**REPORTING FORMAT ON**

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNECE CONVENTION ON THE
TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS**

8th Report (2014-2015)

Whenever indicated, please provide replies from the last report in which you provided a full reply, before inserting the update for the current reporting round, identifying the changes occurred.

Country: **the Republic of Belarus**

**Person responsible for reporting** – please provide the contact details of the person who coordinated this report ant who could be contacted by the WGI members in case of questions during the evaluation of the implementation report:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name: | Kudryashov Aleksandr Nikolayevich | Is the person a Focal Point for the Convention?[x]  YES [ ]  NO[[1]](#footnote-2) [I-A]Kudryashov A.N. - the Chief of the Industrial Safety Department of the Ministry of Emergency Response of the Republic of Belarus  |
| Authority  | The Industrial Safety Department of the Ministry of Emergency Response of the Republic of Belarus (ISD) | Is this authority designated as a Competent Authority in accordance with Art. 17 of the Convention? [x]  YES [ ]  NO [I-B]pursuant to laws of the Republic of Belarus: on Industrial Safety of Production Facilities;on Major Pipeline Transport; on Gas Supply and other due legislative acts and technical regulations (TR) of the Republic of Belarus, ISD is the designated authority in the sphere of control and supervision of industrial safety at potentially hazardous sites of the Republic of Belarus. |
| E-mail  | gospromnadzor@tut.by |  |
| Phone number | phone.: +375 17 3983306fax: + 375 17 3983317 |  |

[I-C] **Cooperation** – please list the authorities at national, regional and local level involved in implementing the Convention, indicate their areas of responsibility and check if designated Competent Authority.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Name of authority | Area of responsibility | Competent Authority |
| The Ministry of Emergency Response of the Republic of Belarus (MER) | MER is a republican governmental body in charge of regulation and governance in the sphere of prevention and mitigation of natural disasters and industrial accidents, civil defence, maintenance of fire protection, industrial, nuclear and radiation safety, mitigation of consequences of the Chernobyl NPP accident, allocation and ensuring safety of state and mobilisation reserves. | [x]  YES [ ]  NO [ ]  n.a |
| The Industrial Safety Department (ISD) | ISD is a structural unit of MER, a unit of a central executive body with a legal entity status, fulfilling special functions in the sphere of industrial safety and safe transportation of hazardous cargo. | [x]  YES [ ]  NO [ ]  n.a..  |
| The RB Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection (MoE) | MoE is a republican governmental body, ensuring implementation of coherent state policies in the sphere of environmental protection and rational use of natural resources, use and protection of mineral resources and hydrometeorological activities according to the due legislation of Belarus. | [x]  YES [ ]  NO [ ]  n.a. |
| The Republican Hydrometeorological Centre of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Protection (RHC) | RHC is a non-commercial facility of MoE and conducts the following activities:- study of specific climate, agro-climate and hydrologic conditions at the territory of the Republic of Belarus;- regular monitoring of state of environment, data gathering, analysis and generalisation;- collection of information on status of rivers, lakes, reservoirs, marshes and other water bodies;- production of short-term and long-term forecasts for the territory of the country;- provision of information to governmental authorities, facilities and residents of the country on actual and anticipated weather conditions, issuing alerts on hazardous hydrometeorological phenomena;- maintenance of the Climate Cadastre, the state data bank on state of environment and environmental contamination;- Participation in inter-governmental exchange of information on state of environment according to recommendations of the World Meteorological Organisation and UNESCO. | [x]  YES [ ]  NO [ ]  n.a. |
|       |       | [ ]  YES [ ]  NO [ ]  n.a. |

Add rows if needed

[I-D] How were these authorities involved in the preparation of this report?

Information was provided on activities in relevant spheres of competence to the person in charge of drafting the Report.

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

***Answers to all questions found below should not require more than 250-300 words except for Q.1 to which a comprehensive answer is estimated at 1,000-1,200 words.***

###### POLICY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

1. Provide a general description[[2]](#footnote-3) of your country’s policy for prevention of, preparedness for and response to industrial accidents, especially relating to the implementation of the Convention and explain how this policy is reflected in national legislation and followed up by authorities.

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 1,000-1,200 words*

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

Should you indicate legislation, please use the table in the next page

**Answer to Q [1] (i):**

According to Law of the Republic of Belarus on Industrial Safety of Hazardous Production Facilities of 10.01.2000 (as amended on 04.01.2014), responsibilities of organizations operating hazardous production facilities (HPFs) are defined, regarding their preparedness to the activities on localization and liquidation of the consequences of the accidents:

- to plan and conduct measures on localizations and liquidation of consequences of accidents at hazardous production facilities;

- to teach workers to act in case of accident or incident at HPFs;

- to maintain reserves of financial resources and materials for localization and liquidation of consequences of accidents according to the legislation of Republic of Belarus;

- to create systems of monitoring, information, communication and support activities in the case of accidents and keep these systems in working conditions;

- to carry out activities on localization and liquidation of consequences of accidents at a HPF, assist state authorities to investigate causes of the accident;

- to participate in technical investigation of causes of the accident at the HPF, take measures for elimination of these reasons and prevention of such accidents;

- to implement technical measures, to create and develop engineering system of control, monitoring and support of actions during possible accidents, systems of notification, communication, modalities and systems of protection, material, financial and other resources, as well as preparing building and equipment of training facilities for practicing accident related activities;

- to take measures to protect life and health of workers in the case of accidents at HPFs;

- to analyse causes of emergence of incidents at HPFs, take measures for elimination of identified reasons and apply prevention of such incidents;

- to inform timely and accordingly the republic state authority on industrial safety, republic bodies of state management in accordance with their competences, local councils of deputies, executive and management bodies and population about an accident at a HPF;

- to keep record of accidents and incidents at HPFs;

- to provide information about quantity of accidents and incidents, their reasons and related measures to the republican body of state management in the area of industrial safety.

Law # 87-З of the Republic of Belarus on Major Gas Pipeline Transport of 09.01.2002 (as amended on 14.07.2011) is intended to ensure efficient, reliable and safe operation of major gas, oil and oil product pipelines. The Law defines legal, economic and organisational framework for regulation of relations in the sphere of large-scale pipeline transportation of oil, natural gas, casinghead gas, other gaseous and liquid oil-based hydrocarbons (products).

Law # 141-3 of the Republic of Belarus of 05.05.1998 on Protection of the Population and Territories from Natural Disasters and Industrial Accidents (as amended on 10.07.2012) defines the key objectives of the state system for prevention and mitigation of emergencies (SSES and Civil Defence):

- Development and implementation of legal and economic standards to ensure protection of the population and territories from emergencies;

- Implementation of target-specific and R&D programs for prevention of emergencies and strengthening resilience of functioning of organisations and social facilities in emergency situations;

- Ensuring readiness of emergency response bodies, forces and means intended and allocated for prevention and mitigation of emergencies;

- Establishment of republican, agency-specific, territorial, local and site-specific reserves for mitigation of emergencies;

- Collection, processing, exchange and provision of information pertaining to protection of residents and territories from emergencies;

- Training residents to act in emergency situations;

- Forecasting and assessment of socio-economic consequences of emergencies;

- Fulfilling functions of state expert assessment, supervision and control in the sphere of protection of residents and territories from emergencies;

- Mitigation of emergencies;

- Implementation of measures to ensure social protection of residents affected by emergencies, conducting humanitarian actions;

- Ensuring protection of residents' rights and fulfilment of their duties in the sphere of protection from emergencies, including those of persons who directly participate in mitigation of emergencies;

- International cooperation in the sphere of protection of residents and territories from emergencies;

- Organisation and implementation of measures to prepare and conduct civil defence operations;

- Provision of timely information to governmental bodies, other organisations and residents on alert signals and notifications on emergencies, on rules of conduct and procedures in the case of emergency situations;

- Monitoring and forecasting of emergencies.

Table for reporting legislation and other acts to implement policies under the Convention (for definitions about the type of legislation, please see the guidelines)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Legislation title/name** | **Type of legislation** | **Area covered by the legislation** |
|  | International agreements  | Primary | Secondary | Guidance | Identification and notification of hazardous activities to neighbouring countries | Prevention | Preparedness and response | Mutual Assistance | Scientific technologic cooperation and exchange of information | Participation of the public | Decision-making on siting |
| Law # 363-3 of the Republic of Belarus on Industrial Safety of Hazardous Production Facilities of 10.01.2000 |  | **[x]**  |  |  | **[x]**  | **[x]**  | **[x]**  | **[x]**  | **[x]**  | **[x]**  | **[x]**  |
| Law # 87-З of the Republic of Belarus on Major Gas Pipeline Transport of 09.01.2002  |  | **[x]**  |  |  |  | **[x]**  |  |  | **[x]**  | **[x]**  | **[x]**  |
| Law # 141-3 of the Republic of Belarus of 05.05.1998 on Protection of the Population and Territories from Natural Disasters and Industrial Accidents  |  | **[x]**  |  |  | **[x]**  | **[x]**  | **[x]**  | **[x]**  | **[x]**  | **[x]**  |  |

**Answer to Q [1] (ii)**

The system of emergency communication on industrial accidents was created and is functioning according to the Decision # 1280 of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus of 23.08.2001 (as amended on 07.02.2011) on the way of collection of information in the area of protection of population and territories from emergency situations of natural and technogenic character, and exchange of this information.

Thus, collection, processing, exchange and transmission of information on emergency situations is done through ministries, other bodies and organizations targeting timely measures on prevention and liquidation of emergency situations as well as informing the population about the threat of emergence or about the emergence of such situations.

Organizations provide information about emergency situations to the local executive and management bodies, as well as to ministries and other republican bodies of state management accordingly.

Local executive and management bodies accordingly conduct collection, processing, exchange and transmission of information on emergency situations at territorial, local and facility levels and present it to the Ministry of Emergency Response.

Ministries, other republican bodies of state governance, associations under the Government of Republic of Belarus organize collection, processing, exchange and transmission of information on emergency situations and present it to the Ministry of Emergency Response. Organizations conducting monitoring and control of the state of environment and potentially hazardous facilities, apart from that, inform about the threat of emergence or about emergence of emergency situations to the executive and management bodies, bodies and subsidiaries on emergency situations and to the population.

Daily exchange of information on emergency situations is conducted through operational (dispatching) services on duty as a part of information and management system of SSES and Civil Defence.

Authorities responsible for emergency situations at appropriate levels receive:

Information about the threat or fact of emergency situation – by phone, not later than 10 minutes from the moment of receiving the notification, in written form (by fax) not later than one hour from the notification (with information about date, time, location, name of the facility (territory), its relation, causes of the emergency and scale of spread, victims);

Information about the liquidation process of the emergency situation of technogenic character – in written format every two hours, in case of deteriorating of the situation – immediately verbally;

Information about the liquidation process of the emergency situation of natural character (forest fires on more than 5 ha surface and peat fires – surface more than 1 ha) – in writing not later than 6 hours from the starting moment of the accident and then daily according to the situation at 11 and 21 hours until the end of liquidation works, in case of deterioration – verbally immediately;

Information about the work done in the area of notification and liquidation of emergency situation in the format established by the Ministry of Emergency Response - in writing every quarter by the local executive and administrative bodies and once in half a year – by republican bodies of self-administration and other state organizations reporting to the Government of Republic of Belarus (apart from military authorities and paramilitary organizations), by the 5th day of every month following the reporting period;

Final report about the state of works on protection of the population and territories from emergency situations of natural and technogenic character in the format, established by the Ministry of Emergency Response.

The Ministry of Emergency Response:

Coordinates and conducts work on collection, processing, exchange and transfer of information on emergency situations, provided by the ministries, other bodies and organizations;

Informs residents on a threat of potential/actual emergency via communication channels, alert systems and mass media outlets.

Unified duty dispatch service was created in the Republic of Belarus, which provides operative collection, processing of information and reaction to emergency situations, including industrial accidents.

The Instruction on Procedures of Provision of Information in the Sphere of Protection of Residents and Territories from Natural Disasters and Industrial Accidents (approved by MER Regulation # 41 of 02.08.2005) defines terms and formats for provision of information by governmental bodies, other subordinated organisations of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus, local executive and management bodies, emergency response bodies and units to the Ministry of Emergency Response.

Mutual notification on emergency situations of transboundary character is organized in the framework of intergovernmental agreements with the states of near and far abroad, as well as according to the plans of cooperation of board territorial bodies of MER with corresponding agencies of neighbouring countries.

Issues of provision of individual respiratory protection gear to residents are regulated by Regulation on Organisation and Provision of Individual Respiratory Protection Gear to Residents in Emergency Situations (approved by Decree # 1066 of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus of 22.11.2012.

1. Please explain:

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

(a) To what extent does your policy deliver the intended results?

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [2] (а):** The policy is implemented fully, under guidance of relevant competent bodies (MER, ISD) and fully meets its intended objectives. Human and finance resources are secured, national experts are continuously trained on matters of the policy implementation.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

(b) Have there been any difficulties with implementing the Convention?

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [2] (b):** No difficulties were encountered in connection with the policy implementation.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

(c) Are there changes being planned or considered?

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [2] (с):**

In general terms, there were no changes in the policy in two recent years.

However, the Republic of Belarus continuously and gradually improves its legal framework, including review of legal acts and technical regulations to meet modern requirements in the sphere of industrial safety.

Now, in order to improve the due legislation in the sphere of industrial safety, a primary legal act - draft Law of the Republic of Belarus on Industrial Safety - undergoes the procedure of review and coordination (the new law should replace Law of the Republic of Belarus on Industrial Safety of Hazardous Production Facilities).

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

###### IDENTIFICATION AND NOTIFICATION OF HAZARDOUS ACTIVITIES WITH THE POTENTIAL TO CAUSE TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS

1. Describe briefly the mechanism / arrangements that you have been using for the identification[[3]](#footnote-4) and notification of hazardous activities (please note that notification in questions 3 to 7 is NOT related to the event of an accident. For further information, please refer to Art. 4 of the Convention and to the explanatory note in the guidelines to this document about the meaning of notification in this context). Please also provide information on the mechanism / arrangements to consult with neighbouring countries to assess whether a given hazardous installation would be inserted in the list of activities to be notified.

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [3]:**

**[3] (i):** Hazardous activities mean activities related to hazardous production facilities (HPFs). The list of HPFs is presented in Annexes 1 and 2 to Law of the Republic of Belarus on Industrial Safety of Hazardous Production Facilities.

The list of hazardous activities is presented in the report for 2012-2014.

According to Law of the Republic of Belarus on Industrial Safety of Hazardous Production Facilities, operators develop industrial safety declarations and ISD registers HPFs in the State Register, etc.

According to MER Regulation # 22 of 11.04.2003 on Approval of the Instruction on Registration of Facilities in the State Register of Hazardous Production Facilities and Maintenance of the State Register of Hazardous Production Facilities (as amended on 12.11.2008), hazardous production facilities are identified based on hazard indicators and threshold quantities of hazardous substances that - if present in a HPF - require mandatory development of an industrial safety declaration according to Annexes 1 and 2 to Law of the Republic of Belarus on Industrial Safety of Hazardous Production Facilities, as well as according to criteria of categorisation of hazardous facilities.

According to the Regulation on State Supervision in the Sphere of Industrial Safety, adopted by Decree # 2056 of the Council of Ministries of the Republic of Belarus of 31.12.2008 (as amended on 15.12.2014), ISD maintains state industrial supervision of facilities prone to potential emergencies and accidents with potential transboundary effects (including HPFs) - major oil and oil products pipelines crossing the territory of the Republic of Belarus, chemical, oil and chemical, oil processing facilities, which have explosive technological blocks.

ISD registers and takes under special state supervision explosive and fire-dangerous production and facilities with explosive technological blocks with Qв>9 as well as blocks with Qв>6 with substances of 1st and 2nd class of danger or substances of concentrated activity of 3rd and 4th class of danger, ammonia-freezing facilities with concentration of ammonia as of 1000 kg and more and chlorine stations and chlorine warehouses with 800 kg and more of chlorine.

Depending on values of relative energy potentials – Qe and resulted weight of explosive gas –m, technological blocs are ranged into 3 categories of explosiveness according to the table 1.

Categorization of technological blocks on explosiveness should be done in accordance with General principles of quantity evaluation of explosiveness of technological blocks.

 Table 1

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Category of explosiveness  | Qe  | Kg, m  |
| 1  | >37  | >5000  |
| 2  | 27-37  | 2000-5000  |
| 3  | <27  | <2000  |

**[3] (ii):** Parties (the Republic of Belarus, neighbouring countries) initiate consultations for identification of hazardous activities, that might be considered as the ones prone to transboundary impacts.

**[3] (iii):** The range of procedures, implementation rules and measures necessary to ensure notification of Parties/countries is provided in international treaties (agreements) between the Republic of Belarus and other counties and complies with Art. 4 of the Convention.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. How many hazardous activities have been identified[[4]](#footnote-5)?

 *Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [4]:**

For the time being, there are 8 hazardous activities in the Republic of Belarus (companies of chemical, petrochemical, oil processing, ethanol industries, ammonia refrigerating facilities, chlorinators and chlorine warehouses, main oil pipelines and oil products pipelines) prone to accidents that fall under the Convention.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Are these the same as in previous report? If no, please explain.

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

[x]  YES [ ]  NO

1. Indicate which Parties/countries have been notified:

**Answer to Q [6]:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Neighbouring Party/country | Number of hazardous activities notified | Inform whether your country held consultations | Comments |
| The Russian Federation | 8 | [x]  YES [ ]  NO  |       |
| The Republic of Poland | 8 | [x]  YES [ ]  NO  |       |
| Ukraine | 8 | [x]  YES [ ]  NO  |       |
| The Republic of Lithuania | 8 | [x]  YES [ ]  NO  |       |
| The Republic of Latvia | 8 | [x]  YES [ ]  NO  |       |

Add rows if needed

In the period from 2014 to 2015, no accidents with transboundary impacts on neighbouring countries happened in the Republic of Belarus.

In the framework of bilateral cooperation with neighbouring countries, parties exchange information on potential emergencies at facilities in border areas, including accidents at industrial facilities and installations; parties develop mechanisms for timely notification on transboundary emergencies and for joint emergency response actions.

1. Please indicate or describe:

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

(a) How successful is your identification or notification mechanism? And how successful is the mechanism for consultation with neighbouring countries?

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [7](а):** The mechanism applied in the Republic of Belarus allows efficient identification of hazardous activities - from data collection, validation and review, and to efficient notification:

- the authority in charge of notification of neighbouring countries is clearly defined - the Ministry of Emergency Response of the Republic of Belarus;

- counterpart agencies in neighbouring countries are clearly defined - the ones Belarus is obliged to notify on hazardous activities;

- actions to follow in the course of notification of neighbouring countries are clearly defined.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

(b) Any weaknesses recently identified in identification or notification of hazardous activities, e.g. through applying indicators and criteria (ECE/CP.TEIA/2010/6, Annex II and III) and/or in the mechanism for consultation?

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [7](b):** None.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

(c) Has your country taken any action in the since the latest reporting round to improve the identification, notification of hazardous activities or consultation with neighbouring countries or are such actions being planned or considered?

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [7](с):** Bilateral consultations with neighbouring countries are held annually on matters of emergency prevention and mitigation. Works were conducted under the Action Plan for implementation of Belarus - Ukraine intergovernmental agreement on cooperation in the sphere of emergency prevention and mitigation, etc.

In the course of seminars on EU Seveso II (III) Directive (ЕС 96/82) - seminars on control of risks of major accidents with hazardous substances in the framework of the Program for Prevention of, Preparedness and Response to Natural Disasters and Industrial Accidents in the Eastern Region and sun-regional seminars on control of risks of major accidents (with participation of PPRD East Program representatives) - agreements were reached with representatives of neighbouring countries and other foreign representatives on exchange of experience and information on different industrial safety matters.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

###### PREVENTION OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

1. Further to general description provided under Q.1 please explain briefly the main preventive measures taken by operators and authorities during all phases of enterprise.

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [8]:**

**(i):** Law of the Republic of Belarus of January 10, 2000 on Industrial Safety of Hazardous Production Facilities defines requirements to organizations operating hazardous production facilities:

To have a special permission (license) for activities in the area of industrial safety;

To have a responsible person or body controlling industrial safety;

To provide completeness of staff of the hazardous production facility according to established requirements;

To accept only persons satisfying qualification requirements and having no medical contra-indications to work at the hazardous production facility;

To provide training and attestation of employees in the area of industrial safety;

To have at the hazardous production facility legislative acts of the Republic of Belarus, including technical legislative acts regulating rules for works at hazardous production facilities;

To organize and conduct production control on compliance with the industrial safety requirements;

To provide presence and functionality of necessary equipment and control systems for production processes according to established requirements;

To prevent access of unauthorised persons to the hazardous production facility;

To provide expertise of industrial safety as well as carry out technical diagnostics and trials of technical equipment and units used at the hazardous production facility, in established time frame and in accordance with the order of the republican body of state governance in the area of industrial safety;

To ensure compliance with the requirements of industrial safety for storage of hazardous substances;

To develop a declaration of industrial safety;

To comply with orders and instructions of republican body of state governance in the area of industrial safety and its personnel, issued according to their powers;

To suspend operation of the hazardous production facility on their own or according to the decision of the republican body of state governance in the area of industrial safety and its staff in the case of accidents or incidents at the hazardous production facility, as well as in the case of identification of new circumstances influencing industrial safety.

**(ii):** The system of state technical supervision of safe operation of potentially hazardous facilities functions in the Republic of Belarus. It is maintained in the relevant legislation framework by the designated bodies of supervision and control which are independent from producers. Activities of these bodies are focused on prevention and termination of violations of requirements of technical safety, prevention of accidents and catastrophes of technogenic character at the facilities of higher hazard when hazardous activities are carried out there. These activities are carried out by the designated bodies through organization and implementation of regulative (development and approval of legal rules and other legislative acts, licensing etc.), observation, control and expert activities.

**(iii):** Supervision activity is based on carrying out systematic (within certain period of time and in certain volume) analysis of facilities of higher hazard, issuing instructions for eliminating violations, control over fulfilment of these instructions. Supervision is carried out both at the stage of construction, reconstruction and technical equipment, and in the process of operation and its termination. Staff of these bodies have the power to sanction violators of the safety requirements up to the level of termination of operations of the facilities.

Decree # 23 of the RB MER of 05.08.2004 (as amended on 14.03.2008) approves Model Instruction on Actions of Employees in the Case of Emergency Situations at ammonia-refrigerating machinery, warehouses of chlorine, which also provides requirements to drafting, communication and approval of instructions in organizations exploitation hazardous chemical production facilities (ammonia-refrigerating facilities, warehouses of chlorine) regardless their organizational and ownership basis, where accidents with emissions of explosive mixtures of ammonia, chlorine with the air is possible together with explosions of machinery, production and external facilities which may lead to destroyed buildings, constructions, technical facilities, hurt people and negatively influence the environment.

Decree # 47 of BR MER of 16.12.2004 (as amended on 30.11.2010) approved Instruction on Carrying out Expertise of Industrial Safety of Hazardous Production Facilities, which contains requirements for expertise of industrial safety of hazardous production facilities and formulation of its conclusions.

According to Decision # 28 of RB MER of 13.12.2002 on development of prospective programs of increase of levels of accident and fire-prevention protection at hazardous and other industrial facilities, operators develop and - with due frequency - adjust their prospective programs to improve levels of accident and fire-prevention protection. Reports on implementation of these programs are submitted to supervisory bodies and other authorities.

The system of training, retraining and qualification enhancement of specialists and personnel of hazardous facilities in the specialized agencies of training, in the organizations functions in the Republic, as well as the system of certification and verification of knowledge of technical safety, actions in the emergencies and other questions, as a part of their responsibility to guarantee safe operation of hazardous facilities.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Please indicate or describe:

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

(a) To what extent do your country’s prevention measures deliver the intended results?

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [9](а):** Preventive measures of the country make it possible to localize emergencies at hazardous production facilities, including the ones of the chemical, petrochemical and petroleum refining industries and main pipelines in all seasons.

In the reporting period, measures were applied to improve the system of responding to accidents related to release of oil to waters, namely:

Necessary equipment was purchased and installed, renovation of the equipment continues;

Large-scale exercises with involvement of forces and means of relevant units of neighbouring countries took were conducted.

Now, these issues are under serious consideration, but there are some problems. It is necessary to cooperate with neighbouring countries more closely, to teach experts working in this area, to buy specialized equipment, to analyse and - to the necessary extent - to absorb experience of neighbouring and other countries.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

(b) Any weaknesses recently identified in prevention, e.g. through applying indicators and criteria (ECE/CP.TEIA/2010/6, Annex IV)?

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [9](b):** None identified

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

(c) Has your country started to take any steps in the current reporting period to improve prevention or does it plan to do so in the near future?

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [9](с):** In the Republic of Belarus, continuous efforts are gradually applied to improve preparedness and response to emergencies, including review of laws and regulations to adapt them to modern requirements.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE**

1. Do Internal (On-site) and External (Off-site) contingency plans exist for all hazardous activities identified? Please explain

[x]  YES [ ]  NO [ ]  Partially

According to Law of the Republic of Belarus on Protection of the Population and Territories from Natural Disasters and Industrial Accidents and other laws and regulations, hazardous production facilities develop emergency prevention and response plans, as well as prospective programs for improvement of levels of fire/accident protection and plans for mitigation of emergencies. Besides that, at territorial and local SSES levels, relevant plans are developed for protection of the population and territories from natural disasters and industrial accidents, containing specific solutions for mitigation of emergencies, including emergencies associated with accidents on HPFs.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. How do these plans take account of the results of the hazard/risk assessment?  *Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [11]:** In the course of drafting industrial safety declarations of hazardous production facilities, all potentially possible hazards/risks are accounted for. Plans are developed based on results of their assessments.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Is the preparation of the plans coordinated between operators and authorities? If so, please explain how

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

[x]  YES [ ]  NO

Development of plans is led by heads of hazardous production facilities together with main specialists of the facility and managers of production department, occupational safety and the facility level SSES, as well as representatives of the ISD (when necessary).

 Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Are the plans tested, reviewed and updated as necessary? Please explain

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

[x]  YES [ ]  NO [ ]  Partially

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Is testing, reviewing or updating done in cooperation with neighbouring countries? Please explain

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

[x]  YES [ ]  NO [ ]  Partially

The plans are tested in the course of emergency drills and exercises that are conducted by operators independently or in cooperation with emergency response bodies, local executive authorities and local residents, as well as in the course of joint exercises with competent agencies of neighbouring countries. Based on their outcomes, decisions are made to review or update these plans. Decisions on update of the plans are also made in the case of structural changes on the operator's side (e.g. changes in composition of hazardous production facilities, in technological process of relevance to hazard levels, etc.)

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Please indicate or describe:

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

(a) How successful are your country’s emergency preparedness and response measures in meeting the aims of the Convention? Which authority(s) is/are responsible for them?

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [15] (а):**  See the information provided above.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

(b) Any weaknesses recently identified in your country’s emergency preparedness, and response, e.g. through applying indicators and criteria (ECE/CP.TEIA/2010/6, Annex V and Annex VI)?

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [15] (b):** no weaknesses in emergency preparedness and response were identified (including through application of indicators and criteria of ECE/CP.TEIA/2010/6, Annex V and Annex VI).

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

(c) Whether your country has started to take any steps in the current reporting period to improve emergency preparedness and response or whether is planning to do so in the near future.

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [15] (с):** In the Republic of Belarus, continuous efforts are gradually applied to improve emergency preparedness and response, including review of regulations to adjust them to modern requirements.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Do guidance documents concerning contingency planning to support national or regional authorities or operators exist[[5]](#footnote-6)?

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

[x]  YES [ ]  NO

Law of the Republic of Belarus on Protection of the Population and Territories from Natural Disasters and Industrial Accidents is in force. Relevant implementing regulations were developed under the Law. Both national and international technical regulations of relevance to installations at hazardous production facilities, technical devices, etc. (including rules of design and safe operation, technical codes and due industrial practice regulations, etc.) are developed and applied.

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Is the Industrial Accident Notification (IAN) System established within your country?

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

[x]  YES [ ]  NO

The system of notification on industrial accidents was legislatively introduced in the Republic of Belarus, including application of specialised hardware/software for early detection of accidents and alert at hazardous chemical facilities.

Please describe

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Do you use another accident notification system[[6]](#footnote-7)

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

[x]  YES [ ]  NO

The system of notification of neighbouring countries on transboundary industrial accidents at the territory of Belarus, is established by the due legislation of the Republic of Belarus (see above information on notifications, notification procedures).

Please describe

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Which authority is the point of contact as of art 17 of the Convention?

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [19]:** The Ministry of Emergency Response of the Republic of Belarus is the point of contact.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

**MUTUAL ASSISTANCE**

1. Has your country identified an authority that would act as point of contact for mutual assistance (as of art. 17 of the Convention)?

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

[x]  YES [ ]  NO

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

(a) Please provide information on the point of contact responsible to requesting and/ or providing assistance in the event of an accident.

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [20 а)]):** The Ministry of Emergency Response of the Republic of Belarus.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

(b) Please provide general information on the procedures followed for requesting/and or providing assistance.

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [20 b)]:** Procedures for drafting assistance requests and processes of assistance provision are specified in Decree # 269 of the President of the Republic of Belarus of 27.06.2011 (as amended on 28.07.2014) on Approval of Regulations on Procedures for Provision of International Humanitarian Assistance by the Republic of Belarus, in international agreements on cooperation in the sphere of emergency prevention/mitigation, in the Convention on Transborder Cooperation of CIS MS.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Has your country established bilateral or multilateral agreements for mutual assistance?

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

[x]  YES [ ]  NO

In the period from 1999 to 2015, MER of the Republic of Belarus concluded 33 international agreements on cooperation in the sphere of emergency prevention and mitigation, swift notification on nuclear accidents with the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Armenia, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Georgia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Italy, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the State of Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Peoples Republic of China, the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, **the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania,** the Republic of Moldova, **the Russian Federation**, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, the Republic of Uzbekistan, **Ukraine,** the Swiss Confederation, Japan, the UN, Syria and **the Republic of Poland** (all neighbouring countries of the Republic of Belarus are marked by bold font).

In the reporting period (2014-2015), the following agreements were concluded:

Agreement between the Ministry of Emergency Response of the Republic of Belarus and the Ministry of Interior of Georgia on Cooperation in the Sphere of Emergency Prevention and Mitigation (11.03.2014);

Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Belarus and the Government of Turkmenistan on Cooperation in the Sphere of Emergency Prevention and Mitigation of their Consequences (08.10.2014);

Agreement between the Ministry of Emergency Response of the Republic of Belarus and the Ministry of Local Self-government of the Syrian Arab Republic on Cooperation in the Sphere of Emergency Prevention and Mitigation (09.02.2015);

Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Belarus and the Government of the Republic of Poland on Cooperation in the Sphere of Prevention of Catastrophes, Natural Disasters, Other Emergencies and Mitigation of their Consequences (23.04.2015).

Works are under way to conclude international agreements in the sphere of emergency prevention and mitigation with the Republic of India, Romania, the Republic of Bulgaria the State of Kuwait and the Republic of Turkey, as well as an agreement on swift notification on nuclear accidents with the Republic of Lithuania.

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

**SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION**

22. Has your country set up any bilateral/multilateral activities/programmes to exchange information, experiences and/or technology in order to strengthen cooperation among Parties under the Convention and other (neighbouring) countries[[7]](#footnote-8)? If so, please explain.

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

[x]  YES [ ]  NO

Exchange of information, experience and technologies for development of cooperation between Parties of the Convention and neighbouring countries on industrial safety matters is conducted in the framework of the international agreements concluded (see Q **[21]**), international seminars, exhibitions, etc. In particular, specialised international exhibitions of "Man and Safety" series are conducted annually (the seventh one was organised and held in Minsk in November 2015).

In the framework of bilateral cooperation in the sphere of prevention and mitigation of natural disasters and industrial accidents, annual bilateral meetings are held with neighbouring countries to discuss issues of protection of residents and territories from emergencies.

In order to exchange experience and technologies, the Joint Scientific and Technical Council was established between MERs of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Russia. Joint works are under way in the framework of the Eurasian Economic Union for development and endorsement of technical regulations.

The R&D Institute of Fire Protection and Emergency Situations of the Ministry of Emergency Response of Belarus concluded the following agreements (programs):

Agreement on cooperation between the R&D Institute of Fire Protection and Emergency Situations of RB MER and the Centre of Fire Protection Research of the Department of Fire Protection and Rescue of Lithuanian MoI;

Agreement on cooperation and interaction the R&D Institute of Fire Protection and Emergency Situations of RB MER and the Ukrainian R&D Civil Protection Institute of the State Emergency Response Service of Ukraine;

Agreement on cooperation in the sphere of research and training activities between the R&D Institute of Fire Protection and Emergency Situations of RB MER and the Federal R&D Fire Protection Institute of the RF Ministry of Civil Defence, Emergencies and Mitigation of their Consequences.

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

**PARTICIPATION OF THE PUBLIC**

23. What opportunities does the public in your country have to participate in establishing or implementing[[8]](#footnote-9)

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

1. preventive measures

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. preparedness measures

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [23 а;b)]:** According to para 8 of Law of Republic of Belarus on Protection of the Population and Territories from Emergency Situations of Natural and Technogenic Character, information in the area of protection of population and territories from emergency situations as well as about the activities of republican body of state management on emergency situations, other republican bodies of state management, other state organizations under the Council of Ministers of Republic of Belarus, local executive and management bodies and other organizations in this area, is open, if the contrary is not assumed in the legislation in the Republic of Belarus.

These bodies and organizations must timely and correctly inform population through the mass media and other channels about the state of protection of the population and territories from the emergency situations, about ways of protection of the population from emergencies.

Concealment, late presentation or deliberately false presentation by the officials of false information in the area of protection of population and territories from the emergency situations entail responsibility in accordance with the legislation of Republic of Belarus.

Article 20 of the Law determines the rights of citizens in the area of the protection of population and territories from the emergency situations and the social protection of victims. Thus, the citizens of Republic of Belarus have the right in the area of the protection of population and territories from the emergency situations:

- to the protection of life, health and of personal belongings in the case of the appearance of emergency situations;

- to the information about the risk, which they can undergo in the specific places of a stay in the territory of the country, and about the measures of the necessary safety;

- to address personally, and to send individual and collective rotation on questions of the protection of population and territories from the emergency situations to the republic organs of state administration, other state organizations, subordinated to the Council of Ministers of Republic of Belarus, local executive and administrative bodies;

- to participate in the routine in the measures for warning and liquidation of emergency situations;

- to receive compensation of the harm, caused to their health and to property as a result of the emergency situations, and also a number of other privileges.

In accordance with articles 22, 23 and 24 of the law of Republic of Belarus on Industrial Safety of Hazardous Production Facilities, public associations have right to monitor the compliance with industrial safety requirements; the representatives of public associations have the right of access to the territory of the organizations operating hazardous production facility, in the order, established by the legislation of Republic of Belarus; openness of information in the region of industrial safety, the information about the state of industrial safety, the forecasted and coming emergencies and their consequences, rules of behaviour in case of emergency; about the activity, the measures and the programs of industrial safety.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

24. How do you inform the public of these opportunities?

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [23]:**  The information is published in mass media, including printed media (newspapers, magazines, etc.), via TV and radio outlets and on-line (web sites of MER, ISD, governmental bodies and other organisations).

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

25. Does the public participate? Please explain

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

[x]  YES [ ]  NO

The public participates according to rights provided by the due legislation of the Republic of Belarus.

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Are the public in neighbouring countries/Parties (who may be affected by hazardous activities) able to participate in the same way as people in your own country?

[x]  YES [ ]  NO

Yes, they can, according to international agreements.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Do natural or legal persons capable of being affected by an industrial accident in the territory of neighbouring countries/Parties have access to the relevant administrative and judicial procedures in your country?

[x]  YES [ ]  NO

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Please indicate or describe:

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

(a) How successful has your country been in developing public participation?

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [28](а):** All conditions for public participation in the process of achieving industrial safety and improvement of the available mechanisms of public participation are present in the Republic.

However, now, there is a need to study European experience in this area in the framework of cooperation with EU member-states.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

(b) Any weaknesses recently identified in your country’s system for public participation, e.g. through applying indicators and criteria (ECE/CP.TEIA/2010/6, Annex VII)?

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**Answer to Q [28](b):** No weaknesses were identified in the public participation system, including through application of indicators and criteria.

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

(c) Whether your country has started to take any steps in the current reporting period to improve public participation or whether is planning to do so in the near future.

**Answer to Q [28](с):** Continuous efforts are applied in the sphere, in the framework of improvement of the national legislation in the sphere of industrial safety.

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Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

##### DECISION-MAKING ON SITING

1. Has your country established policies on the siting of hazardous activities and on significant modifications to existing activities? If so, please explain.

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

[x]  YES [ ]  NO

HPFs siting policy is stipulated in Art. 10 of Law of the Republic of Belarus on Industrial Safety of Hazardous Production Facilities and in regulations developed and endorsed for implementation of the Law.

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. How do these policies take transboundary issues into account? Please report on any bilateral activities on siting issues with potentially affected neighbouring countries.

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

**Answer to Q [30]:** See the answer above in this Report.

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Please explain or describe:

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

(a) To what extent does your siting policy achieve the intended results?

**Answer to Q [31] (а):** As pertains to siting hazardous production facilities at the territory of the Republic of Belarus, the national siting policy is defined by the due legislation and fully complies with relevant norms of the Convention.

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

(b) Any weaknesses recently identified in your country’s siting policy?

**Answer to Q [31] (b):** None identified

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

(c) Whether your country has started to take any steps in the current reporting period to improve siting policy or whether is planning to do so in the near future.

**Answer to Q [31](с):** See the answer above in this Report.

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

**REPORTING ON PAST INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS**

1. a Have there been any accidents with transboundary effects during this reporting period?

[ ] YES [x]  NO

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Location | Type of Accident |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

1. b If yes, have you reported on these industrial accidents with transboundary consequences and, if so, which system did you use?

*Please note that an overall comprehensive question (including past reporting rounds and the updates) is estimated at 250-300 words*

Please copy here the content of the last full reply (please note that this might be the one in the last reporting round or in an earlier one)

Please indicate only changes from the previous reporting round

1. Clarification on the questions is provided in the guidelines [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. For more information concerning the level of details for the information, please refer to the Guidelines for reporting [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. For the location criteria please see the document ECE/CP.TEIA/12 available at

http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/env/documents/2005/teia/ece.cp.teia.12.e.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Please refer to the guidelines for explanation of hazardous activities [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. Please note that this question also refers to hazardous installations not falling within the scope of the Convention [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. Accident notification system is to be understood as a system that authorities can use to inform other countries that an accident has occurred in their territory. The notification system referred to in this report is something to be used during an emergency. Please do not provide information about systems used to report on past accidents or lessons learned. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. Please note that this question refers to examples of good practices for industrial accident prevention within and between countries, independently from the current existence of installations capable of causing transboundary effects in the event of an accident. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. Please note that in replying to this question you should consider whether such possibilities exist in the country independently on whether the country currently has hazardous activities capable of causing transboundary effects in the event of an accident. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)