



NOTICE TO THE POPULATION

PRECIPITATION, WIND AND ROUGH SEAS – PREVENTIVE MEASURES

I. SITUATION

According to information from the Portuguese Institute for the Sea and Atmosphere (IPMA), it is expected a a worsening of the weather in mainland Portugal due to the effects of the GAROE depression with the occurrence of precipitation, sometimes heavy, accompanied by thunderstorms and occasionally hail, a situation that is expected to continue until Wednesday, January 22:

- Heavy rain, with possible hail and accompanied by thunderstorms, especially in the central and southern regions and on the north coast;
- Wind from the south quadrant, with gusts of up to 75km/h on the coast and in the highlands;
- Rough Seas from tomorrow, January 21, on the west coast and south of Cape Carvoeiro, including the western Algarve, with waves of 5.5 meters.

Follow weather information at www.ipma.pt

2. EXPECTABLE EFFECTS

Increased adverse weather conditions with rainfall, strong wind and maritime turmoil, being forecasted during this period:

- The occurrence of flooding in urban areas, caused by the accumulation of water due to obstruction of drainage systems or coastal overtopping;
- The occurrence of floods, increased by the overflow of the beds of some watercourses, rivers and streams;
- The instability of slopes, leading to mass movements (landslides and others) motivated by water infiltration, a phenomenon that can be enhanced by the removal of vegetation cover following rural fires, or by artificialization of the soil;
- Slippery road surfaces due to the accumulation of water on the pavement;
- Possible accidents on the coast, due to rough seas;
- The dragging of loose objects onto roads, or the detachment of mobile or poorly fixed structures, due to episodes of strong wind, which can cause accidents with circulating vehicles or passers-by on public roads;





- Thermal discomfort in the population due to increased wind intensity.

3. PREVENTIVE MEASURES

The National Emergency and Civil Protection Authority (ANEPC) recalls that the possible impact of these effects can be minimized, especially through the adoption of appropriate behaviours, therefore, and particularly in historically more vulnerable areas, it is recommended to adopt the main preventive measures for these situations, namely:

- Ensure the unblocking of rainwater drainage systems and the removal of dirt/leaves and other objects that could be swept away or create obstacles to the free flow of water;
- Ensure the fixing of loose structures, namely scaffolding, placards and other suspended structures;
- Take special care in movement and staying near wooded areas, being aware of the possibility of falling branches and trees due to stronger winds;
- Take special care when traveling along the coast and riverside areas that are historically more vulnerable to flooding, avoiding to go there and park there;
- Do not practice activities related to the sea, namely sport fishing, nautical sports and seaside walks, still avoiding vehicle parking very close to the seashore;
- Adopt defensive driving, reducing speed and paying special attention to the formation of ice and frost on roadways;
- Do not cross flooded areas to prevent people and/or vehicles from being dragged into holes in the pavement or open drains;

Pay attention to meteorological information and indications from Civil Protection and Security Forces.

ANEPC | Communication and Awareness Division

