

WORLD

Quick Read

Climate disasters put pressure on Europe's insurance systems

BRUSSELS (NEWS WIRE): Europe is facing a growing challenge in containing the economic impact of climate-related natural disasters as wildfires, floods and heatwaves become more frequent, amid warnings that rising risks could render large parts of the continent uninsurable and place increasing pressure on governments and public finances. The widespread wildfires that swept parts of France and Spain in recent days, forcing hundreds of thousands of people to evacuate their homes, have prompted European institutions to reassess disaster risk management mechanisms as insurers face mounting losses and home and property insurance premiums continue to rise. The growing risk has prompted the European Central Bank and EU insurance regulator to call on Brussels to take a more active role by setting up an EU-level reinsurance scheme and a public natural disaster fund. Extreme weather events already cost a fortune in repairs for Europe's cash-strapped governments. Data from the European Environment Agency showed weather-related extremes cost the EU economy over €200 billion in economic losses between 2011 and 2014.



GAZA CITY: Palestinians inspect the rubble of a building and tents destroyed in an Israeli airstrike in Gaza City on Thursday.—Wire photo

At least five members of same family killed in Russian missile attack, says Zelensky

Zelensky shares a picture of Voronov family on social media, writing that parents Artem and Olena and three of their children all killed after a missile decimated their home

NEWS WIRE
KYIV

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky has branded a Russian missile attack



that killed five members of the same family a "horrific crime". Zelensky shared a

picture of the Voronov family on social media, writing that

parents Artem and Olena and three of their children - Mark, Asanah Ilay, and Emili-

la - had all been killed after a missile decimated their home. Their other children -

Zakhar, Dominika, Vitalika, Federica, and a grandson

Artem - are also still missing after Russia launched more than 70 missiles and over 280

drone overnight. The worst attack was near Zelensky's hometown of Kyryv Rih. The attack - which officials said had killed eight people - comes after

Zelensky met US President Donald Trump in Washington DC this week to urge the US to grant Ukraine a licence to produce Patriot intercepter missiles.

"Today, the Russians destroyed an ordinary home of an ordinary family in Radushine near Kyryv Rih in our Dnipropetrovsk re-

gion with a strike from their ballistic missile," Zelensky wrote on X on Thursday.

"It is definitively known that the parents and three children perished. The Russian missile strike was so powerful that almost nothing remained of the house... Under the rubble, fragments of human bodies were found, and only forensic examinations can determine to whom exactly in the family those bodies belong. 'This Russian evil can only be stopped by the entire world. No one in the world can be left alone against such terror. And when we say that Ukraine needs missiles for 'Patriots', when we seek capabilities to defend against Russian ballistics, we are not talking about abstractions.' Local defence council chief Oleksandr Viluk said two private homes had been destroyed in the attacks. Another eight people were wounded, including an 84-year-old woman who was taken to hospital, and two children who were pulled from the rubble alive, officials added. Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk said an object that crashed into a field in eastern Poland in the early hours of Thursday was probably a Russian missile.

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Missile that left crater deep inside Poland was probably Russian: Polish PM

NEWS WIRE
WARSAW

Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk has said an object that crashed into a field in eastern Poland in the early hours of Thursday was "in all probability" a Russian cruise missile, and it was armed. It left a 10m-wide (33ft) crater a short distance from the village of Tarnawa Kolonia, 92km (57 miles) from the border with Ukraine during a large-scale Russian attack on the cities of Lviv, Kyiv and near Kyryv Rih. Tusk said initially that "all the indications" were that the missile that violated Polish airspace was a Russian Kh-101 cruise missile, during a specially convened meeting in the eastern city of Lublin. He then went to the site of the incident and said that according to military experts the majority of "recovered fragments point to it being a Russian Kh-101 missile".



Although no casualties had been reported in Thursday's incident near Tarnawa Kolonia, the Polish prime minister made clear it was being taken very seriously. There was no immediate threat as it had not landed in a built-up area, he said, adding that "we were prepared to shoot it down if it had continued its flight". Nato said it was in close contact with Polish authorities and the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, Gen. Alexus G. Gryniewicz, said the Western defensive alliance would "continue to take all necessary measures to defend Nato territory".

Polish Defence Minister Wladyslaw Kosiniak-Kamysz said about 20 objects were seen close to Polish airspace overnight and pyrotechnical analysis was being carried out. Ukraine's acting Foreign Minister Andriy Sybha had earlier declared definitively that a Russian Kh-101 cruise missile had "crossed into Poland as part of Russia's massive strike against Ukraine, violating Nato airspace".

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HEAVY INDUSTRIES TAXILA, (HIT) TAXILA CANTT
TENDER NOTICE

1. Sealed tenders are invited by HIT from reputed firms for purchase of following stores:-

Tender No	IT-6108 (FOR-A)	IT-6105 (FOR-A)	IT-6101 (FOR-A)
Description	Procurement of Spares Required for Refurbishment of 40 x 105 mm Gun Tx-59 & 69	Procurement of Spare for Refurbishment of 139 x Engine	
Submission Date	24 Aug 2026, 10:30 AM	24 Aug 2026, 10:30 AM	24 Aug 2026, 10:30 AM
Opening Date	24 Aug 2026, 11:00 AM	24 Aug 2026, 11:00 AM	24 Aug 2026, 11:00 AM

2. Tender details may be downloaded from www.ppra.org.pk or www.hit.gov.pk for further queries, contact on Tel No. (051) - 9315333 - Extension 63215.

Assistant Director Procurement, HIT. PID(1) 970 / 26

HEAVY INDUSTRIES TAXILA, (HIT) TAXILA CANTT
TENDER NOTICE

1. Sealed tenders are invited by HIT from reputed firms for purchase of following stores:-

Tender No	IT-6103 (FOR-A)	IT-6104 (FOR-A)	IT-6105 (FOR-A)
Description	Procurement of Spare for Refurbishment of APCs	Procurement of Spare for Refurbishment of APCs	Procurement of Spare for Refurbishment of APCs
Submission Date	24 Aug 2026, 10:30 AM	24 Aug 2026, 10:30 AM	24 Aug 2026, 10:30 AM
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Assistant Director Procurement, HIT. PID(1) 970 / 26

PIAHC
TENDER NOTICE

4th Floor, PIA Building, 48-AKM Fazal-e-Haq Road, Blue Area, Islamabad
Tel: +92-31-8000077
Email: mgr.realestate@piahc.com.pk

PROCUREMENT OF OFFICE FURNITURE FOR PIAHCL CORPORATE OFFICE AT THE 7TH FLOOR, ANNEX BUILDING, ZTBL HEAD OFFICE, ISLAMABAD

1. EPADS Reference No: P74611.

2. PIA Holding Company Limited (PIAHCL) has allocated funds during the Financial Year 2026/27 for the procurement of office furniture for its Corporate Office at the 7th Floor, Annex Building, ZTBL Head Office, Islamabad.

3. PIAHCL invites sealed electronic bids from eligible, experienced and financially sound manufacturers, suppliers and authorized dealers for the manufacturing, supply, delivery, assembly, installation and placement of office furniture, complete in all respects, in accordance with the specifications and requirements provided in the bidding documents.

4. The procurement shall be conducted through the Single Stage One Envelope Procedure, adopting the Least Cost Based Selection (LCBS) method, in accordance with the Public Procurement Rules, 2004, applicable regulations, guidelines and instructions issued by the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority from time to time.

5. The bidding documents containing detailed specifications, eligibility requirements, terms and conditions, evaluation criteria, Bill of Materials and contractual requirements are available through the e-Pak Acquisition and Disposal System (EPADS) v2.0 at <https://epads.gov.pk>.

6. Interested bidders must be registered on EPADS v2.0 to access the bidding documents and participate in the procurement process.

7. Bids must be accompanied by the prescribed Bid Security or Bid Securing Declaration, as applicable and specified in the bidding documents.

8. Bid must be accompanied by a Bid Security of PKR 145,654/- and a Tender Fee of PKR 15,000/-, both in the form of Pay Orders in favor of PIA Holding Company Limited.

9. The bids must be submitted through EPADS v2.0 on or before Friday, 14 August 2026 at 3:00 PM. The bids shall be opened electronically through EPADS v2.0 on the same day at 3:30 PM.

10. Electronic bids must be prepared and submitted through EPADS v2.0 before the prescribed deadline. Bids shall be opened electronically through EPADS on the same day. Manual or hard-copy submission of bids shall not be entertained.

11. The Procuring Agency reserves the right to reject all bids or proposals at any time before issuance of the Letter of Award, in accordance with Rule 33 of the Public Procurement Rules, 2004.

12. In accordance with Rule 48 of the Public Procurement Rules, 2004, a Grievance Redressal Committee has been notified for this procurement. Relevant information shall be available on the websites of PIAHCL and PPRA.

Manager Real Estate, PIA Holding Company Limited (PIAHCL)
4th Floor, PIA Building, 48-AKM Fazal-e-Haq Road, Blue Area, Islamabad
Telephone: +92-303-503-1196. Email: mgr.realestate@piahc.com.pk

Japan earthquake death toll rises to 34 as evacuees battle sweltering heat

NEWS WIRE
TOKYO

The number of people who have died after a powerful earthquake hit southwestern Japan has risen to 34, authorities in Kumamoto prefecture said on Thursday. Rescuers are still working to find survivors after the magnitude 6.8 earthquake hit Kumamoto prefecture on Kyushu island on Tuesday, causing widespread damage to houses and power lines. Several people died after part of a shopping centre collapsed and an explosion ripped through the mall about an hour later.

Thousands of displaced residents are now staying in evacuation centres - though the challenge is to keep them cool and hydrated as the region battles sweltering heat. Temperatures could reach 39C in the prefecture in the coming days, according to forecasts, with officials urging survivors and rescuers to take precautions against heatstroke. On Wednesday, Japan's defence minister Shinjiro Koizumi announced the delivery of 300 air conditioners to Kumamoto, with 150 of the units bound for evacuation centres. Around 9,000 displaced residents have been put up in evacuation centres, and more than 30,000 households were out of power as of Wednesday.

ISLAMABAD ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
IESCO TENDER NOTICE

IESCO invites E-Bids for the year 2026-27 from the firms / manufacturers who are registered with the DISCO/PPMC/WAPDA/NGC (formerly NTDC) and FBR having valid prototype approval (if applicable) for supply of following material on free delivery basis to IESCO Regional Stores Rawalpindi/Islamabad/Rajshahi/Wah:

Tender No	Description of Items	Unit	Qty	Amount of Bid (in PKR)
62	400 KVA Pole Mounted Dist. Transformer	No.	35	1,040,000/-
63	200 KVA Pole Mounted Dist. Transformer	No.	100	4,360,000/-
64	G.S Wire 6mm	M.T	130	1,340,000/-
	G.S Wire 10mm	M.T	50	400,000/-
	LT CT Ratio 100/5A	No.	1000	220,000/-
	LT CT Ratio 200/5A	No.	1000	220,000/-
	LT CT Ratio 400/5A	No.	400	80,000/-
	LT CT Ratio 800/5A	No.	100	20,000/-
	P.G Connector T-155	No.	18000	80,000/-
	Nut & Bolt Size 5/8"x 2"	No.	25000	80,000/-

Date of opening: E-Bids will be received on 19.08.2026 up to 10:30 AM and will be opened at 11:00 AM on the same date.

The tenders will be opened in the presence of participants or their authorized representatives (bearing authority letters) who attend OJO Chief Engineer (Material Management) IESCO Head Office G-74 Street No. 42, Islamabad. Material shall conform to relevant WAPDA/NTDC Specifications (amended to date).

Terms & Conditions

- Only E-bids are acceptable, all the interested bidders are directed to apply through E-Pak Acquisition & Disposal System (E-PADS Version 2.0) Portal Online (<http://www.epads.gov.pk>) and also upload all the mandatory information as required in the bidding documents.
- Tenders will be opened on "Single Stage One Envelope Basis".
- The prices should be firm and final on FCS basis and without involving any foreign exchange.
- The bids shall be valid for a period of 120 (one hundred & twenty) days from the date of opening of tenders.
- The bidder shall submit sealed Bid Security/Guarantee in original mentioned against each tender for 150 (one hundred & fifty) days in the form of Bank Guarantee/COR issued by any scheduled Bank of Pakistan (having rating A+ or above) in favour of Chief Executive Officer IESCO Islamabad before the bid closing time, failing which the bid(s) shall be considered non-responsive.
- The bid should be for full quantity of tender and bid for less quantity of tender will not be accepted.
- The bidder should have valid prototype approval (if applicable) at the time of opening of bid.
- The prices quoted by the bidder on E-PADS Version 2.0 Module in Price Schedule section shall be deemed inclusive of all applicable taxes and GST, duties and other statutory charges.
- In case of Transformers, the price quoted by the bidder on E-PADS Version 2.0 Module in Price Schedule section shall be deemed without calculating TOC (Total Owning cost).
- In case of holiday announced by the Govt. of Pakistan, strike in IESCO or any other reasons whatsoever due to which this office remains closed on the above schedule tender opening date, the tender will be opened on next working day at the same time and place venue.
- IESCO reserves the rights to reject all bids prior to the acceptance of a bid.
- This tender notice is also available at IESCO website www.iesco.com.pk and PPRA website www.ppra.org.pk

Chief Engineer (MM)
IESCO Islamabad PID/196/26