

**Introduction**

Nestled in the heart of Southeast Asia, neighbored by Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Malaysia, Thailand spreads out over 513,115 square kilometres of land and stretches some 1,620 kilometres from north to south and 775 kilometres from east to west, with a coastline of approximately 1,840 kilometres on the Gulf of Thailand and 861 kilometres along the Indian Ocean.

Thailand is governed by a constitutional monarchy and is administratively divided into 76 provinces which furtherly divided into district, sub-district or Tambon and village consecutively. Province is the local administration unit headed by provincial governor. The provincial governor is appointed by the central government, excluding Bangkok, whose governor is directly elected by Bangkokians. The population of Thailand consists of over 30 ethnic groups of people making up approximately 63 millions. About 5.8 million people are registered in the capital city of Bangkok.

Geographically, Thailand is divided into four regions; the North, the Central or the Chao Phraya River Basin, the Northeast or the Korat Plateau and the south or the Southern Peninsula. The northern region terrain is mountainous which render this region to be prone to water-related disasters such as flosflood, landslide and debris flow. The northeastern region is an arid area on Korat Plateau and frequently suffers flashflood and inundation during rainy season, severe drought and cold spell during summer and cool season. The central region, the vast fertile land which is dubbed as the "Rice Bowl" of the country often encounters the repeated riverine flood and urban inundation during the rainy season. The southern region terrain is hilly on the west coast and the coastal plain on the east. This part of Thailand has occasionally frequented flashflood, mudslide, tropical storm and forest fire.

The climate, Thailand is a warm and rather humid tropical country with an average high temperature of 34.1°C and the low of 22.6°C. There are three overlapping seasons: the monsoon that lasts from July to October, from when it turns moderate to cool until February and warms up to sweltering heat until June.

Current Disaster Information

Generally, disaster can be categorized into two types : natural disaster and man-made disaster. All the same, whenever the disaster occurred, it will maim and kill people, destroy property and environment and impede national sustainable development. Thailand is considered as non-disaster prone country. There are no catastrophic natural disaster such as volcanic eruption, and earthquake. Notwithstanding, Thailand has occasionally frequented large-scale natural disasters particularly water related disasters such as riverine flood, urban inundation, tropical storm and drought. For instances, in 2000, the flashflood and inundation in Haad Yai metropolis of Songkhla province, southern Thailand and a year later in 2001, the flashflood and debris slide in Prae and Petchaboon provinces, north and northeastern Thailand had resulted in detrimental consequences on people's lives, property, natural environment and national economy. Besides, in the past two decades, Thailand has also encountered numerous man-made disasters such as industrial accident, chemical spill and chemical related plant explosion, urban fire and road accident as the undesirable consequences of rapid progress in economic and social development.

The Level of Disaster Intensity, Vulnerability, Managing Competency and Risk Levels of Thailand

Type of Disaster	Intensity Level	Vulnerability Level	Managing Competency Level	Risk Level
Flood	High	Moderate	Moderate	High
Tropical Cyclone	High	High	Moderate	Moderate
Earthquake	Low	Low	Poor	Moderate
Land slide	Moderate	Low	Poor	Moderate
Drought	High	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Fire	High	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Explosives	High	Moderate	Poor	High
Accident	High	Moderate	Poor	High
Human Epidemics	Low	Low	Moderate	Low
Agricultural Pest and Diseases	Moderate	Low	Poor	Moderate
Social Unrest	Low	Low	Poor	Moderate
Influx of Refugee	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Moderate

Source : Civil Defence Plan 2005, Civil Defence Secretariat Office Ministry of Interior, Thailand

Prioritization of Disaster Risk in Thailand

Type of Disaster	Level of Risk	Weight
Flood	High	2.39
Accident	High	2.37
Explosives	High	2.34
Tropical Cyclone	Moderate	2.31
Drought	Moderate	2.24
Fire	Moderate	2.20
Land Slide	Moderate	2.15
Earthquake	Moderate	1.97
Social Unrest	Moderate	1.87

Agricultural Pest and Diseases	Moderate	1.77
Human Epidemics	Low	1.63

Source : Civil Defence Plan 2005, Civil Defence Secretariat Office, Ministry of Interior, Thailand

Statistical Data of Disasters and Damages in Thailand during 2000

Year	Types of Disaster	Frequency	Affected Province	Damages		
				Injures (Person)	Fatality (Person)	Loss (Million Baht)
2000	Flood	12	62	-	120	10,032.94
	Storm	960	62	81	9	271.48
	Drought	-	59	-	-	1,044.14
	Earthquake	-	-	-	-	-
	Fire	1,814	-	91	46	722.59
	Road Accident	73,737	-	53,111	11,493	1,242.20
	Chemical Hazards	6	-	57	2	na

Note: 1 US. Dollar = @ 40 Baht

Statistical Data of Disasters and Damages in Thailand during 2001-2003

Year	Types of Disaster	Frequency	Affected Province	Damages		
				Injures (Person)	Fatality (Person)	Loss (Million Baht)
2001	Flood	14	60	-	244	3,666.28
	Storm	1,061	-	-	6	501.01
	Drought	-	51	-	-	71,962.97
	Earthquake	4	-	-	-	-
	Fire	1,498	-	-	-	1,529.28
	Road Accident	17,616	-	53,960	11,652	1,240.80
	Chemical Hazards	20	-	160	32	na
2002	Flood	-	72	-	216	13,385.31
	Storm	594	-	81	18	213.37
	Drought	-	68	-	-	330.77
	Earthquake	12	-	-	-	-
	Fire	1,135	-	91	24	805.81
	Road Accident	88,390	-	53,111	13,398	15,605
	Chemical Hazards	24	-	57	-	40.50
2003	Flood	17	66	10	53	2,066.08
	Storm	3,213	76	434	74	457.43
	Drought	-	63	-	-	174.33
	Earthquake	1	-	-	-	-
	Fire	2,267	-	167	56	565.54
	Road Accident	na	-	952,238	13,290	na
	Chemical Hazards	15	10	56	5	na

Source: Civil Defence Secretariat, Royal Thai Police, Department of Pollution Control

Disaster Management System in Thailand

Civil Defence Committee

The Civil Defence Act 1979, has classified disasters into 3 categories viz;

1. Man-made and natural disasters
2. Disaster resulted air raid during wartime
3. Disaster resulted from sabotage or terrorist attack

Disaster management system in Thailand has mainly based on Civil Defence Act of 1979 and the Civil Defence Plan 2002. The National Civil Defence Committee (NCDC) is the main policy making body. Prior to October 2002, the erstwhile Civil Defence Division of Department of Provincial Administration (the then Department of Local Administration, Ministry of Interior, had been in charge of the National Civil Defence Committee Secretariat. After October 2, 2002 Thai government has enacted the Bureaucrat Reform Act 2002, Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM), has come into existence under the umbrella of Ministry of Interior and has been designated to shoulder responsibility of disaster management of the country and has thus, replaced the former Civil Defence Division as the National Civil Defence Committee Secretariat.

Formerly, the Civil Defence Secretariat Office still relies mainly on manual methodology in collecting information and data for disaster prevention and preparedness activities. The means of communication between Civil Defence Secretariat and other national, provincial and local agencies have been carried out by trunk radio network, telephone and fax. Each morning the officials of Civil Defence Secretariat who are on night-duty will collect information and data from the Department of Meteorology and the daily reports from each provincial governor of 75 provinces.

Recently, the Department has adopted Geographic Information System (GIS) to develop our disaster related information technology system. This adoption will enable us to avail more accurate information of risk areas throughout the country. As the consequences, disaster prevention, mitigation and rehabilitation activities can be launched more effectively and timely. Since the last fiscal year, three disaster related information database have been formulated.

1. Chemical risk area database.
2. Network of agencies concerned and experts database.
3. Flood and mudslide database.

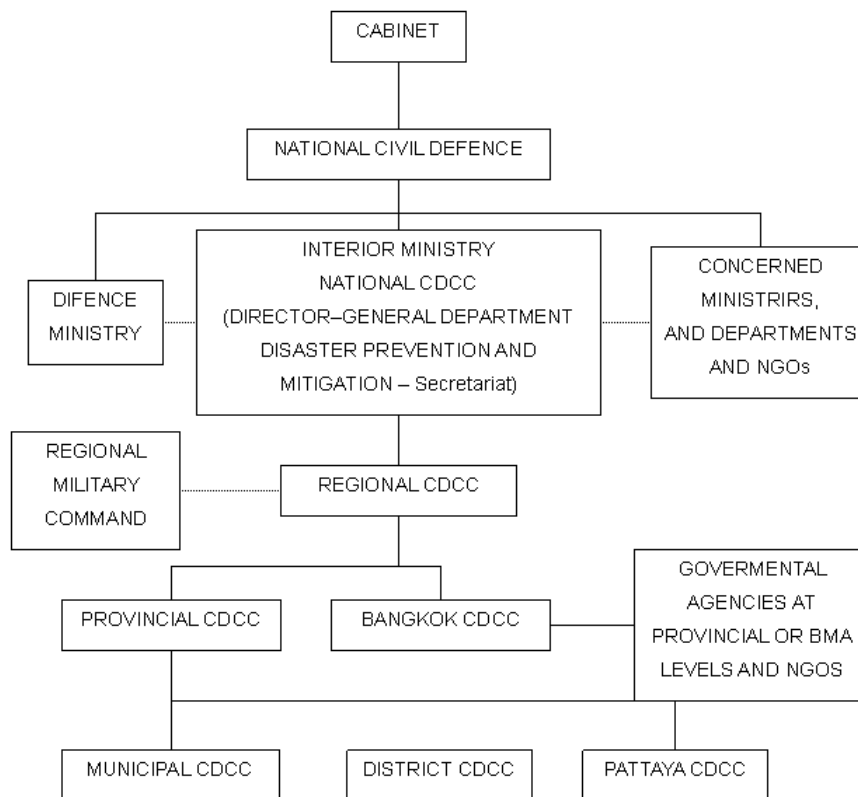
Besides, the GIS applied programs of flood prone areas has been set up which enhance our capability in

- Comparative analyzing inundation situation in each Tambon, district and province in terms of its frequency.
- Searching inundation information such as the water level in specific areas etc.
- Identifying the flood prone areas.
- Identifying inundation coverage areas and evaluating inundation situations.
- Illustrating precipitation situation and the development of inundation in specific areas.
- Assessing the flood related damages.
- Analyzing the flood prevention activities in the flood prone areas.

Telecommunication System

1. Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation has introduced telecommunication system to support the implementation of disaster prevention, mitigation and rehabilitation activities. In this regard, more telephone lines will be installed in our provincial offices and regional centers.
2. Annual budget has been allotted to procure telecommunication radio equipments and to establish radio network center in the Department. This center will act as coordinating mechanism between public and private or amateur radio networks.

Legal Structure of Disaster Management according to The Civil Defence Act 1979



The above Organizational Structure of Civil Defence, depicts the Civil Defence system in Thailand which comprises 3 levels as follows:

1. National level

At this level, it is the responsibility of the National Civil Defence Committee (NCDC) to coordinate all activities relevant to civil defence and disaster management. The committee is chaired by the Minister of Interior and the membership comprises representatives from all of national government agencies concerned such as the Permanent Secretary to Ministry of Defense, Permanent Secretary to Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Permanent Secretary to Ministry of Public Health, Permanent Secretary to Ministry of Transportation and Communication, Director of Budget Bureau, Secretary to the National Security Council, Governor of Bangkok Metropolitan Administration, Chief of Royal Thai Police, Director-General of Social Development and Welfare, Director-General of Department of Meteorology and other designated individuals, as members of the committee. The Director-General of Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation is designated as member and secretary to the committee. As a consequence, the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation is designated as Secretariat of National Civil Defense.

The National Civil Defense Committee performs all functions relevant to management of disaster at national level, such as formulation of Civil Defense Master Plan, evaluation of the implementation of the above-mentioned plan by an audit mission, organizing annual or periodical training courses on civil defense and disaster management for government officials at all levels and the public, issuing regulations on the payment of remuneration, compensation and other expenditures relevant to civil defense and disaster management activities carried out by all agencies concerned.

2. Regional level

At regional level, 12 Regional Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Centers have been established to render technical assistance and auxiliary services to local Civil Defense Committees. Each Regional Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Center is headed by a Director who is the immediate subordinate to Director - General of Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation which means that he has to report directly to the Director - General. Notwithstanding, the Directors of 12 Regional Centers have been instructed to keep the close contact with provincial governors in terms of cooperation and collaboration in disaster management. In the event of large-scale disaster that is beyond the capacity of individual province to manage, the Regional Center is obliged to mobilize all resources such as personnel, equipments and relief effort to the devastated area. In order to link the Regional Center with provincial government, Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation has temporarily set up Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Provincial Office and has staffed the Provincial Office with the personnel deployed from Regional Centers. These provincial staff from Regional Centers will be directly under the supervision of the respective provincial governors.

3. Local level

The main actors who really cope with disasters are local Civil Defence Committee at provincial, district and local levels.

At provincial level

The Provincial Civil Defense Committee is chaired by the governor of the province. Membership of the committee comprised representatives from various government agencies concerned. Most of all of these representatives are the chiefs of provincial government agencies whose responsibility are related to disaster management in the province. The Vice-Governors and Deputy-Governor are vice-chairman. The representatives of Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation whom deployed from its Regional Centers, have been appointed to be either the committee or secretary of the committee.

At District level

The District Chief Officer, in his capacity as chief administrator of the district chairs the District Civil Defense Committee. Membership of the committee comprises heads of government agencies in the district whereas an assistant district Chief Officer (usually the one in charge of special affairs) is designated as secretary to the committee.

At local level

The Local Civil Defence Committee is the mechanism of local governments in urban areas to cope with disasters. There are several forms of local governments in Thailand both in urban and rural areas. But the local governments which are delegated by the national government to be in charge of disaster management or local government in urban areas. While disaster management in the vicinity of rural local governments is carried out by the District Civil Defense Committee of the areas instead.

The urban local governments comprises the following:

1. Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA)
2. Municipalities, which are categorized according to revenue, collected, the size of their population and the availability of infrastructure.
3. The City of Pattaya.

These local governments have their own disaster management mechanism. All of the above-mentioned Local Civil Defense Committee is subject to the authority of the Provincial governor.

In Bangkok

The Governor of BMA is chairman of Bangkok Civil Defence Committee while its membership comprises Directors of bureaus and division of BMA. The Clerk of BMA (chief executive of BMA) is the Secretary to Bangkok Civil Defence Committee.

In Municipal areas

Each municipality is responsible for civil defence and disaster management. The disaster response mechanism is the Municipal Civil Defence Committee, which is chaired by the Mayor. The membership of this committee comprises Directors of Bureaus and Division of the municipal office. The Town Clerk (regular official of municipality) is designated as Secretary to Municipal Civil Defence Committee.

These mechanisms are directly responsible for carrying out disaster relief activities during time of emergency and taking precautionary measures or mitigation measures before the occurrence of disasters.

The Civil Defense Committee of all levels as mentioned above are responsible for civil defense and disaster management during peace time while in wartime or in the state of emergency as a result of terrorist attack or sabotage, the military command will be in charge as line agency responsible for directing all activities concerned with anti-terrorist attack.

The organization of mechanism to cope with disasters or hazards during the situation designated as 'state of emergency' is different from the mechanism during peacetime.

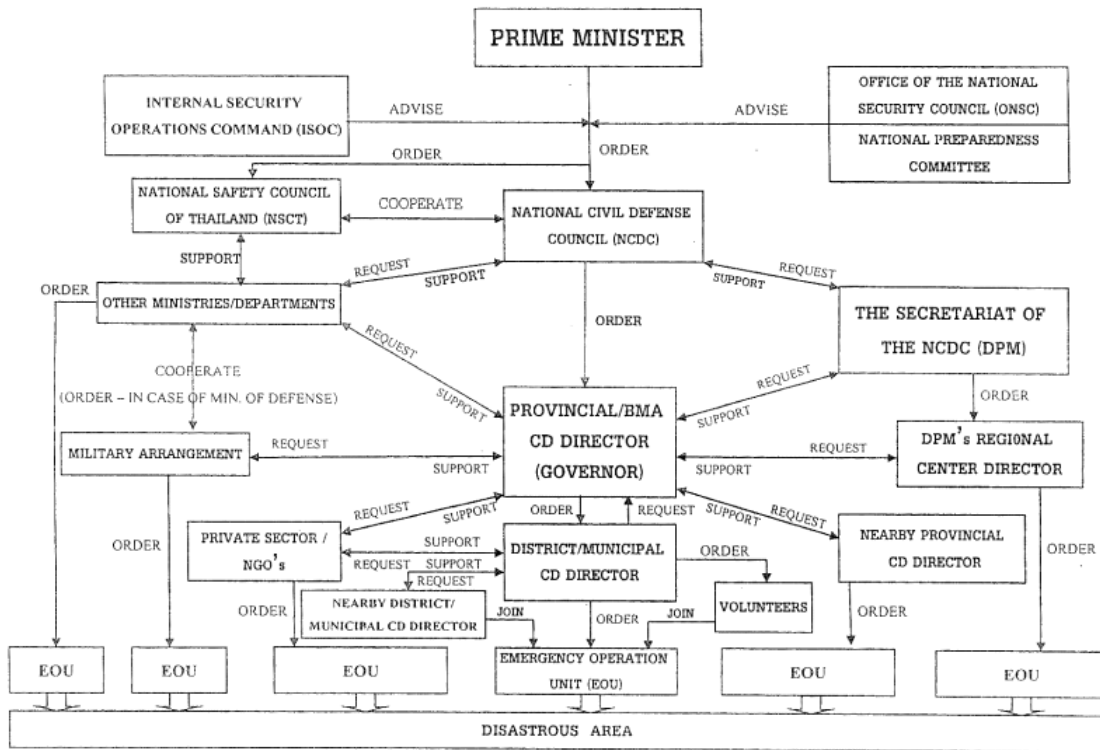
In wartime situation, the Civil Defense Secretariat plays supportive role while the military takes on leading role as commander of the special task force chaired by the Prime Minister himself. The principal actors in wartime situation are such as the National Security Council and the Ministry of Defense.

In state of emergency or wartime, the Civil Defense Secretariat plays supportive role while the military takes on leading role as commander of the special task force chaired by the Prime Minister himself. The principal actors in wartime situation are such as the National Security Council and the Ministry of Defense.

The Civil Defense Secretariat is the main actor in peacetime only. Therefore, it is directly responsible for all types of disasters both natural and man-made.

Disaster management requires all stakeholders to play the roles, in other words, disaster management is not the business of sole government unit. Thus the cooperation and collaboration among all government and non government agencies concerned are indispensable. In this regard, the channels of coordinating, commanding, supervising, assisting and requesting should be clean-cut delineated. The Civil Defense Act 1979 has clearly defined these channels and for the time being has been replaced by new disaster management and coordination diagram which is tabulated and attached next page.

ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE IN DM OF THAILAND



National Safety Council of Thailand

Apart from National Civil Defense Committee, Thailand has another disaster management related mechanism which has highlighted its tasks and responsibility on man-made disaster management only... that is "The National Safety Council of Thailand" (NSCT). The NSCT has been established in 1982 on the ground of the problem of road traffic accidents in Thailand which annually resulted in the tremendous loss of lives, properties and national economy. Later on, its responsibilities have been extended to cover the prevention of chemical accident, occupational accident, accident in home and public venues, considering preventive measure of fire in high-rise building, accident prevention in subway tunnel construction, providing education of safety etc. The NSCT has been chaired by the Prime Minister and the committee comprises high level government official from all concerned government agencies, president of some charitable foundations and experts. The Director General of Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation is the committee and the secretariat of the NSCT.

Functions of The Nation Safety Council of Thailand (NSCT)

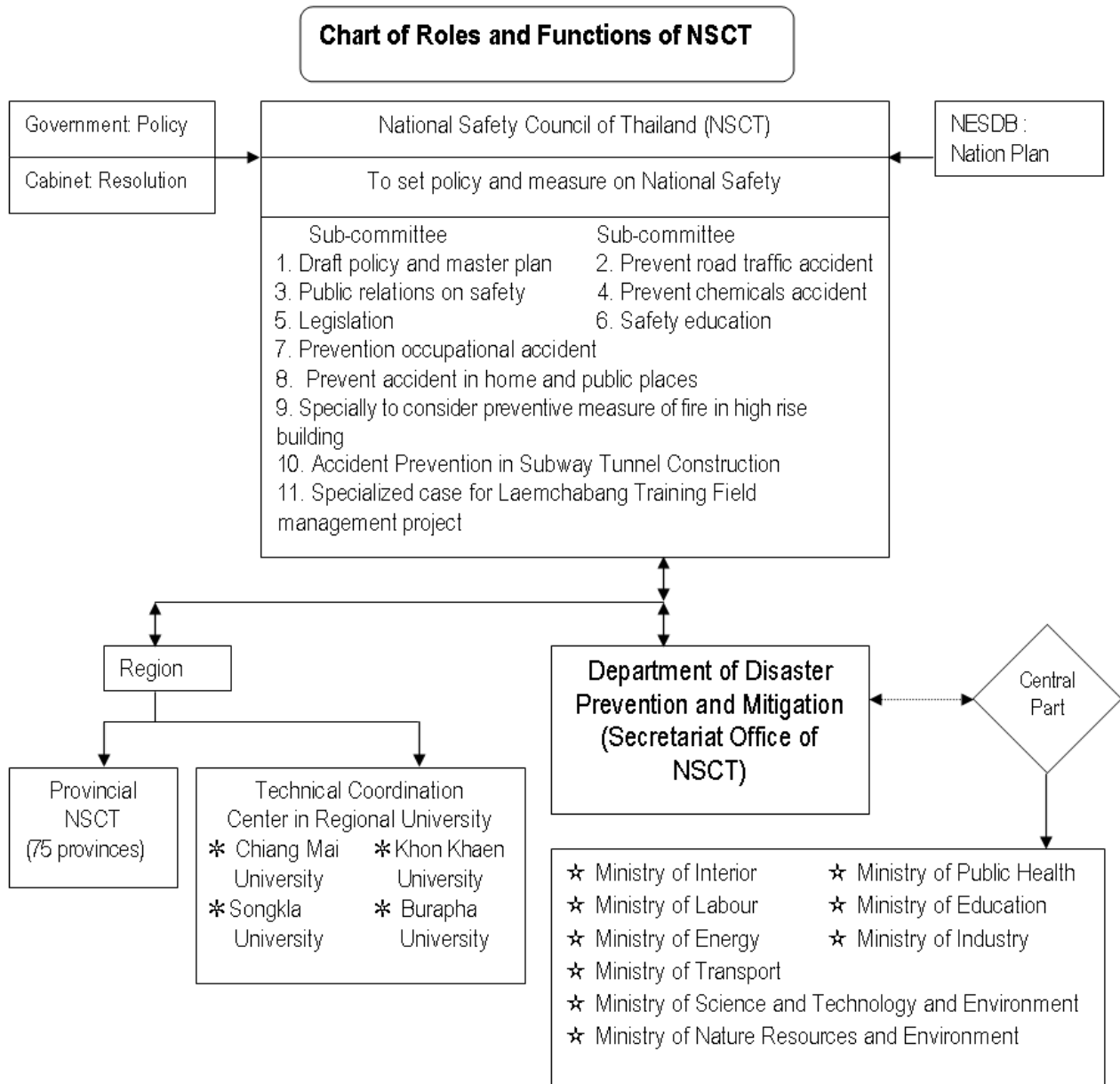
The NSCT is entrusted with the following powers and duties:

1. To propose the policy and major plan to National Safety for the Cabinet approval
2. To propose the guidelines for implementation and coordination of the approved policy and major plan by the Government Agencies concerned
3. To submit recommendations and advice on the operation of the Government Agencies and any other problems related to National Safety to the Prime Minister or the Cabinet
4. To propose the opinion and remarks to the Prime Minister or the Cabinet on the requirement of new legislation or the revision of the existing law and regulations in relation to the National Safety
5. To coordinate and seek for assistance from abroad
6. To support and promote public trainings, meetings or seminars on National Safety
7. To make public relations on National Safety and other related matters
8. To follow-up and evaluate the implementation according to the policy and major plan
9. To perform any other functions related to National Safety or Public Safety as assigned by the Prime Minister or the Cabinet

The NSCT members are as follows:

1. Prime Minister or Deputy Prime Minister (Chairperson)
2. Minister of Interior (Deputy Chairperson)
3. Permanent Secretary to the Prime Minister's Office
4. Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Defence
5. Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Transportation
6. Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology
7. Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Interior
8. Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Labor
9. Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Education
10. Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Public Health
11. Director of Bureau of the Budget
12. Secretary General of the Office of the Juridical Council
13. Secretary General of the Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board
14. Secretary General of the National Research Council of Thailand
15. Commissioner General to Royal Thai Police
16. Director General of the Marine Department
17. Director General of the Department of Land Transport
18. Director General of the Department of Civil Aviation
19. Director General of the Department of Provincial Administration
20. Director General of the Pollution Control Department
21. Director General of the Public Relations Department
22. Director General of the Department of Highways
23. Director General of the Department of Rural Roads
24. Director General of the Department of Public Works and Town and Country Planning
25. Director General of the Department of Industrial Works
26. Director General of the Department of Local Administration
27. Director General of the Department of Labor Protection and Welfare

28. Director General of the Meteorological Department
29. Bangkok Governor
30. The President of the Volunteer for Public Relief
31. The President of the Rajprachanukraw Foundation (under Royal Patronage)
32. No more than four proficient persons appointed by the Cabinet as committee members
33. Director General of the Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation as the committee member and secretariat
34. Two government Officials of Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation as the committee member and assistant secretariats



Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Ministry of Interior

Pursuant to Bureaucratic Administration Regulation Act 2002, Ministerial Restructuring Act which have in effect since October 3, 2002, Government Organization Establishment Royal Decree which has been in effect since October 9, 2002, and Bureaucratic Organization Dividing Ministerial Statute, Ministry of Interior 2002, The Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) has come into existenc3 under the umbrella of Ministry of Interior.

Authorities and duties of DDPM

1. Formulate policy, guideline and set up criteria for disaster management.
2. Study, analyze, research and develop disaster prevention, warning systems and disaster mitigation.
3. Develop information technology system for disaster prevention, warning and mitigation.
4. Mobilize people's participation in establishing disaster prevention and mitigation.
5. Create people's awareness and preparedness in disaster prevention and mitigation.
6. Arrange the training and exercise in disaster prevention and mitigation, rehabilitation devastated area and in assisting the victims as stated by law.
7. Promote, support and carry out disaster prevention and mitigation activities, provide assistance to the victims and rehabilitate devastated areas.
8. Direct and coordinate the operation of assisting the victim and rehabilitate devastated.
9. Coordinate the assistance with the organizations both internal and international in disaster prevention relief mitigation and rehabilitation.
10. Perform any other functions as assigned by the Ministry of Interior or the cabinet

VISION : Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Ministry of Interior, is the principal government agency to carry out the task and responsibility on disaster prevention and mitigation so as to remain in Thailand as the inhabitable and safe country.

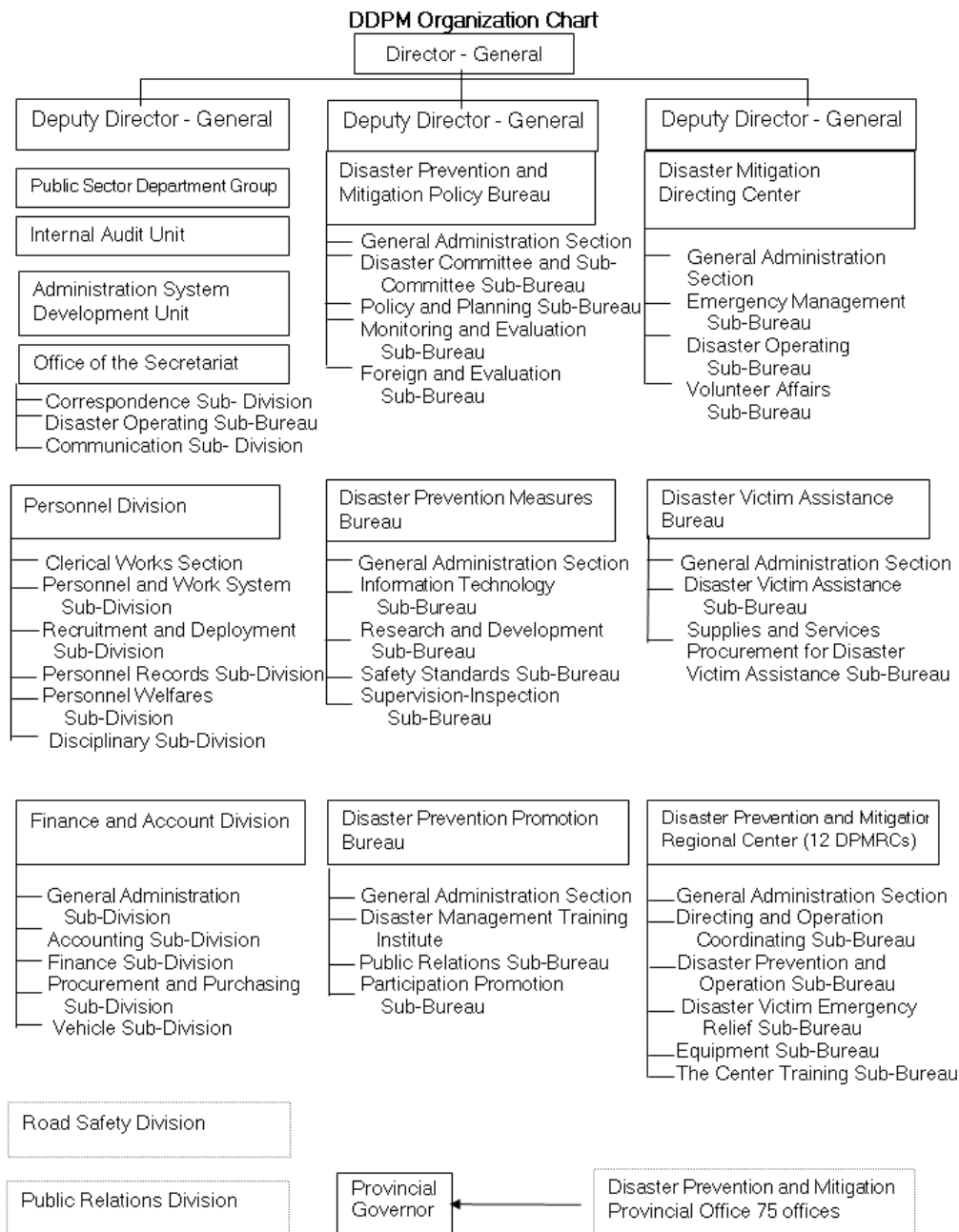
STRATEGIES:

1. Development of disaster and civil emergency prevention and mitigation system which bases (leans) on community participation.
2. Establishment of systematic disaster management and the link-up to the network from national to local level. The use and development of state-of-the-art and appropriate technology will be encouraged.
3. Creation of awareness and understanding on disaster prevention, self-reliable and assisting the others among the people.
4. Development of information technology and knowledge on disasters Thailand encounters.

TARGET: The people will be systematically, rapidly, thoroughly and equitably benefited from the Department's of disaster prevention, rehabilitation and other calamity activities.

MISSION:

1. Establishment of disaster and civil emergency prevention and warning systems and creation of preparedness system in every village of the country.
2. Directing and implementing disaster and civil emergency mitigation activity systematically, rapidly, equitably and thoroughly whenever occurs.
3. Procurement of materials equipment, vehicles, and machines indispensable for disaster prevention, mitigation, suppression and for victim assistance.
4. Rehabilitation of damaged public utilities, physical and mental reinvestigation of the victim, restoration livelihood indispensable and occupations. All these activities and carried out on thorough, equitable and rapid basis, and be in accordance to the needs of the victims.
5. Integration of disaster prevention and mitigation system, the plans, the implementation and follow-up and evaluation with other internal and international organizations.



Disaster Management Plan

The Civil Defence Secretariat is responsible for identifying disaster prevention measure and policies and the National Civil Defence Plan. This Plan serves as the master plan for all agencies concerned, and provides guidelines for the formulation of operational plan of agencies responsible for management of disaster. The Civil Defence Secretariat does not only

implement policies, but also provides equipment, technical assistance and training courses for local agencies and the public. It also coordinates with agencies that are in charge of disaster relief and rescue operations.

According to the Civil Defence Act 1979, the functional agencies are responsible for formulating their own disaster management plan. The master disaster management plan which is regarded as a national civil defence plan is to be made by the Civil Defence Secretariat. The Plan is to be reviewed and updated every three year term, and furtherly proposed to the National Civil Defence Committee for approval. The current national civil defence plan which was reviewed and updated in 2005 consists of two components, Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Component, and Civil Defence for Security (Rear-Area Protection) Component.

Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Component : This component comprises 3 parts which can be expounded as follows;

Part I : Civil Defence Master Plan : This part comprises 9 chapters

1. Disaster Cycle and Civil Hazard Situation
2. Objectives, Scope and Principles of Civil Defence
3. Establishment of Civil Defence Commanding Unit
4. Civil Defence Preparedness
5. Disaster Response
6. Coordination of Civil Defence Operation
7. Rehabilitation
8. Communications
9. Evaluation

Part II : Civil Defence Procedure in Disaster Management : This part comprises 11 chapters

10. Objectives and Principles of Implementation
11. Flood, Tropical Cyclone and Mudslide Prevention and Mitigation
12. Fire Prevention and Mitigation
13. Earthquake and Building Collapse Prevention and Mitigation
14. Drought Prevention and Mitigation
15. Forest-Fire Prevention and Mitigation
16. Chemical and Hazmats Prevention and Mitigation
17. Cold Spell Prevention and Mitigation
18. Communication and Transportation Accident Prevention and Mitigation
19. Animal Epidemics Prevention and Mitigation
20. Agricultural Pests and Diseases Prevention and Mitigation

Part III : Related Laws and Regulations

Civil Defence for Security (Rear-Area Protection) Component : This component comprises 6 chapters which can be explored as followed;

1. Civil Defence for Security
2. Disaster Prevention and Mitigation during War-Time (Rear-Area Protection)
3. Sabotage Prevention and Suppression
4. Prevention and Mitigation of Disaster Resulted from Landmine and Torpedo
5. Air-Raid Disaster Prevention and Mitigation
6. Civil Unrest Prevention and Suppression

Disaster Management Training

Prior to October 2, 2002, disaster management training had been conducted by various government agencies at national level such as Civil Defence Secretariat Office, the Office of National Safety Council of Thailand, the Fire Brigade of the National Police Bureau, and Port Authority of Thailand. After the establishment of Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, all of the disaster related training courses are under its responsibility.

The Civil Defence Plan or Disaster Management Master Plan stated in chapter 4 "Civil Defence Preparedness" that Civil Defence Secretariat Office (Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation) is obliged to provide the budget, support and to conduct disaster related training courses for the government officials and the public so as to generate public awareness and preparedness and to enhance the officials' capability. Besides, The Secretariat Office is responsible for developing the curricula, evaluation of training achievement and launching public campaign.

The procedure of public and officials educating and training can be delineated as follows;

1. For general public : It is essential to equip them with general or basic information on all types of disasters nature so as to enable them to protect and help themselves in the face of emergency. This can be achieved by
 - information dissemination via mass media
 - providing the training course
 - drilling and simulated demonstration
2. For Civil Defence Volunteer : The training courses for Civil Defence Volunteers will be more intensive so as to equip them with know-how on various disaster management activities including search and rescue. Upon their training completion, these volunteers will be officially organized and based at their local communities and will be summoned to assist the officials in managing the emergencies.
3. For Government Officials : The government officials of national, regional and local authorities that are in charge of disaster management will be trained to become the specialists in managing the type of disaster they are responsible.

Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Academy

Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation, Ministry of Interior has set up Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Academy in October 2004 pursuant to the approval of Ministry of Interior.

Vision : The public and government officials are well prepared for disaster prevention and mitigation

Mission :

1. To be the principal training academy in the field of disaster prevention and mitigation
2. To develop the standard of academy curricula be equivalent to international level and to continuously improve such curricula
3. To develop and to disseminate disaster management related handbooks, instructions and learning materials.
4. To conduct training course and to support the training on theoretical and practical aspects for the personnel in public sector, private sector, local government, community, volunteer and the people so as to generate trainers, experts and specialized staff.
5. To search for international technical cooperation and assistance.
6. To propose the target and policy in human resource development in the field of disaster management.

Objectives:

1. To set up national principal academy accountable for equipping the personnel in charge of disaster management with technical know-how and practical skills which will be beneficial to national disaster management.

2. To be the public premise responsible for studying, analyzing, researching and developing disaster management related knowledge and know-how both in theoretical and practical aspects, and furtherly transfer to all stakeholders including the public.
3. To generate the awareness among the public and to mobilize their participation for disaster management. As the consequence, the unity and ultimate efficiency of national disaster management can be attained.
4. To be the resource premise of disaster management related modern technology and knowledge for public and private sectors' personnel and general public to study and search for
5. To be the entity accountable for exchanging experiences and information with internal and international network organizations and educational establishments.

Training Courses to Be Conducted (October 2004 - September 2005)

- Civil Defense Volunteer Course
- Fire Fighting and Rescue Course (4 levels)
- Total Disaster Management Course
- Sabotage Prevention and Suppression Course
- Evacuation Management Course
- Building Disaster Management Team Work Course
- Specialization Course :
 - Chemicals and Hazmats Rescue
 - Explosive Hazard Rescue
 - Building Collapse Search and Rescue
 - High Rise Structures Search and Rescue
 - Search and Rescue on Sea
- Incident Command System Course
- Public Network Course

Besides arranging these training courses, Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation has initiated evacuation drill and simulated exercises annually to create awareness among the public and disaster management in charge officials. And in February 2003, Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DPM) has signed MOU with Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) to cooperate in human resources management and disaster prevention and mitigation and exchange disaster expert. The Cooperation between DPM and ADPC will contribute the disaster management in Thailand be more efficient.

Details of a Person in Charge of the ADRC's Activities

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 Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation
 Ministry of Interior
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 Office fax number (66 - 2) 2432211

List of Disaster Related Website in Thailand

Names of Website	Names of Organization
www.disaster.go.th	Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation
www.moi.go.th	Ministry of Interior
www.adpc.net	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center
www.mot.go.th	The Ministry of Transport
www.thaigov.go.th	Royal Thai Government
www.tmd.go.th	The Meteorological Department
www.rid.go.th	Royal Irrigation Department
www.pcd.go.th	Pollution Control Department (PCD)
www.doa.go.th	Department of Agriculture
www.diw.go.th	Department of Industrial Works
www.police.go.th	Royal Thai Police
www.forest.go.th	Forest Fire Control Division
www.fire.police.go.th	Police Fire Brigade
www.highway.police.go.th	Highway Police
www.bpp.police.go.th	Border Patrol Police Bureau
www.nsc.thaigov.go.th	The Bureau of the National Safety Council of Thailand
www.js100.com	Pacific News Center
ems.narenthorn.or.th	Narenthorn Center
www.bma.go.th	Bangkok Metropolitan Administration
www.trafficbakk.com	Police Radio Casting FM 91.0
www.ruamkatanyu.or.th	Ruamkatanyu foundation
www.yothin8.cjb.net	Volunteer of Ruamkatanyu foundation
www.rescuekhonkaen.com	Rescue Khonkaen

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