response capacity planning and efforts to mitigate consequences do not take into account individual hazards but the full scope of potential emergencies or disasters.

The Minister of Health, Roberto Ciavatta, takes this opportunity to express his heartfelt congratulations on the appointment of Prof. Roberto Mugavero as CEMEC President, and congratulates him on the activities carried out to relaunch the centre, with the aim of expanding the mission of CEMEC, which aspires to be more and more an international reference center for study, research and training in the field of emergencies and public health. This was done focusing on the large community composed of the Small States and Territories and the Mediterranean countries. In this regard, the Center's first steps for the internationalization of its activities and the establishment of a capacity and knowledge network for the topics of interest, have resulted in the Center's participation, as a scientific partner, in the "CBRNe Summit Europe 2023," a conference which is taking place these days in Lisbon, Portugal, and where the main civilian and military stakeholders from more than twenty nations are discussing new challenges to global security according to an "All-Hazards" approach.

CEMEC Press Office

*Segreteria Generale: c/o Ospedale di San Marino Via Scialoja 1 – 47893 Cailungo – Rep. San Marino
Tel.: 0549/994535-994600 – Fax: 0549/903706 – (+) 378 from other Countries
E-mail: cemec@iss.sm – Web Site: www.cemec-sanmarino.eu*