

Overview of recent activities under the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention



Overview of recent activities

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UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents





Overview of recent activities under the Convention

1. Seminar on Land-Use Planning and Industrial Safety
2. Guidance on Land-Use Planning, the Siting of Hazardous Activities and related Safety Aspects
3. Ad Hoc Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents

1. Seminar on Land-Use Planning and Industrial Safety

16-17th May 2018 in Mechelen, Belgium

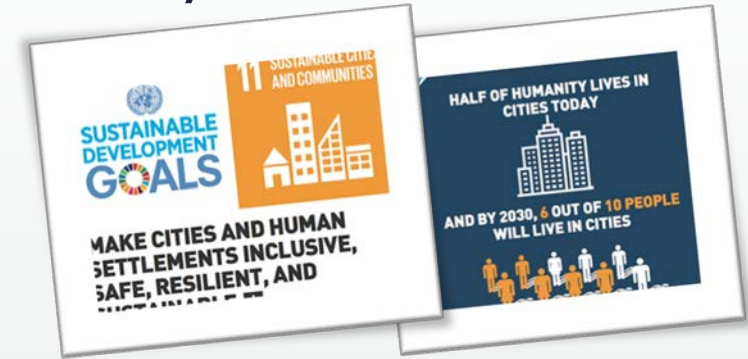
Co-organized by the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention, the UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management, the government of Flanders (Belgium), and the European Investment Bank (the EU bank)



1. Seminar on Land-Use Planning and Industrial Safety

Key objectives:

- Showcase real **case studies** of **good practices** and **lessons learned** in the **cooperation and coordination** between **land-use planners** and **industrial safety experts** for industrial accident prevention, including in a **transboundary context**.
- **Bring together** experts in land-use planning and industrial safety to share experiences.
- Highlight **the challenges** and **successful approaches** to overcome those challenges.
- Promote the UNECE '*Guidance on Land-Use Planning, the Siting of Hazardous Activities and Related Safety Aspects*'.
- Improve the understanding of the **UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention** and other relevant legal instruments and policies
- Raise awareness of the linkages to the '**Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030**' and the **SDGs**



UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention

Art. 7 Decision-making on siting: Parties to seek the establishment of policies on **siting** of new hazardous activities, on **significant modifications** of existing hazardous activities, on **significant developments** in areas which could be affected by transboundary effects of an industrial accident



1. Seminar on Land-Use Planning and Industrial Safety

- Presentations by international organizations, including UNECE, European Investment Bank, UNISDR, and UN-HABITAT
- Presentations (focusing on case studies of practical implementation) by country and industry representatives
- Participation by representatives of 32 countries
- Videos
- Panel discussions
- Practical session with a role play



1. Seminar on Land-Use Planning and Industrial Safety

- Session 1 - Introductions and Setting the Scene: the benefits of enhanced coordination between land-use planning and industrial safety
- Session 2 - Planning and decision-making on development proposals near existing hazardous facilities – good practices and lessons learned
- Session 3 - How the technical aspects of industrial safety can be better understood and integrated into the planning context: challenges, opportunities and linkages to the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
- Session 4 - Land-use planning and accident prevention in a transboundary context
- Session 5 - Practical session with a role play, and seminar conclusions





1. Seminar on Land-Use Planning and Industrial Safety

Outcomes / Conclusions:

- Land-use planning and industrial safety procedures need to be better integrated, and cooperation among experts should be initiated early in the process, for more effective industrial accident prevention.
- Opportunities to further implement legal obligations (e.g. UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention, and the UNECE Guidance on Land-Use Planning).
- Dialogue between the relevant stakeholders is crucial, within and across borders.
- The information exchanged needs to be easily understood. It was acknowledged that the technical risk related aspects can be difficult to communicate and understand.
- Further guidance on land-use planning and industrial safety is required to support authorities and practitioners, particularly at the local level.
- Exchange of information, experiences/good practices is crucial, at the national level, and across borders

2. Guidance on Land-Use Planning, the Siting of Hazardous Activities and related Safety Aspects

- Jointly developed: UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention, the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Protocol on SEA).
- Aim: to assist Parties in more effectively mitigating the effects of possible industrial accidents within countries and across borders.
- Divided into two parts: Part A - General Guidance and Part B – Technical Guidance
- Shares examples and good practices.
- Highlights the important interlinkages between the legal instruments, to assist competent authorities and practitioners in applying the provisions.
- Guidance on the risk related aspects, including risk assessment and land-use planning approaches.



2. Guidance on Land-Use Planning, the Siting of Hazardous Activities and related Safety Aspects



Part A: guidance on general matters: provides support and clarification to public authorities and practitioners on the requirements, interlinkages and application of the relevant UNECE instruments. Shares countries' experiences and good practices.



Part B: guidance on technical aspects of land-use planning and the siting of hazardous activities and related safety aspects, which focuses on the risk aspects of hazardous facilities.



2. Guidance on Land-Use Planning, the Siting of Hazardous Activities and related Safety Aspects

UNECE encourages public authorities, industry experts, environmental assessment practitioners, facility operators and other relevant stakeholders to make extensive use of this guidance for improving safety and sustainability at hazardous facilities, siting decisions, and land-use planning around these facilities.

Available online in English, French and Russian:
<http://www.unece.org/index.php?id=47851>



3. Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents (JEG)

- Established under the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention and the UNECE Water Convention.
- JEG has been collaborating with countries to address issues related to the prevention of accidental pollution of transboundary waters.
- Key aim: international cooperation for greater prevention and preparedness for industrial accidents with potential water pollution.
- **Key activities: workshops, trainings, practical exercises, the development of guidance, and facilitating the exchange of information.**

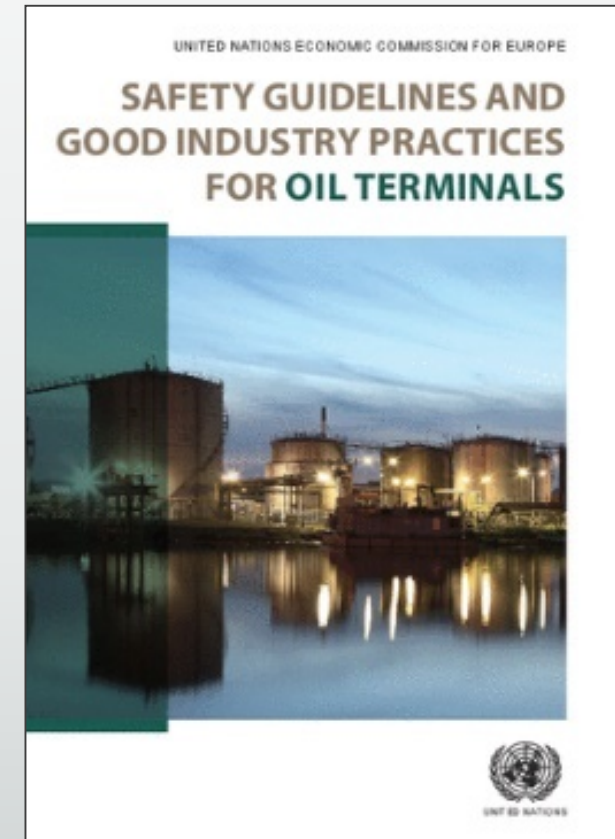
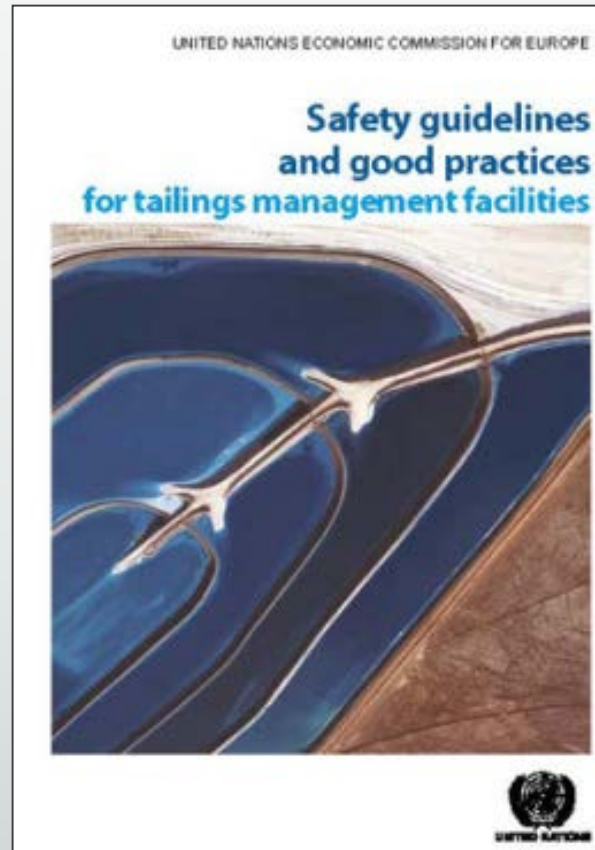
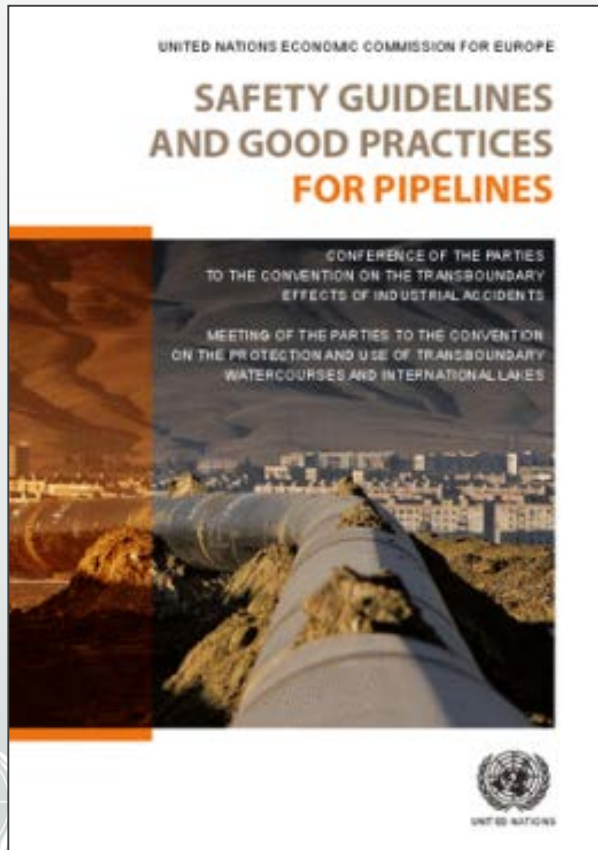
3. Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents (JEG)

JEG Strategy:

- A minimum set of requirements to ensure a basic and harmonized level of safety for hazardous activities throughout the UNECE Region
- Application of accepted good practice procedures to ensure conformity with international standards
- Assistance to national authorities and operators in ensuring an adequate level of safety by means of trainings and exercises

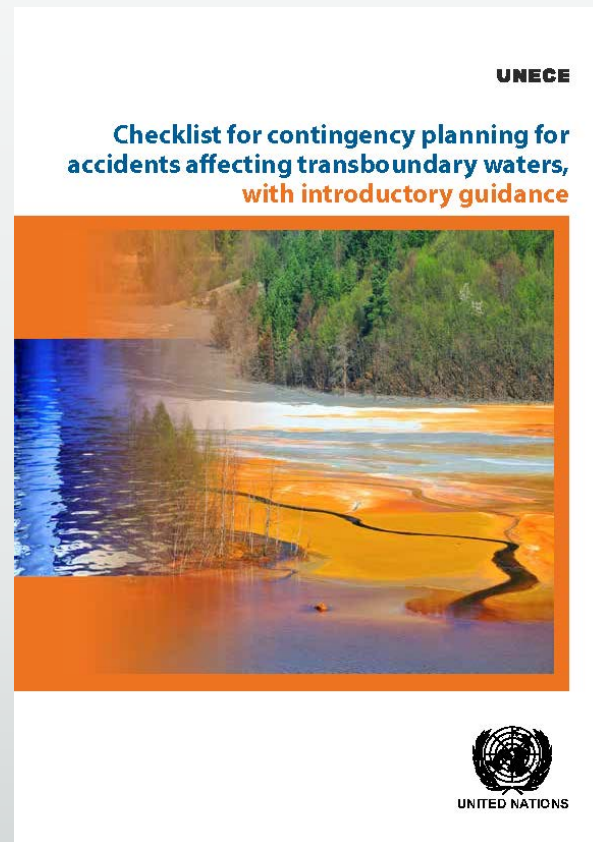
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Guidance development: safety guidelines



3. Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents (JEG)

Guidance development: checklist for contingency planning for accidents affecting transboundary waters





3. Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents (JEG)

- The most recent guidance: 'Draft safety guidelines and good practices for the management and retention of firefighting water' (general and technical recommendations)
- Aim:
 - to assist governments, competent authorities and operators in applying measures
 - improve existing practices to prevent the accidental pollution of soil and water, including pollution that could cause transboundary effects.



3. Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents (JEG)

Summary of ongoing activities:

- **Response Exercises:** Odra, Germany/Poland (4 September, 2017), and Danube, Hungary (October, 2018)
- **Raising knowledge at Universities:** National Mining University, Ukraine – Final Workshop, 16/17 May, 2017), and the On-line training methodology
- **On-site Trainings (TMF) in Georgia, Armenia:** Caucasus (authorities and operators).
- **Draft Guidance for Fire Water Retention:** To be agreed at the 10th CoP (December 2018)
- **Cooperation with the International River Commissions:** for protection of the Odra and Danube River
- **Checklists:** Checklist to the Safety Guidelines for Pipelines and Checklist to the Safety Guidelines for Oil Terminals



Thank you for your attention!

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