

## **FLOODS**

### **GETTING PREPARED**

#### **If you live in an area with flood problems in the past**

In case of severe rainfall warning:

- Make sure that the water drains and rain spouts outside your house are not blocked and operate properly.
- Limit traveling as much as possible and avoid working or living in underground places.

### **DURING THE FLOOD**

#### **If you are indoors**

- Avoid underground places and move to a secure higher point.

#### **If you are outdoors**

- Do not cross torrents on foot or by car
- Stay away from electric wires.
- Abandon your car if it gets immobilized as it might be swept away or flooded.
- Avoid areas where landslides have occurred.

### **AFTER THE FLOOD**

#### **If you are outdoors**

- Stay away from flooded areas or areas dangerous to flood in the next hours
- The flood is likely to have changed the known area characteristics and waters might have swept away parts of the streets, the pavements etc.
- Dangers are imminent from broken pavements, areas with dangerous slope, mudslides etc.
- The water is likely to be polluted from rubbish, dead animals or other materials.
- Be careful not to obstruct rescue crews.
- Don't approach areas where landslides and rock falls have occurred.
- Check if your house or place of work runs the risk of a possible fall of rocks.

#### **If it's absolutely necessary to walk or to drive in flooded areas**

- Try to find solid ground.
- Avoid moving waters.
- If you see a flooded street, stop and change direction.
- Avoid stagnant waters that could be electric-current conductors if there are underground power cables or leaks.
- Follow the authorities' instructions.

#### **What to do during restoration of damages**

##### **Before you begin restoration works**

- Remember: Even when flood waters recede danger still exists.
- Contact the Authorities to ensure that the location of your home or your place of employment is safe to return, particularly if there was prior evacuation.
- Switch off the electric supply even if the power company has switched off the whole area.
- Turn off the water supply in case of potential damage to the water supply.

**To inspect a flooded building**

- Wear protective shoes so as not to get injured from objects or irregularities of the ground hidden by water.
- Examine the walls, doors, stairs and windows.
- Check the networks of electric power, water and drainage systems.