

**High-level awareness-raising meeting on the UNECE Convention on Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents, Kyiv, 19 April 2018**

**IMPLEMENTATION  
OF THE UN ECE CONVENTION  
ON THE TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS  
IN SLOVENIA**

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## **Requirements of the convention**

**.....in short:**

**PREVENT, PREPARE FOR AND RESPONSE TO**

**industrial accidents with potential for  
transboundary effects**

**TO PROTECT PEOPLE AND ENVIRONMENT**

**Slovenia – Party to the Convention since 2002**

**Neighbouring countries are all Parties to the convention**

**Submitted reports on the implementation of convention**

**Member of the WG Implementation**

**Member of the Bureau of the Convention**

**Supports Assistance programme**

**Chair of the Conference of the Parties**

**Becoming a Party:**

- ✦ **no question on the relevance of the Convention for Slovenia**
- ✦ **Act on the Ratification of the Convention**
- ✦ **technical and non-technical opportunities**

## **(technical) BEAUTY OF BEING A PARTY TO THE CONVENTION**

- **Demonstrating responsibility for people and environment (at national and international level)**
- **Systematic, transparent control over hazards of industrial accidents (with/without transboundary potential)**
- **Control over hazards of industrial accidents in line with best practice**
- **Opportunities to advance in technical measures**
- **Peer-to-peer (expert to expert) support and cooperation**
- **Contributing to better management in other fields: fire safety, safety and health at work, civil protection, environmental protection, environmental impact assessment, land-use planning, security**
- **Supporting implementation of EU law**

## **(non-technical) BEAUTY OF BEING A PARTY TO THE CONVENTION**

- **Responsible member of international/neighboring community**
- **Regional cooperation in technical matters contributes to regional cooperation and trust in general**
- **Image of a pro-active country**
- **Widening a horizon (also towards other UNECE MEAs)**
- **Implementation of global commitments**
- **A „ticket“ for stepping into assistance and capacity building programmes of other organisations**

**What is the practice of Slovenia?**

A. GENERAL requirements:

- ✓ ***develop and implement policies and strategies for the reduction of risks of industrial accidents ... part of environmental protection and civil protection policies.***
- ✓ ***take appropriate legislative and administrative measures ...combination of environmental and civil protection legislation and administrative bodies.***
- ✓ ***designate or establish one or more competent authorities for the implementation of the convention... two CAs: Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning and Ministry of Defence.***
- ✓ ***designate or establish one point of contact ... two POCs: colleague from Ministry of Defence and myself.***

## B. IDENTIFICATION, CONSULTATION, NOTIFICATION

- ✓ ***identify hazardous activities within the territory of the Party ... identified, based on self-notification of operators, following legal adoption of criteria, list publicly available, 63 SEVESO III establishments, 7 hazardous activities comply with „substance and location criteria“ relating to the potential for transboundary effects.***
- ✓ ***discuss with neighbouring countries hazardous activities that are capable of causing transboundary effects .... bilateral meetings organised with all neighbouring countries but Croatia.***
- ✓ ***notify those hazardous activities to Parties concerned ... notified to Austria and Hungary.***

## C. PREVENTION

- ✓ ***take appropriate measures for the prevention of industrial accidents ... prevention system rests on two mechanisms: environmental permitting and on-site inspections, experts trained to implement the system in practice.***
- ✓ ***require operators of hazardous activities to demonstrate the safe operation....responsibility to demonstrate safety on the operators, obligatory elements of demonstration defined in legislation: review of hazards, identification of accident scenarios, assessment of their consequence and effects, demonstration of prevention and mitigation measures.***

## D. SITING OF HAZARDOUS ACTIVITIES

- ✓ *establish policies on the siting of new hazardous activities and on significant modification of existing activities to minimise harmful effects for people and environment .... hazards of industrial accidents to be taken into account in land-use planning and siting of hazardous activities, criteria developed for safety distance between the source of industrial accident and potential receptors, criteria based on pre-defined accident scenarios and combination (matrix) of harmful effects and vulnerability of receptors.*

## E. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

- ✓ ***establish and maintain adequate emergency preparedness to respond to industrial accidents .... emergency preparedness for industrial accidents part of overall emergency preparedness system in the country. Elements of the system defined in legislation. Rescues and relief forces to respond to industrial accidents part of the national emergency response system. One national training centre.***
- ✓ ***ensure preparation of on-site emergency plans ....operators of hazardous activities are obliged to prepare on-site emergency plans. Elements of plans defined in legislation. Review/revision of plans. Testing of plans.***
- ✓ ***ensure preparation of off-site emergency plans ... local communities with hazardous activities on their territories are obliged to prepare off-site emergency plans. Elements of plans defined in legislation. Review/revision. Testing.***

## F. INFORMATION TO AND PARTICIPATION OF THE PUBLIC

- ✓ *ensure that information is given to the public on possible industrial accidents and their consequences and effects .... legislation defines public information on hazards of industrial accidents to be made available to the public without request, its content, mode of accessibility, review and revision.*
- ✓ *ensure that public is given opportunity to participate in the procedures to make known their views .... public participation in procedures/matters relating to industrial accidents is realised in the same way as in other environmental matters.*

## H. NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

- ✓ ***ensure operation of industrial accident notification systems ... 1 national + 7 regional information and communication centres operate 24 / 7.***
- ✓ ***ensure that potentially affected Parties are notified of and industrial accident or imminent threat thereof ... procedures prepared and responsibilities defined.***

## I. RESPONSE AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE

- ✓ *ensure adequate response measures to contain and minimise the effects of accidents ... emergency response system based on emergency plans, response consists of measures to contain and minimise effects, to protect people and environment, communication and advice to people on how to behave, .... .*
- ✓ *a Party may ask for assistance of another Party ... procedures, responsibilities, channels defined.*
- ✓ *a Party shall promptly decide and inform the requesting Party whether it is in position to render assistance ... procedures, responsibilities, channels defined.*

## J. COOPERATION WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES IN PRACTICE

- ✓ *at national level ... exchange of data on characteristics of hazardous activities, regular testing of communication channels, meetings focused on industrial accidents but also under the umbrella of activities of bilateral commissions established under bilateral „civil protection“ and „water protection“ agreements.*
- ✓ *at local level ... long and reach tradition of local cooperation based on official and personal contacts, transboundary exercises, testing of communication channels, expert meetings.*

***In practice: focus of interest and the level of ambition is determined by the Party.***