



8th Session of the
**MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**
10-12 OCTOBER 2018 | ASTANA | KAZAKHSTAN

Joint Ad Hoc Expert Group (JEG)

Draft guidance on firewater retention

Workplan & Future Activities

Mr. Péter Kovács, Ministry of Interior of Hungary

Mr. Gerhard Winkelmann-Oei, German Environment Agency
(JEG – Co-Chairs Water and TEIA Convention)

Ms. Heide Jekel, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany

1. 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 of national authorities and operators in ensuring an adequate safety level by means of trainings and seminars

Tools & Products → Safety Guidelines & Checklists



8th Session of the

**MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**

10-12 OCTOBER 2018 | ASTANA | KAZAKHSTAN

2. JEG - Tools and Products

→ Safety Guidelines

Accepted Good Practice Procedures to ensure
Conformity with International Standards

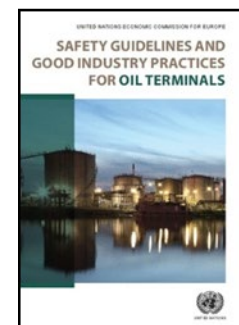
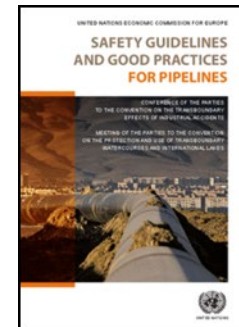
→ Pipelines

→ Tailings Management Facilities

→ Oil-Terminals

→ Checklist for contingency planning for accidents
affecting transboundary waters

→ Fire-Water Retention and Management



8th Session of the
**MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**
10-12 OCTOBER 2018 | ASTANA | KAZAKHSTAN

3. Safety Guidelines for Fire Water Retention

Conclusion after the Joint UNECE Seminar to the 25th anniversary of the Sandoz accident (Bonn, 2011):

→ „Sufficient safety measure to prevent transboundary waters from spills of fire water are still not in place, endangering whole River Catchments, and demonstrating the need for a Strategy/Guidance to Fire Water Retention!”



8th Session of the
**MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**
10-12 OCTOBER 2018 | ASTANA | KAZAKHSTAN

3. Safety Guidelines for Fire Water Retention

International Expert Group to draft the JEG Safety guidelines/Best Practices for Fire Water Retention

Work Schedule:

- 1st meeting 17 January 2017, Geneva
- 2nd meeting 20/21 June 2017, Budapest
- International Seminar „Strategies for Fire Water retention” 5th September 2017, Slubice
- 3rd meeting 6 September 2017, Slubice
- 4th meeting 18 January 2018, Edinburgh
- October 2017 – March 2018 – consultation with Stakeholders
- April 2018 – July 2018 – last amendments and translation
- 8th MoP, October 2018, Astana– Guidance to be agreed by the Parties
- 10th CoP, December 2018 – Guidance to be agreed by the Parties



**MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**

10-12 OCTOBER 2018 | ASTANA | KAZAKHSTAN

4. Guidelines/Best Practices for Fire Water Management and Retention

I. General recommendations (ECE/MP.WAT/2018/9-ECE/CP.TEIA/2018/12),

II. technical and organizational recommendations

(ECE/MP.WAT/2018/10-ECE/CP.TEIA/2018/13)

- Fire-Water Retention is a major element according to EU Seveso III Directive in Annex II, Point 5., to restrict the effects of a major accidents
- However nearly no EU country has specific regulations for Fire Water Retention

Key Elements:

- Governments should provide leadership and create suitable administrative frameworks to establish the need for fire-fighting water management and retention in case of emergencies at all hazardous activities (i.e. not only restricted to storage)
- Fire-Fighting water is dangerous to waters irrespective of the burned material (even burned packaging material is contaminating fire-fighting waters to a water-endangering fluid)



8th Session of the
**MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**
10-12 OCTOBER 2018 | ASTANA | KAZAKHSTAN

4. Guidelines/Best Practices for Fire Water Management and Retention

Key Elements:

- Fire-Fighting water might not contaminate waters and soil and must be **retained completely** and **disposed adequately**.
- Fire-Water Retention has to be established at **all** industrial activities (not only storage), which have to be subdivided in fire compartment areas **as small as possible**
- As an example for firewater retention capacities the German VdS 2557 directive or the Swiss Guidance for firewater retention can be used in industrialized countries
- For less industrialized countries a fast and rough estimation according to a direct proportionality of the firewater retention volume needed to the largest fire-compartment area can be assumed.
- Advanced Fire-Water protection can lead to a 10 fold reduce of the retention volume assumed
- Even a complete burn-down has to be taken into account, if there is no sufficient fire-water retention capacity



8th Session of the
**MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**
10-12 OCTOBER 2018 | ASTANA | KAZAKHSTAN

5. Summary of ongoing Activities

Response Exercises

- Odra, Germany/Poland (4 September, 2017),
- Danube, Hungary (October, 2018)

Raising knowledge at Universities

- (NMU, Dnipro – Final Workshop, 16/17 May, 2017)
→ On-line training methodology

On-site Trainings (TMF) in Georgia, Armenia

- Caucasus Region (authorities and operators)
Kick Off Meeting 9 December 2017, Yerevan

Guidance for Fire Water Retention

- To be agreed at the 10th CoP and 8th MoP



8th Session of the
**MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**
10-12 OCTOBER 2018 | ASTANA | KAZAKHSTAN

6. JEG Work plan 2019 -2020

- 1. Disseminate, test and facilitate the application of the UNECE Safety Guidelines and Good Practices for Fire-water Management and Retention**
- 2. Support the implementation of UNECE safety guidelines and checklists in countries with economies in transition and interested United Nations Member States beyond the UNECE region**
- 3. Promote transboundary response exercises**
 - Further promote the Guidance for Firewater Retention**
 - Checklists to support the existing guidelines**



8th Session of the
**MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**
10-12 OCTOBER 2018 | ASTANA | KAZAKHSTAN

Outlook - Future Activities

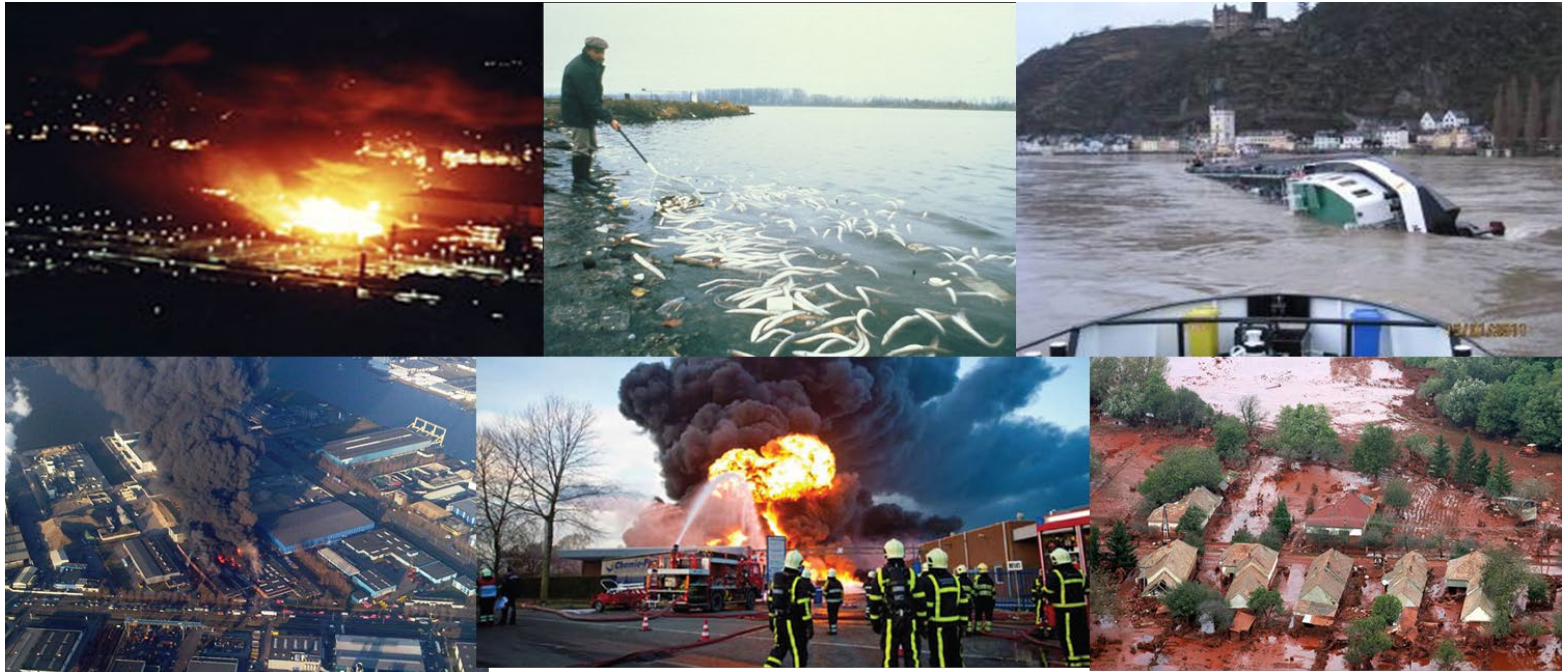
(Deficiencies identified by the „Sandoz“-Seminar)

- **Checklist to the Safety Guidelines for Pipelines**
With special attention to Ageing and Lifetime Extension
- **Guidance for Firewater Retention**
- **Checklist to the Safety Guidelines for Oil Terminals**



8th Session of the
**MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**
10-12 OCTOBER 2018 | ASTANA | KAZAKHSTAN

Thank You for Your Kind Attention !



Never again!



8th Session of the
**MEETING OF THE PARTIES
TO THE WATER CONVENTION**
10-12 OCTOBER 2018 | ASTANA | KAZAKHSTAN