

EN

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Answer given by Ms Lahbib

on behalf of the European Commission

(21.8.2026)

The Commission, together with the Member States and participating states of the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), undertakes a comprehensive capacity gap analysis, also in relation to existing national capacities¹. A common methodology, adapted to the specificities of the different sectors, is applied for such a gap analysis, by gathering data shared by Member States and participating states, as they consider it possible based on the sensitivity of the information. In addition, the Commission continuously analyses the response to the requests for assistance under the UCPM to further assess possible gaps. If new rescEU² capacities are deemed essential to address these gaps, in agreement with Member States and participating states, the Commission establishes a strategy – in line with the EU Stockpiling Strategy³ – and allocates funds for their development.

rescEU's performance is assessed through key indicators, which include timely mobilisation, as well as identification of capacity gaps and critical needs where Member States' capacities are unavailable or insufficient. Mobilisation timelines⁴ are tailored to the assistance's nature, with associated costs covered by the Commission⁵.

The economic and operational effectiveness of the existing capacities is a key condition for the future development of rescEU. To ensure that the standards of performance are preserved and further strengthened, the Commission fully acknowledges the added value of the European Court of Auditors' recommendations. These insights will be given due consideration for future actions, jointly with Member States and participating states.

¹ Including those pre-committed to the European Civil Protection Pool in line with the Regulation (EU) 2019/570 - <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32019D0570>.

² https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/what/civil-protection/resceu_en.

³ https://civil-protection-humanitarian-aid.ec.europa.eu/eu-stockpiling-strategy-boosting-eus-material-preparedness-crises_en.

⁴ Set in Regulation (EU) 2019/570 - https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2019/570/oj/eng.

⁵ In line with Decision 1313/2013/EU - <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dec/2013/1313/oj/eng>.