# OVERVIEW OF THE UNECE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

Second consultation for points of contact for the purpose of accident notification and mutual assistance within UNECE IAN System

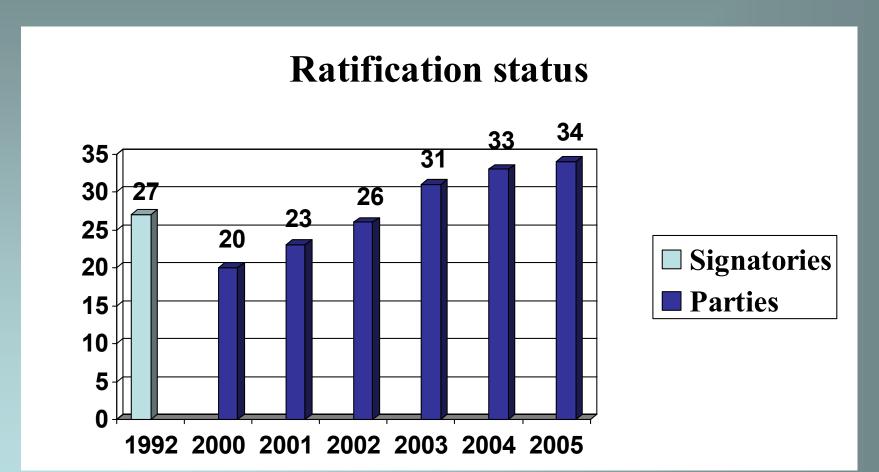
Rome, 19-20 October 2005

## Overview of the UNECE IAN System

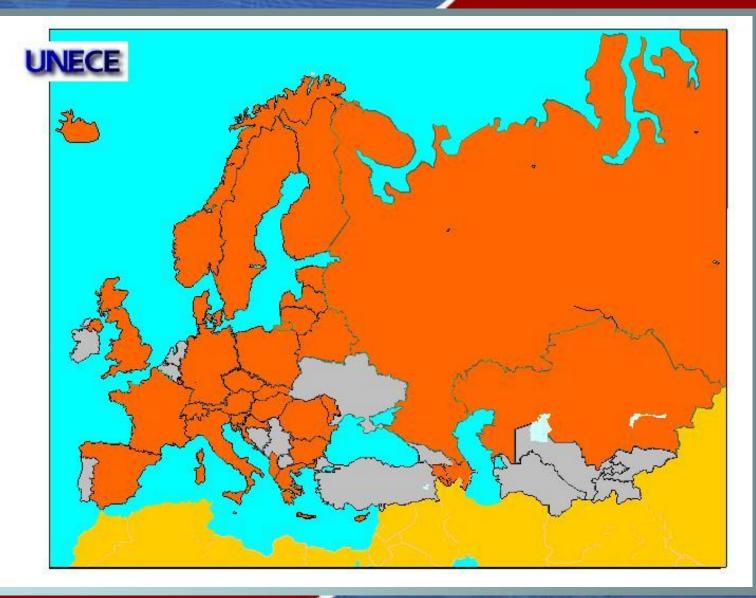
#### Contents:

- Basic information on the Convention
- Key legal obligations related to notification and mutual assistance
- The development of the UNECE IAN System
  - First CoP, Brussels 2000
  - First consultation for points of contact, Bratislava 2003
  - Task force, June 2004
  - Third CoP, Budapest 2004

#### **Basic information on the Convention**

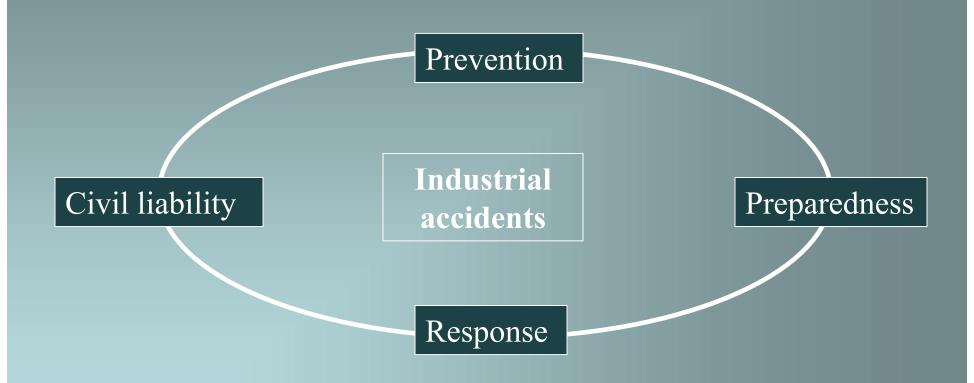








### **Basic information on the Convention**



#### **Basic information on the Convention**

The Convention promotes cooperation between member countries of the UNECE region, not only between governments at the national level but in particular between local authorities and communities on both sides of a border.

Early warning and provision of information at appropriate levels when an accident occurs is one of the essential elements linking preparedness and effective response. Such a response may also require assistance.

## Key legal obligations - industrial accident notification

#### **Article 10 – Industrial accident notification systems**

The Parties shall provide for the establishment and operation of compatible and efficient industrial accident notification systems at appropriate levels.

In the event of an accident, or imminent threat thereof, which causes or is capable of causing transboundary effects, the Party of origin shall ensure that affected Parties are, without delay, notified at appropriate levels through these industrial accident notification systems

## Key legal obligations – mutual assistance

#### **Article 12 – Mutual assistance**

If a Party needs assistance in the event of an accident, it may ask for assistance from other Parties.

A Party to whom a request for assistance is directed shall promptly decide and inform the requesting Party whether it is in a position to render the assistance required.

## Key legal obligations - notification and mutual assistance

#### **Article 17 – Competent authorities and points of contact**

Each Party shall designate or establish one point of contact for the purpose of industrial accident notifications pursuant to article 10 and one point of contact for the purpose of mutual assistance pursuant to article 12

Each Party shall, within three months of the date of entry into force of the Convention for that Party, inform the other Parties, through the secretariat, which body or bodies it has designated as its point(s) of contact and of any changes regarding this designation

Each Party shall keep its point(s) of contact operational at all times

#### 2000 – Conference of the Parties, first meeting

- Accepted the System for notifying a major accident capable of causing transboundary effects and/or for requesting assistance in responding to such an accident
- Encouraged drawing up bilateral or multilateral agreements for industrial accident notification, at local and regional levels, as a supplement to the UNECE IAN System

### The UNECE IAN System comprises:

- A network of points of contact for accident notification and mutual assistance designated by 36 UNECE member countries and the EC, in accordance with the provisions of article 17
- Procedures for notification or requesting assistance
- Set of reports for notifying and requesting assistance

## **UNECE IAN System – reports**

UNECE CONVENTION ON THE TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

#### URGENT

UNECE Early Warning Report - Serial number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_UTC \_\_\_\_Local UNECE CONVENTION ON THE TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS From/Country of emergency: Name/Position: URGENT UNECE Information Report - Serial number: E-mail : \_\_\_\_\_ Nature of emergency From/Country of emergency: To THE JOINT UNEP/OCHA ENVIRONMENT UNIT Name/Position: EUROPEAN COMMISSION CIVIL PROTECTION CO-OPERATION MECHANISM Accident Type of accident UNECE CONVENTION ON THE TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS Fax/Tel: Fire 

Exp Chemical E-mail: Explosion 

Che Mining tailings URGENT Transportation Release into water 

Bio Assistance Request Report - Serial number: Marine pollution Release into air 

Rad Nature of emergency/ace Accident Type of accident Attack Date/Time: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_UTC \_\_\_\_\_ Local Pages (incl. front page): Fire □ Explosi Explosion □ Chemic Chemical From/Country of emergency: 001 Date accident To (Joint Unit/MIC/Point of contact): Mining tailings Name/Position: 002 Time accident Release into water 

Bio age Transportation Marine pollution Release into air 

Radioae E-mail: Location E-mail: 011 Country/Town/Area 012 Latitude 001 Date accident degrees/s Nature of emergency/accident 002 Time accident 013 Longitude degrees/ Type of accident Attack with Accident Natural disaster Location Chemical Fire 

Explosion 

Explosion 

Chemical agents Earthquake Outflow/threat(risk) Mining tailings Flood 011 Country/Town/Area 021 Prognoses Transportation Release into water 

Bio agents Landslide/Avalanche 012 Latitude 022 Measurements Marine pollution Release into air 

Radioactive agents Forest fire Longitude degrees/mir Substance/chemical Toxic/Ecotoxic Flammable/ Outflow/threat(risk) formula or name plosive/Other Prognoses 001 Date emergency/accident 031 Measurements 002 Time emergency/accident Substance/chemical Toxic/Ecotoxic Flammable/Ex Location formula or name plosive/Other 011 Country/Town/Area 012 Latitude degrees/minutes North/South Weather conditions 013 Longitude East/West degrees/minutes Request for assistance 041 Wind direction (from) On-site assessment/advice 042 Wind speed Weather conditions 072 Response teams/ Hazmat □ Search and Rescue. □ Disaster medicine 043 Temperature degr equipment 041 Wind direction (from) Cloudy sky (%) Humanitarian assistance 042 Wind speed Sampling and analysis 045 Rain/snow (no/yes) 043 Temperature 075 Clean up/restoration Emergency and mitigation measures already taken 044 Cloudy sky (%) (0/25/50/ When and how (delivery of assistance) 051 Evacuation 045 Rain/snow (no/yes) 081 When assistance Emergency and mitigation measures already taken 052 Sheltering 082 How assistance/delivery 051 Evacuation 083 Contact person 053 Others Sheltering 052 Short description of emergency Other information and immediate effects 053 Others 091 What and where 061

## 2003 – Points of contact, first consultation Test by Slovakia

- An exercise notification was sent by fax and e-mail to points of contact in 36 UNECE member countries and the EC
- Points of contact in 18 countries and the EC confirmed receipt of the notification according to the procedure within the System;
- 12 points of contact (Armenia, Belarus, Bulgaria, Canada, Finland, France, Poland, Russian Federation, Turkey, Ukraine, United States and Uzbekistan) did not react to the notification
- 6 points of contact (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Spain, United Kingdom) could not be reached by fax or e-mail at all.

## 2003 – Points of contact, first consultation Recommendations I

- The effectiveness of the System should be enhanced;
- The competent authorities/focal points of the mentioned countries were asked to investigate the situation at their points of contact and take the necessary measures to improve it
- Future communication tests should be subregional rather than UNECE region-wide;
- The results of future tests should be reviewed by the Conference of the Parties and at future consultations of the points of contact.

## 2003 – Points of contact, first consultation Recommendations II

- A task force should modify the System's reports and harmonize them with reports used by others (EC, Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit)
- The task force should also look into possibilities for enhancing the System's communication procedures (e.g. by using up-to-date web-based communication technology)
- Guidance on the application of the System, especially for use by points of contact in Russian-speaking countries should be developed – We are expecting Poland to prepare and disseminate a Russian version of a self-training kit

#### 2004 – Task force Review of reports and procedures

- Drew up new early warning and information reports (modified content and layout)
- Drew up new assistance request report joint report used within the UNECE IAN System and in communication with the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit (may also be used in communication with the Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC) of the Civil Protection Unit of the EC
- Supported the enhancement of communication procedures within the System

2004 - Conference of the Parties, third meeting

- Amended the UNECE IAN System. New reports (early warning, information, request for assistance) were introduced
- Established a task force to review the System's communication procedures and to make recommendations for enhancing them (from fax to internet)

## **UNECE IAN System – published and now available**

**Economic Commission for Europe** 

ACCIDENT NOTIFICATION SYSTEM Convention on the Transboundary Effects

of Industrial Accidents

LE SYSTÈME DE NOTIFICATION DES ACCIDENTS INDUSTRIELS DE LA CEE Convention sur les effets transfrontières

des accidents industriels

ПРОМЫШЛЕННЫХ АВАРИЯХ ЕЭК ООН система уведомления о

Конвенция о трансграничном воздействии промышленных зварий



## Thank you

http://www.unece.org/env/teia/welcome.htm http://www.unece.org/env/teia/IAN%20System/systemE.htm