United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

First interagency consultation on industrial accidents
Geneva, Palais des Nations, 29 April 2013
The Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

- The Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents
  - adopted on 17 March 1992 and entered into force on 19 April 2000
  - Currently 41 Members to the Convention, including the European Union
  - Special attention to Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia and South Eastern Europe

- Goals of the Convention
  - Protection of human health and the environment against industrial accidents
  - Active international cooperation between the contracting Parties, before, during and after an industrial accident
The UNECE Region
The UNECE Region
Priorities of the Convention

• Identification of hazardous activities capable of causing transboundary effects and notification to potentially affected countries
• Prevention of accidents through technical, organisational and management measures that ensure high level of industrial safety
• Preparedness to industrial accidents through availability of up-to-date and tested emergency plans and procedures
• Response through effective mitigation, cooperation and coordination and notification to affected stakeholders
• Land use planning in the context of major accident safety
• Public awareness, information and participation
The 3rd CoP (2004) adopted an Assistance Programme to support the countries from Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia and South Eastern Europe in implementing the Convention.

The Assistance Programme aims at supporting Parties and UNECE countries with economies in transition to improve their industrial safety.

15 beneficiary countries under the Assistance Programme: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

Montenegro and Turkmenistan invited to join the Assistance Programme (2013).
• Activities and projects under the implementation phase of the Assistance Programme
  • Training sessions on the identification of hazardous activities for the Assistance Programme countries (2008 - 2011)
  • Training sessions for evaluation and inspection of safety reports for SEE Countries (2010 - 2012)
  • Joint hazard and crisis management of transboundary emergencies (2009, 2014?)
  • Capacity building workshops
Outputs of the Convention

- Guidelines to facilitate the identification of hazardous activities for the purposes of the Convention (Guidelines for Location Criteria)
- Safety guidelines and good practices for Tailing management facilities
- Safety guidelines and good practices for Pipelines
- Safety guidelines and good practices for Oil terminals (in development)
- Checklist for preparation and inspection of a safety report
- Guidelines for preparation and inspection of a safety report
Thank you for your attention!

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