



NOTICE TO THE POPULATION

PRECIPITATION, WIND AND ROUGH SEAS – PREVENTIVE MEASURES

I. SITUATION

The Portuguese Institute for the Sea and Atmosphere (IPMA), predicts a worsening of the weather state in continental Portugal due to the effects of the depression MARTINHO with rainfall, sometimes strong and persistent, wind and maritime turmoil, highlighted:

- Rainfall, sometimes strong and persistent, can be hail and accompanied by thunderstorms, especially in the coastal regions Central and South;
- Strong wind, with gusts of up to 75 km/h across the territory, reaching 120 km/h on the highlands. Favorable conditions for extreme wind phenomena, especially in the Central and South regions;
- Strong maritime turmoil south of Cape Mondego;
- Snowfall at the highest points of the Estrela Mountain.

Follow weather information at www.ipma.pt

Hydrological Information

Information provided by the Portuguese Environment Agency (APA):

- **Tejo basin:** in urban basins there may be a rise in waterfalls, possibility of flooding;
- **Urban basins and Western banks:** - according to the hourly precipitation values obtained from weather forecasts, the urban basins (Cascais, Oeiras, Lisbon, Loures, Odivelas, Setúbal) can be reached caudals with a period of return between 5 and 10 years;
- **Sado basin:** Tides in river Sado may increase;
- **Guadiana basin:** There may be an increase in tides in the Guadiana River;
- **Basin das Ribeiras do Algarve (Sotavento):** There may be a rise in the tide.

Hydrological information at www.apambiente.pt

2. EXPECTABLE EFFECTS

This weather frame is expected to be more severe from the afternoon of March 19th to the morning of March 20th, with expected:

- 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

