

7th Online Consultation of the Points of Contact (PoC) of the UNECE Industrial Accident Notification (IAN) System

Ms. Claudia Kamke and Ms. Liza Rubach
Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
10 June 2020



UNECE

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting & meeting etiquette
2. Attendees
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) Report by Points of Contact on lessons learned from their conduct of subregional tests in the IAN System in the biennium 2019-2020
 - d) Review of the conclusions from the previous (6th) online consultation of the Points of Contact
4. Any Other Business

1. Attendees

1. Armenia
2. Austria
3. Belarus
4. Cyprus
5. Czechia
6. Denmark
7. European Union
8. France
9. Germany
10. Hungary
11. Italy
12. Lithuania
13. Poland
14. Republic of Moldova
15. Romania
16. Russian Federation
17. Serbia
18. Slovakia
19. Slovenia
20. Sweden
21. Switzerland
22. Ukraine

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
-
- ☐ 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

UNECE



IAN SYSTEM

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) Report by Points of Contact on lessons learned from their conduct of subregional tests in the IAN System in the biennium 2019-2020
- d) Review of the conclusions from the previous (6th) online consultation of the Points of Contact

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

Approach

- 24 April 2020: Email sent by UNECE announcing the upcoming connectivity exercise of the IAN System and following on-line consultation of the Points of Contact -> **the exact time & date of the test was not announced**
- Email sent to all PoC and Focal Points with the below attachments:
 - IAN System instructions (ENG, RUS)
 - Results of the 6th PoC online consultations (ENG, RUS)
- 4 May 2020 @11:56 am: UNECE connectivity test conducted
 - Early-Warning Report in Exercise Mode
- 28 May 2020: Results with reactions as of 22 May shared with all PoC and Focal Points
- 10 June 2020: 7th Online Consultation of the PoC

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

Results of the IAN connectivity test on 4 May 2020 @11:56 am

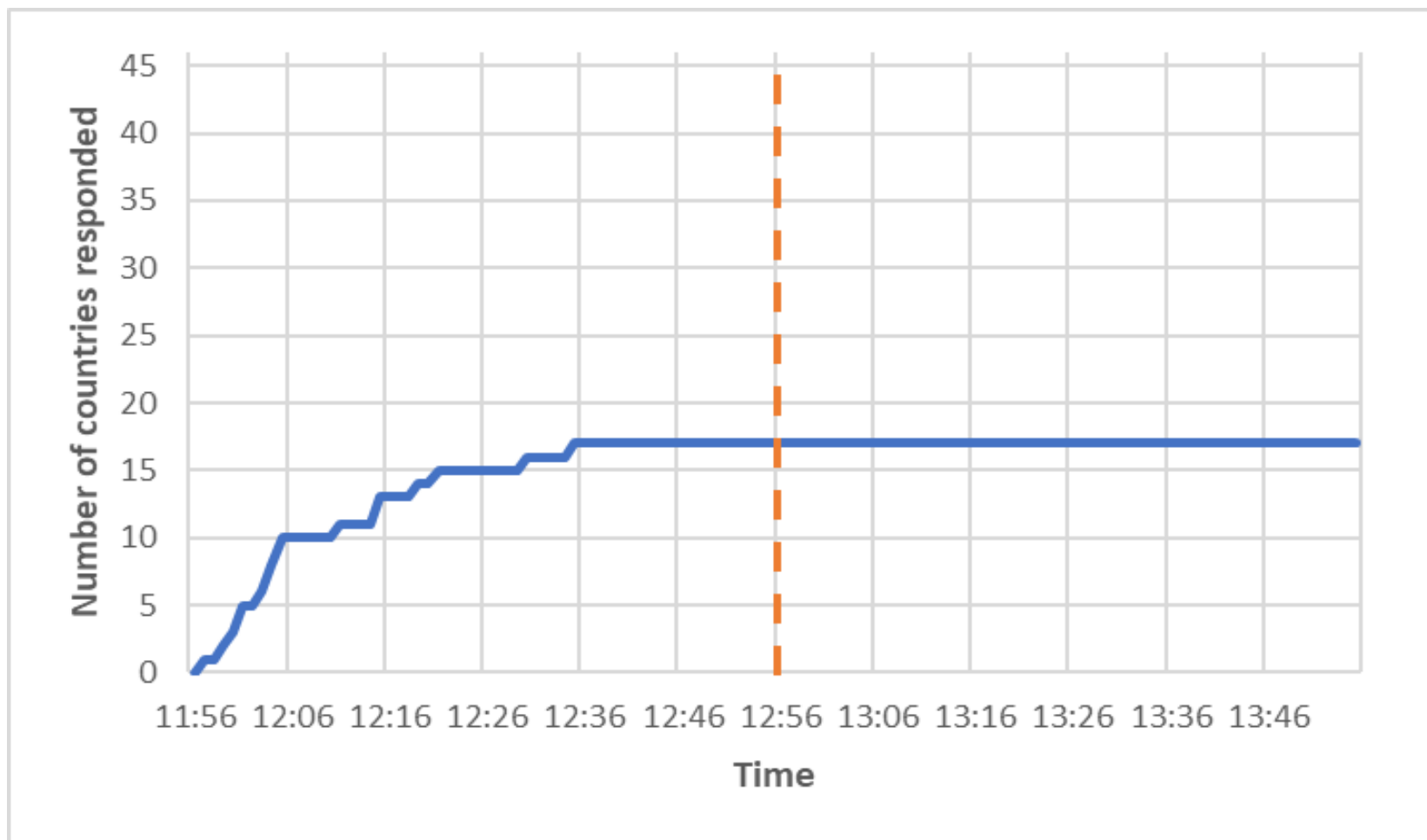
- Results presented below done on 27 May 2020:

Out of 46 registered UNECE member States, the following reacted:

- 25 Countries acknowledged receipt of the accident report (> half)
- 17 countries reacted within the recommended time (1 hour)
- 21 countries did not acknowledge receipt of the report (< half)
- 1 Party not registered in IAN
- 6 non-Parties registered in IAN
- 1 non-Party acknowledged receipt of the report

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

Visualization of the IAN connectivity test on 4 May 2020 @11:56 am



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

Champions (reacted within 1 hour)

11:56 a.m. – Accident happened

11:57 a.m. – Germany
11:59 a.m. – Hungary
11:59 a.m. – Poland
12:00 p.m. – Switzerland
12:01 p.m. – Slovenia
12:03 p.m. – North Macedonia
12:03 p.m. – Estonia
12:04 p.m. – France
12:05 p.m. – Czechia
12:05 p.m. – Malta
12:11 p.m. – Austria
12:14 p.m. – Luxembourg
12:15 p.m. – Netherlands
12:19 p.m. – Spain
12:21 p.m. – Romania
12:30 p.m. – Lithuania
12:34 p.m. – Azerbaijan

Reacted on the same day

14:27 p.m. – Latvia
14:32 p.m. – Belgium
16:19 p.m. – Italy

Late reactions

5 May at 09:22 a.m. – Belarus
5 May at 09:30 a.m. – Russian Federation
5 May at 11:32 a.m. – Denmark
6 May at 09:07 a.m. – Ukraine (non-Party)
13 May at 12:21 p.m. – Kazakhstan

No reactions to the IAN test

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Albania | • Montenegro (not registered) |
| • Armenia | • Norway |
| • Bosnia and Herzegovina | • Portugal |
| • Bulgaria | • Republic of Moldova |
| • Croatia | • Serbia |
| • Cyprus | • Slovakia |
| • Finland | • Sweden |
| • Georgia (non-Party) | • Tajikistan (non-Party) |
| • Greece | • Turkey (non-Party) |
| • Kyrgyzstan (non-Party) | • United Kingdom |
| • Monaco | • Uzbekistan (non-Party) |

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

- Findings from the connectivity test:

- 😊 – The response rate is higher than at the previous test conducted in 2018 (2020: 25 responses, 2018: 20 responses)
- 😊 – The response times within recommended time (1 hour) was higher than for previous exercises (2020: 37%, 2018: 30%)
- 😞 – Forgotten login and passwords prevented several countries from being able to log in on time
- 👍 – 2 countries reacted promptly by contacting the secretariat and resolving the issue within the recommended 1 hour timeframe
- 😞 – Still high number of countries which did not react to the test at all
 - ...?

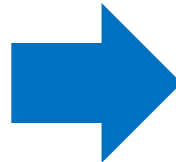
- Lessons learned / Recommendations for the future:

- 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) Report by Points of Contact on subregional tests in 2019-2020

Background – Last (6th) PoC Consultation in 2018 found:

- 16. (a) ...need for continuous exercises... to increase the number of countries who respond to connectivity tests...; Countries are encouraged to test the IAN System jointly..., independently and back-to-back with assistance activities;
- 16. (b) ...more regular tests and training of the Points of Contact be conducted at the subregional level by lead countries;
- 16. (c) ...affected countries were encouraged to participate in the connectivity tests and all Points of Contact...were invited to volunteer to act as lead countries...;
- 16. (d) ...those countries which conduct tests at the subregional level should...present the results at the next consultation of the Points of Contact;



Lead countries that volunteered to conduct subregional tests:

1. Belarus
2. Estonia
3. Latvia
4. Lithuania
5. Poland
6. Slovenia
7. Spain
8. Switzerland
9. Others...?



d) Review of the conclusions from the 6th PoC consultation in 2018 (1/2)

- 16. (e) Points of Contact are responsible to keep their contact details...up to date and to ensure...their access...and how to use the IAN System...to be able to react...without delay;
⇒ Countries with access issues in 2018, did not have such in 2020; other countries faced issues though, i.e. recommendation remains valid
- 16. (f) The secretariat should contact the Points of Contact...that did not react to the connectivity test on 14 November 2018 to understand the reasons for their inaction;
⇒ Done: Message was sent on 29 November 2018 to PoC and Focal Points – 1 response only;
⇒ Cyprus – officer in charge was abroad during the test; message was received but he did not have the access information to react
- 16. (g) Possible technical improvements of the IAN System should be further considered, depending on the availability of funds;
⇒ No funds made available, i.e. recommendation remains valid

d) Review of the conclusions from the 6th PoC consultation in 2018 (2/2)



- 16. (h) All Parties should nominate a Point of Contact, operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, in accordance with article 17 of the...Convention.
 - ⇒ 3 more countries registered since 2018: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Finland and Ukraine (non-Party)
 - ⇒ Missing: Montenegro and Turkmenistan (non-Party)
 - ⇒ No reaction to last two IAN tests (2018, 2020) by 10 Parties – Albania, Armenia, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Slovakia, Sweden, United Kingdom – and 5 other countries registered

Questions to Points of Contact:



- Please explain no reaction to test, if relevant for your country?
 - Previous recommendations – still valid?
 - New recommendations – which?
 - Lead countries for subregional tests in 2021-2022?
 - ...?
-
- 8th consultation of PoC envisaged in the next biennium

4. Any Other Business?

- Preparation of informal document on 7th online Consultation of PoC
 - Will become available in third quarter 2020
- AOB?

**Thank you for your
attention!**