UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents Project under the Assistance Programme Project on hazard and crisis management



LIST WITH DECISIONS TAKEN AT THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT GROUP WITHIN THE PROJECT ON HAZARD AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT IN THE DANUBE DELTA

The meeting was organized as a videoconference on 18 August from 10 a.m. to 12.p.m.

Participants

Project coordinators

- 1. Mr. Gavril Gilca (Republic of Moldova);
- 2. Ms. Svetlana Stirbu (Republic of Moldova);
- 3. Mr. George Musala (Romania);

Project donors

- 4. Mr. Chris Dijkens (Netherlands, Chair);
- 5. Mr. Pavel Danihelka (Czech Republic);
- 6. Mr. Pavel Dobes (Czech Republic);
- 7. Mr. Jorma Rytkönen (Finland);

UNECE secretariat

- 8. Ms. Franziska Ilg-Hirsch, Secretary of the Industrial Accidents Convention
- 9. Ms. Claudia Kamke, Associate Environmental Affairs Officer.

List with decisions taken

The videoconference was chaired by Mr. Dijkens (Netherlands). The decisions taken are summarized below.

Preparations for the field exercise

- The Republic of Moldova provided an update on the arrangements for the field exercise, informing participants that transportation will be provided from Chisinau to the hotel in Cahul in the evening of 31 August as well as in the morning of 1 September (for late arrivals)
- The Republic of Moldova reported on the preparations for the preparatory field visit that will be held on 20–21 August 2015 with the participation of the coordinators from all project countries; further information on the outcome of the field visit would be shared with the small group preparing the field exercise at its next videoconference on 24 August 2015
- Mr. Danihelka informed participants about the progress made with the preparation of the evaluation template for the field exercise, indicating that it would be circulated on 19 August 2015 to the project management group (PMG) for their comments
- The PMG discussed the final document on the field exercise scenario and agreed to circulate it to all participants before the field exercise

Finalization of the Joint Contingency Plan (JCP)

- Romania informed participants that no input from Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova had been received following the recirculation of the Joint Contingency Plan (JCP) on 21 July containing the request to provide the information within two weeks, as agreed at the last PMG videoconference
- The Republic of Moldova apologised for having overlooked the message, indicating to send its input as soon as possible and offering to call Mr. Nabyvanets on this too, given that the JCP is a crucial background document for the field exercise
- Participants agreed to finalize the JCP after the field exercise

Trilateral agreement

Participants discussed the draft declaration, memorandum of understanding and trilateral agreement and decided the following:

- The Republic of Moldova will circulate the draft declaration, cleared by its legal department, by 19 August to the project countries for their comments by 24 August; based on those comments, the Republic of Moldova will finalize the draft declaration and send the final version to all project coordinators, as a basis for them to consult with their ministers; the secretariat was asked to translate the final English version to facilitate the consultation at the national level
- Participants agreed that the draft declaration should be signed at the final project workshop and that it should make reference to two further commitments, i.e. the negotiation of a trilateral agreement and the finalization of the JCP by dates to be agreed between the countries
- Participants stressed the need to invite international organizations to the final project workshop as they might potentially support the implementation of follow-up activities and the further negotiation of a trilateral agreement; the PMG agreed that the project countries inform their national ICPDR coordinator and that the secretariat contact the European Union accordingly

Preparations for the final project workshop

- Romania informed participants that it would only be in a position to confirm the dates and give an update on the preparations for the final project workshop following the return of the two Romanian project coordinators early the following week
- Participants discussed the draft agenda for the final workshop circulated by the secretariat before the videoconference and expressed general support; Romania indicated that it would provide detailed comments early the following week
- Participants stressed that it would be important to finalize the final workshop agenda by 25 August 2015, so that it could be used as a basis to invite ministers to the final project workshop and the high-level segment for signing the draft declaration; the secretariat was requested to liaise with the Romanian project coordinators early next week to agree on the dates, finalise the agenda and discuss other relevant questions, such as possible financial support for high-level representatives from the other project countries, given difficulties raised by the Republic of Moldova with financing such participants
- The secretariat was further requested to prepare a general invitation letter, to which the agenda for the final workshop be attached, which could be used by the project countries to invite high-level representatives at the national level

Final project reporting

- The secretariat thanked the Republic of Moldova for having sent its input to the final project report by the agreed deadline and encouraged the other countries to submit it as soon as possible

Hazard Spots Map

- The secretariat updated participants on the progress made with the finalization of the hazard spots map, indicating that an animation of the hazard map would only be possible with additional financial resources

Date for next discussion

- Participants agreed to hold the next PMG meeting on 3 September 2015, back-to-back with the field exercise, while indicating that the small group to prepare the field exercise will hold its next videoconference on 24 August 2015, 10 am–12 pm