

DECISION 2006/3
INCREASING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF AND ENHANCING THE COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES
WITHIN THE UNECE IAN SYSTEM

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling the provisions of articles 10, 12, and 17 of the Convention,

Noting the outcome of the second consultation of points of contact for the purpose of accident notification and mutual assistance designated within the UNECE Industrial Accident Notification (IAN) System and of the first meeting of the task force to review the communication procedures under the System (CP.TEIA/2005/11), and

Taking into account the results of the two rounds of tests of the System performed by Italy and the Russian Federation in 2005 and by Austria and Bulgaria in 2006 (ECE/CP.TEIA/2006/7),

1. *Requests* the Parties to the Convention, and invites other UNECE member countries, to ensure that points of contact designated or established according to article 17, paragraph 2, of the Convention comply with the obligations under the Convention and the procedures under the System and respond properly in the event of industrial accidents and during tests;
2. *Encourages* the points of contact to continue their efforts to enhance the effectiveness of the System and to review it at their next consultation, preferably to take place in 2007;
3. *Requests* points of contact of Parties and other UNECE member countries to perform tests of the System according to a schedule and procedures developed by the secretariat;
4. *Invites* the UNECE secretariat to continue coordinating the testing of the System and collecting and reporting the results;
5. *Requests* the UNECE secretariat to maintain a list of points of contact on the Convention's website, with restricted access;
6. *Reminds* the points of contact about their obligation to inform the secretariat without delay of any changes to their contact details;
7. *Decides* to:
 - (a) Enhance the current communication procedures of the System by introducing Web-based notification, while keeping fax notification as a back-up procedure;
 - (b) Maintain the current requirements of the System and to implement the prototype of a simple Web-based notification application, developed jointly by the UNECE and the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit, to improve communication between points of contact;

(c) Request the secretariat to outsource the task of making the prototype a working application, preferably by the end of 2007.