

HANDOUT 2 FOR SECTION 1

Problems and obstacles

Problems and obstacles in implementing the Convention

List of most often mentioned problems and obstacles

1. Terminology problems during translations
2. Difficulties encountered during the revision of legislation
3. Poor cooperation between authorities at national level and between them and the authorities at local level.
4. Lack of experts in local governments, qualified personnel in institutions (difficulties on attracting experts due to financial shortages)
5. Lack of expertise in the field of risk assessment, analysis methods and criteria for acceptable risk
6. Difficulties encountered for the identification of activities capable of causing transboundary effect in case of accident (interpretation of Annex I of the Convention, access to data, interpretation of data, poor cooperation with industry, ...)
7. Uncertainties on how to deal with installations with comparatively low quantities of hazardous substances
8. Lack of communication equipment.
9. Dilemmas referring to providing information to the public and danger of terrorism

List with countries' suggestions on assistance needed to overcome problems and obstacles in implementing the Convention

1. Assistance in revising the legal and normative frameworks
2. Access to information on documents with best practice to follow while elaborating national regulation
3. Guidelines on identification of hazardous activities also with comparatively low quantities of hazardous substances
4. Guidelines on monitoring and inspecting hazardous activities
5. Guidelines on measures needed to be taken in order to respond to industrial accidents
6. Capacity building at all levels (local, regional and national)
7. Exchange of experience between countries
8. Specific workshops as e.g. on domino-effect assessment, risk assessment
9. Guidelines on how to finance the technology transfer

HANDOUT 2 FOR SECTION 1

Problems and obstacles

Problems and obstacles in ratifying / acceding to the Convention

List of most often addressed problems and obstacles

1. Financial and economic situation, and the lack of a clear functional division of authority between various agencies in effecting administrative reform.

List with countries' suggestions on assistance needed to overcome problems and obstacles in ratifying /acceding to the Convention

1. Organization of measures to promote accession to and implementation of the Convention
2. Assistance in preparation of national plan with tasks to complete in order to ratify the Convention
3. Assistance in operating a point of contact within the UNECE Industrial Accident Notification System
4. Capacity building for personnel at all levels (national, regional, local)