

6th Online Consultation of the Points of Contact (PoC) of the UNECE Industrial Accident Notification (IAN) System

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United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
Geneva, 22 November 2018, 10h00-11h00



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Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting by UNECE
2. Introduction of participants and background
3. Results of the UNECE IAN System connectivity test
 - a) Presentation of results by the UNECE secretariat
 - b) Discussion on test results, lessons learned and recommendations
 - c) Review of the conclusions from the 5th online consultation of the PoC
4. Any Other Business

1. Introduction of participants

Please provide the following information about yourself:

- Name
- Organization
- Role under the Convention (PoC or focal point)



2. Background on IAN System

The Convention requires:

- Article 10
 - provide for the establishment and operation of compatible and efficient industrial accident notification systems at appropriate levels
 - without delay notify at appropriate levels through the industrial accident notification systems
 - Article 12:
 - Request and provide mutual assistance to industrial accidents
 - Article 17:
 - Designate and establish a Point of Contact for these purposes
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- Since 2008, the IAN System has been operated through an internet application
 - Upgraded in 2013-2014
 - Connectivity tests held by the secretariat each biennium
 - Purpose: better preparedness and response to industrial accidents

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IAN SYSTEM

3. Results of the UNECE IAN System connectivity test

- a) Presentation of results by the UNECE secretariat
- b) Discussion on the test results, lessons learned and recommendations
- c) Review of the conclusions from the 5th online consultation of the PoC

a) Presentation of the test results (1 / 4)

Approach

- 26 Oct 2018: Email sent by UNECE announcing the 6th PoC Consultation and that a test would be held beforehand
 - Email sent to all PoC and Focal Points
 - IAN System instructions (ENG, RUS) attached
- 14 Nov 2018 @10:49 am: UNECE connectivity test conducted
 - Early-Warning Report in Exercise Mode
- 16 Nov 2018: Results with reactions as of 16 Nov (as of 11:30 am) shared with all PoC and Focal Points – updates are reflected in this presentation
- 22 Nov 2018 (today): 6th Online Consultation of the PoC
 - ⇒ Compared to past tests, the exact date of the test was not known

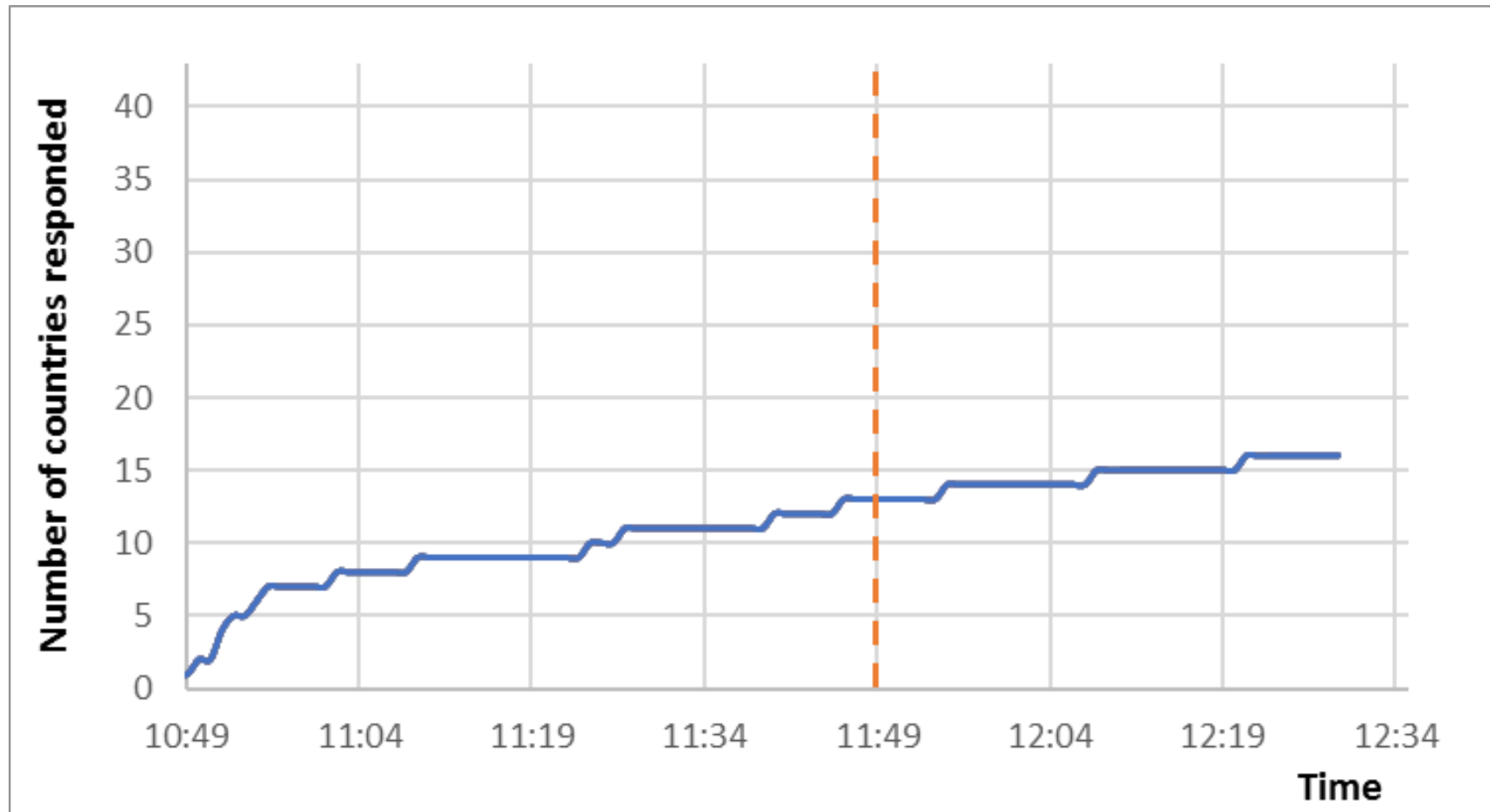
a) Presentation of the test results (2 / 4)

Results of the IAN connectivity test on 14 Nov 2018 @10:49 am

- Results presented below done on 20 Nov 2018, 19:00 pm
- Out of 43 registered UNECE member States, the following reacted:
 - 20 Countries acknowledged receipt of the accident report (< half)
 - 13 countries reacted within the recommended time (1 hour)
 - 23 countries did not acknowledge receipt of the report (> half)
 - 1 Party not registered in IAN
 - 5 non-Parties registered in IAN
 - 0 non-Parties acknowledged receipt of the report

a) Presentation of the test results (3 / 4)

Visualization of the IAN connectivity test on 14 Nov 2018 @10:49 am



a) Presentation of the test results (4 / 4)

Champions (reacted within 1 hour)

10:49 a.m. – Accident happened

10:49 a.m. – Portugal
10:51 a.m. – Belgium
10:51 a.m. – Russian Federation
10:53 a.m. – Czechia
10:53 a.m. – France
10:54 a.m. – Croatia
10:56 a.m. – Germany
10:57 a.m. – Switzerland
11:10 a.m. – Belarus
11:25 a.m. – Netherlands
11:28 a.m. – Norway
11:41 a.m. – Monaco
11:47 a.m. – Romania

Reacted on the same day

11:56 a.m. – The Former Yugoslav
Republic of Macedonia
12:09 a.m. – Denmark
12:22 a.m. – Slovenia

Late reactions

16 Nov at 12:09 a.m. – Hungary
19 Nov at 12:23 a.m. – Poland
20 Nov at 06:51 a.m. – Lithuania
20 Nov at 11:01 a.m. – Spain

No reactions to the IAN test

Albania	Kazakhstan
Armenia	Kyrgyzstan (non-Party)
Austria (tech. issues)	Latvia
Azerbaijan	Luxembourg
Bosnia and Herzegovina (not registered)	Malta
Bulgaria	Republic of Moldova
Cyprus	Serbia
Estonia	Slovakia
Georgia (non-Party)	Sweden
Greece	Tajikistan (non-Party)
Italy	Turkey (non-Party)
	United Kingdom
	Uzbekistan (non-Party)

b) Discussion on the test results, lessons learned and recommendations



- Findings from the connectivity test:
 - The response rate is lower than for previous exercises (2016: 29 responses, 2018: 20 responses)
 - The response times within recommended time (1 hour) was lower than for previous exercises (2016: 86%, 2018: 65%)
 - Forgotten login and passwords prevented several countries from being able to log in on time
 - ...?
- Lessons learned / Recommendations for the future:
 - Increase preparedness and effective response to transboundary industrial accidents by more regular tests and training of PoC
 - More regular tests be conducted at the subregional level (by lead countries to be defined), including back-to-back with assistance activities
 - To increase efficiency and operability of the System, it needs to be upgraded, if dedicated funding is available
 - ...?

c) Review of the conclusions from the 5th online consultation of the PoC (1/2)



- The **main conclusions** with regard to the IAN System connectivity test were the following:
 - (a) The response rate corresponded to the response rates from previous exercises;
 - (b) PoC encouraged to participate in such connectivity tests;
 - (c) PoC encouraged to keep their contact details up to date, to notify the secretariat (ian@unece.org) of any changes;
 - (d) There is a need for additional training of the PoC in order to ensure full operability of the IAN System.
- The **main conclusions** with regard to the test of the IAN System, conducted **in the framework of the UNECE Danube Delta project**, and the coordination with other notification and mutual assistance systems, were the following:
 - (a) Possible improvements of the IAN System should be further considered;
 - (b) The available training and information materials on the IAN System, notably the information and instructions prepared by the secretariat, should be actively disseminated;
 - (c) There is a need for enhanced coordination and networking on national level, but also with neighbouring countries, countries sharing international river basins and international organizations;
 - (d) There is a need for continuous exercises on the bilateral and multilateral level;
 - (e) Countries are encouraged to test the IAN System, as well as possibly ERCC and the early warning systems of international river commissions, jointly, in the framework of table-top exercises, including through European Union-funded or other bi- or multilateral projects;
 - (f) A future consultation of the PoC could be carried out jointly with a consultation of the PoC nominated under ERCC for the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism participating countries, in order to take advantage of the fact that Points of Contacts for the European Union were largely the same and to examine further possible synergies. This possibility should be further explored, in cooperation with the European Commission, DG ECHO, for the 2017–2018 workplan of the Industrial Accidents Convention.

c) Review of the conclusions from the 5th online consultation of the PoC (2/2)



- Previous recommendations - still valid?

- New recommendations
 - Higher frequency of connectivity tests?
 - Lead countries for subregional connectivity tests?
 - ...?

- Changes for the 6th online consultation?

- 7th consultation of PoC envisaged in the next biennium

4. Any Other Business?

- Preparation of informal document on 6th online Consultation of PoC
 - Available as of next week
- AOB?

**Thank you for your
attention!**