

UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents and its work on the safety of tailings and the prevention of accidental water pollution

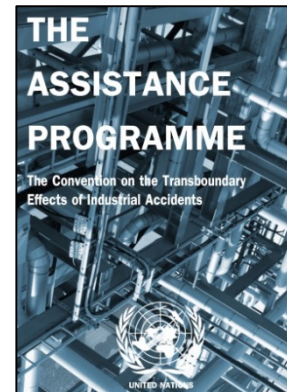
Claudia Kamke, Environmental Specialist
Secretary of the Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
Kokshetau, Kazakhstan, June 11, 2019



UNECE

UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention

- Adopted in 1992, entered into force in 2000
- 41 Parties, including the European Union
- Negotiations began after the 1986 accident at the Sandoz facility in Schweiserhall, with transboundary effects
- Aimed at protecting people and the environment from industrial accidents (with transboundary effects)
- Active international cooperation between the Parties before the accident, during the accident and after it
- Assistance and Cooperation Program (2004)
- Aims to assist countries in transition to improve industrial safety
- The project to strengthen industrial safety in Central Asia through the implementation and accession to the Convention (2016-2019)



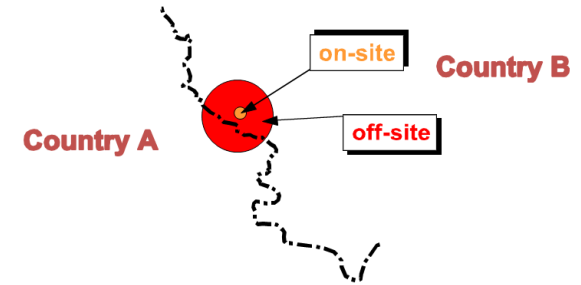
Parties to the Industrial Accidents Convention

... as a map

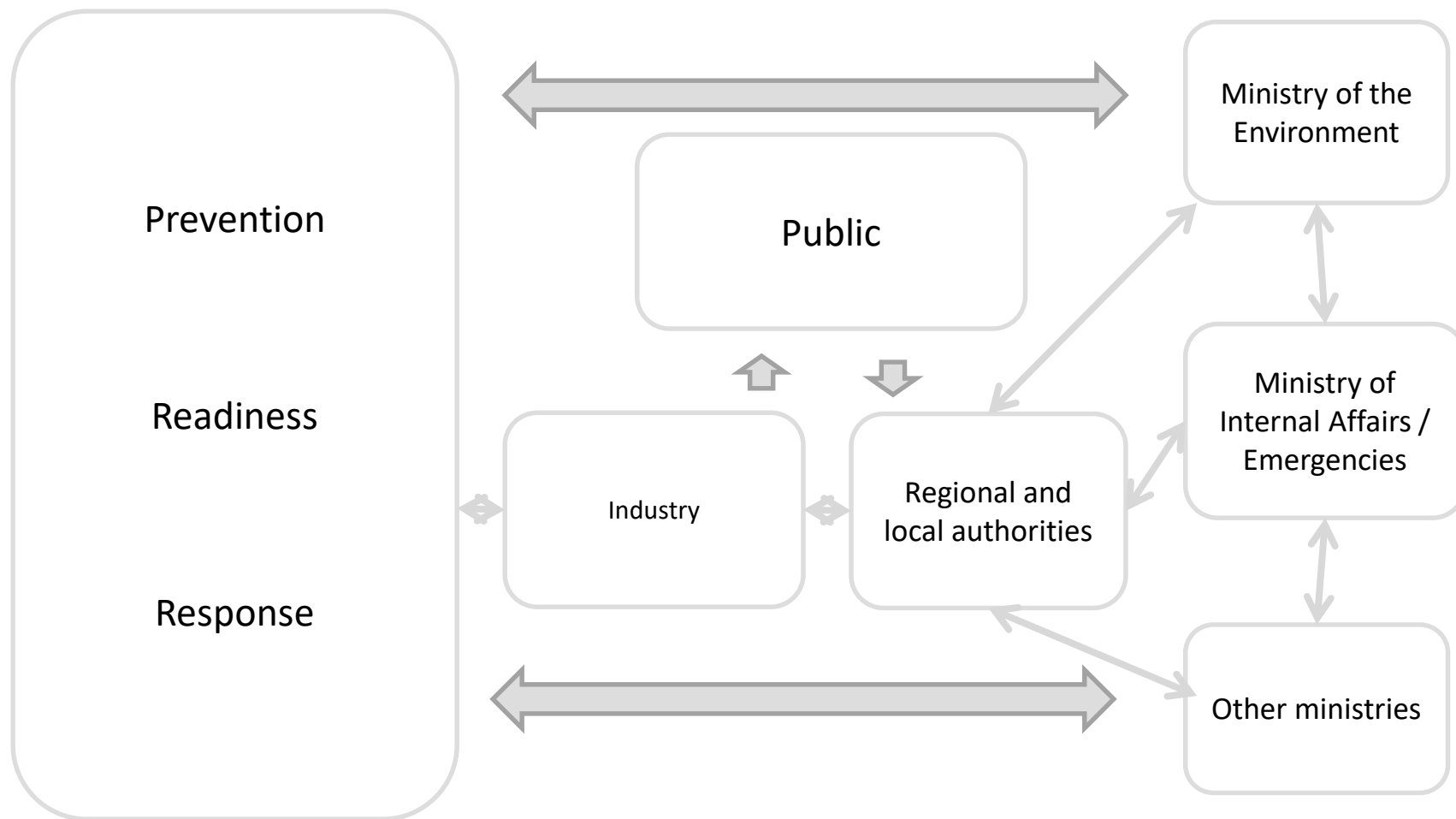


Key obligations

- Identification and notification of hazardous activities
- Prevent industrial accidents
- Security and Inspection Measures
- Emergency Preparedness
- Internal (facility) and external emergency plans
- Emergency response and mutual assistance
- UNECE Industrial Accident Notification System
- Public awareness her participation
- 2 cross-cutting spheres:
 - Legislation (i.e. primary and secondary legislation)
 - Institutional capacity (at national, regional and local levels)



Stakeholder Collaboration



Scope of the convention

What are the activities covered by the convention?

- Hazardous activities i. activities that:
- Include hazardous substances at or above the threshold values given in Annex I to the Convention; and
- Capable of causing transboundary impacts.
- The list of substances and categories is included in Appendix I to the Convention and agreed with the GHS
- Examples of hazardous activities:
 - Tailing dumps
 - Fertilizer plants
 - Chemical enterprises
 - Oil storage, etc.



Prevention of transboundary water pollution



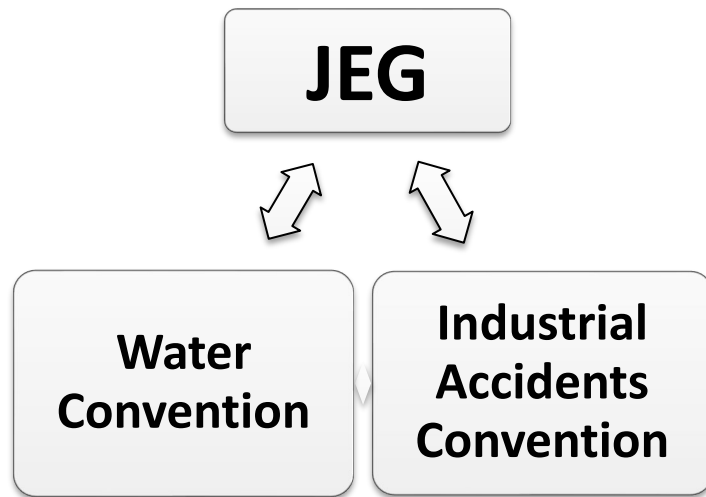
Transboundary accidents, including accidents at tailings sites, can lead to transboundary water pollution.

Even small amounts of hazardous substances can cause serious environmental damage → over long distances and often transboundary

Cooperation with the UNECE Water Convention * on the prevention of accidental water pollution

* UNECE Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes

Joint Expert Group (JEG)

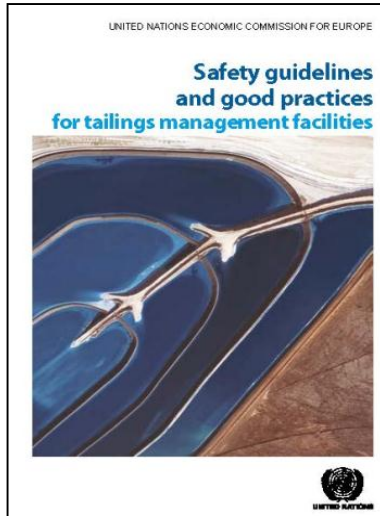


Co-chair
Water Convention +
Industrial Accidents
Convention

- founded in 1998
- under the Water Convention and the Industrial Accidents Convention
- to work on issues related to the prevention of accidental water pollution, which falls in the interests of both Conventions



UNECE work on tailings safety



2008/2009 - Guidelines and Best Practices for Safety of Tailing Dams, Developed by JEG (published in 2014)

2013-15 - Development and validation of a methodology for tailing dumps as part of a project to improve the safety of tailings in Ukraine with German funding

2016-17 - Subsequent project to improve the safety of tailings of Ukraine with the financing of Germany

2018-19 - A project to improve the safety of tailings in Armenia and Georgia with German funding

2018-20 - UNECE projects to strengthen the safety of tailings in Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and beyond with the financing of Switzerland

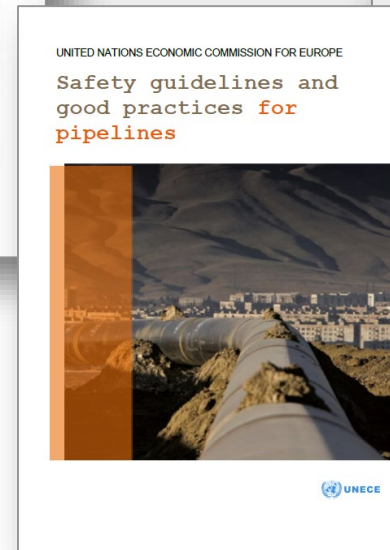
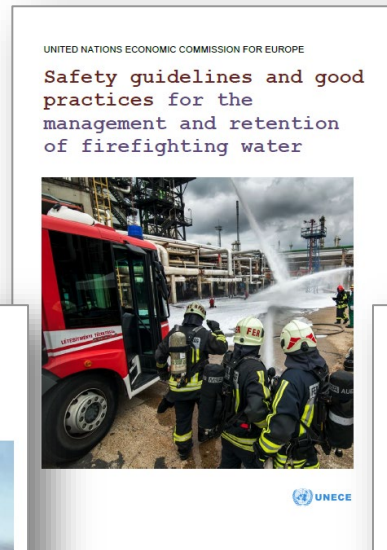
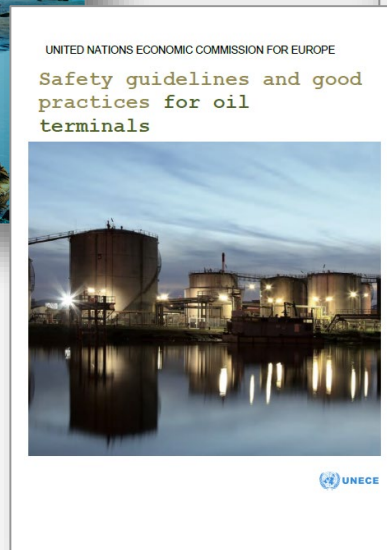
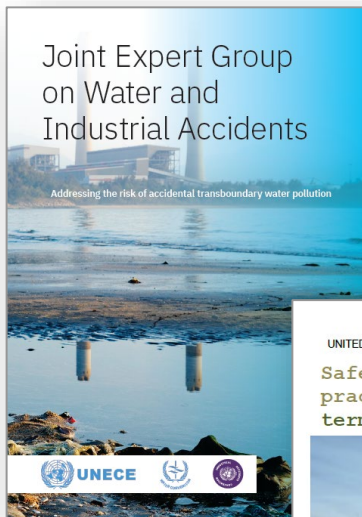
2019-20 - ICPDR project to improve the safety of tailings in Romania with German funding

since 2020 - Serbia and Kyrgyzstan with German funding (to be confirmed)



Promotional materials and brochures

- Brochure of the Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Safety
- Postcards on UNECE guidelines (regarding oil terminals, fire water retention, pipelines, tailings)

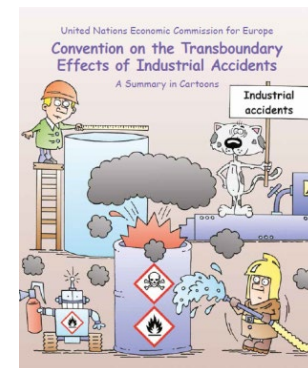
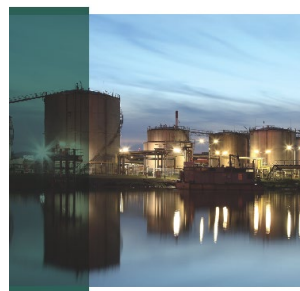


Other materials of interest

- **Online UNECE Industrial Safety Training Course (English, French, Russian and Chinese)**
www.unece.org/index.php?id=32240
- **Guidelines and best practices for tailing safety (English and Russian):**
www.unece.org/index.php?id=36132
- **Comics Convention on the Industrial Accidents Convention (English and Russian):**
www.unece.org/index.php?id=36970
- **A film about the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention (English and Russian):**
www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Ph8jKOOaS0&index=1&list=PL4iZR0KyjSQ9VxjaqLHPk0yeXQYssy-Tz



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
**SAFETY GUIDELINES AND
 GOOD INDUSTRY PRACTICES
 FOR OIL TERMINALS**



Thank you for attention!

Additional information can be found on the sites:

- www.unece.org/env/teia,
- www.unece.org/env/water,
- www.unece.org/env/teia/jeg.html

Or by contacting:

Claudia Kamke

Environmental Specialist

UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of
Industrial Accidents

claudia.kamke@un.org