

# Preparedness

**An optimal level of implementation in the area of preparedness is reached when countries have in place and are implementing a comprehensive system to ensure adequate emergency preparedness for industrial accidents.**

The system imposes the responsibility:

- (a) On hazardous activity (HA) operators to establish, maintain and test on-site emergency plans and to ensure their capacity to be able to respond to emergencies in accordance with the provisions of those plans;
- (b) On the competent authorities to establish, maintain and test off-site emergency plans, to ensure their capacity to be able to respond to emergencies in accordance with the provisions of emergency plans, to ensure that HA operators comply with their responsibilities, and that off-site plans are compatible with on-site plans;
- (c) On the competent authorities to ensure, where relevant, compatible emergency plans in a transboundary context (compatible emergency plans of Parties to the Convention concerned).

# Indicators preparedness

The following indicators are to be used:

First:

A mechanism giving the responsibility for emergency preparedness to HA operators;

Second:

A mechanism giving the responsibility for emergency preparedness to the competent authorities;

Third:

A mechanism ensuring transboundary compatible emergency plans.

# Definition indicators preparedness

*Mechanism giving the responsibility for emergency preparedness to HA operators: set of procedures, implementation rules and actions ensuring that HA operators prepare, coordinate, test, review and revise on-site emergency plans.*

*Mechanism giving the responsibility for emergency preparedness to the competent authorities: set of procedures, implementation rules and actions ensuring that the competent authorities prepare, coordinate, test, review and revise off-site emergency plans and sets of procedures giving the competent authorities the right to impose responsibility on HA operators.*

*Mechanism ensuring transboundary compatible emergency plans: set of procedures, implementation rules and actions ensuring that the competent authorities of the concerned parties cooperate and coordinate emergency plans to make them compatible.*

# Response and mutual assistance

**An optimal level of implementation in the area of response and mutual assistance is achieved when countries have in place and are implementing a comprehensive system ensuring that:**

- (a) Industrial accidents or an immediate threat thereof are recognized as such on time, enabling the activation of preparedness procedures as well as transboundary cooperation;
- (b) Procedures to request assistance are in place;
- (c) Procedures to provide assistance to another Party which might be affected by an industrial accident are in place.

# Indicators response and mutual assistance

The following indicators are to be used:

## First:

A mechanism giving responsibility to the competent authority to promptly recognize industrial accidents or an immediate threat thereof;

## Second:

A mechanism to ensure the use of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Industrial Accident. Notification (IAN) System;

## Third:

A mechanism to ensure the use of notification systems at the local level;

## Fourth:

A mechanism giving responsibility to the competent authority to request and to provide assistance.

# Definition indicators response/mutual assistance

*Mechanism giving responsibility to the competent authority to promptly recognize industrial accidents or an imminent threat thereof: set of procedures, implementation rules and actions ensuring prompt activation of the relevant measures in the event of an accident or of an imminent threat of an accident.*

*Mechanism to ensure the use of IAN system: set of procedures, implementation rules*

and actions ensuring that the competent authorities use the UNECE Industrial Accident Notification (IAN) System for the purpose of obtaining and transmitting industrial accident notifications at the international level.

*Mechanism to ensure the use of notification systems at the local level: set of procedures, implementation rules and actions ensuring that the local authorities use adequate systems for the purpose of receiving and transmitting industrial accident notifications at the bilateral level.*

*Mechanism giving responsibility to the competent authority to request and to provide assistance: set of procedures, implementation rules and actions ensuring that a country has a system in place:*

- (a) To send a request for assistance in case of need;
- (b) To quickly and reliably respond to a request for assistance from another