

Working Area 6: Preparedness

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What does the Convention require? Article 8

- Each Party shall take appropriate measures to establish and maintain adequate emergency preparedness to respond to industrial accidents, including mitigation of transboundary effects of such accidents. A possible list of measures is contained in Annex VIII
- Each Party shall ensure preparation and implementation of on-site contingency plans for each hazardous activity by their operators
- Each Party shall ensure preparation and implementation of off-site contingency plans for territories with hazardous activities taking into account matters set out in Annex V para 2 subpara 1-5
- Parties concerned shall endeavor to make their off-site plans compatible, they should also provide each other elements from on-site plans relevant for elaboration of off-site plans
- Where appropriate, joint off-site plan should be prepared
- Parties should ensure that contingency plans (on- and off-site) are review regularly

The Convention's requirements in short

- Ensure availability of on-site emergency/contingency plans for each hazardous activity
- Ensure availability of off-site emergency/contingency plans for each territory with hazardous activity
- Ensure compatibility of off-site plans between the countries or develop joint off-site plans
- Ensure that the plans are reviewed regularly

Why are these requirements important?

- Without preparedness any response actions in case of accident would be only chaotic;
- If response actions were chaotic, mitigation of effects would be ineffective, and the accidents, as the past showed, would have sever consequences

Indicators and criteria for preparedness – the overall goal to be reached

Each country shall have in place and implemented a comprehensive system that imposes that:

- operators establish, maintain and test on-site emergency plans and ensure their capacity to be able to respond to emergencies in accordance with the provisions of those plans;
- competent authorities establish, maintain and test off-site emergency plans, ensure their capacity to be able to respond to emergencies in accordance with the provisions of those plans, and ensure that the operators comply with their responsibilities, and that off-site plans are compatible with on-site plans;
- competent authorities ensure, where relevant, compatibility between emergency plans in border area;

Indicators for reaching the overall goals for preparedness

Three basic mechanisms:

- giving the responsibility for emergency preparedness to operators of hazardous activities;
- giving the responsibility for emergency preparedness to the competent authorities;
- ensuring transboundary compatible emergency plans.

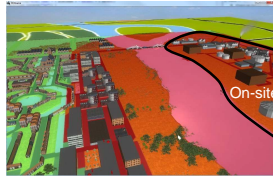
Criteria for reaching the overall goals for preparedness

Six stages for each indicator (mechanism) reaching from little awareness about the mechanism to its adoption and full implementation

Minimum elements for the indicators

Indicator 1 (mechanism 1) – responsibility of operator for preparedness

set of procedures, implementation rules and actions which oblige the operators of hazardous activities to prepare, coordinate, test, review and revise on-site emergency plans



Minimum elements for the indicators

Indicator 2 (mechanism 2) – responsibility of authorities for preparedness

set of procedures, implementation rules and actions which oblige the competent authorities to prepare, coordinate, test, review and revise off-site emergency plans, and

set of procedures giving the competent authorities the right to impose responsibility on operators for preparedness (to ensure on mechanism 1)



Minimum elements for the indicators

Indicator 3 (mechanism 3) – compatibility of plans across countries borders

set of procedures, implementation rules and actions which oblige the competent authorities of the concerned parties to cooperate and coordinate emergency plans to make them compatible



What are the minimum procedures, implementation rules to cover?

Indicator 1 (mechanism 1):

Principles, parameters, procedures in place:

- Principles and targets for OnEP;
- Principles for sharing of capacities to respond to emergencies;
- Parameters for linking the degree of hazard with the responsibility for the preparation of OnEP;
- Matters to be covered by OnEP;
- Source of input data to be used for the preparation of OnEP;
- Institutions to be involved in the consultation or coordination of OnEP;
- Procedure for the coordination of OnEP with external institutions and authorities, responsible for the preparation of OfEP;
- Procedures and rules for the review and revision of OnEP;
- Testing of OnEP;
- Inspection controls.

What are the minimum procedures, implementation rules to cover?

Indicator 2 (mechanism 2):

Principles, parameters, procedures in place:

- Principles and targets for OfEP;
- Principles for sharing of capacities to respond to emergencies;
- Parameters to assign the responsibility for the preparation of OfEP to the relevant competent authority;
- Input data needed for the preparation of OfEP;
- Rules with regard to the compatibility with OnEP;
- Institutions/experts to be involved in the preparation of OfEP;
- Matters to be covered by OfEP;
- Procedures for review and revision of OfEP;
- Testing of OfEP;
- Inspection controls.

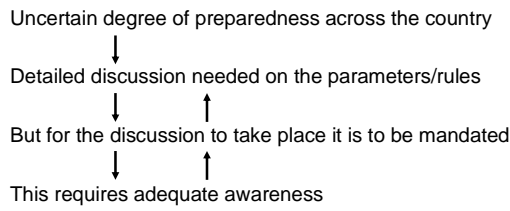
What are the minimum procedures, implementation rules to cover?

Indicator 3 (mechanism 3):

Parameters, modalities in place:

- The parameters for determining the need to ensure compatibility of emergency plans in the transboundary context;
- The assignment of responsibilities;
- The modalities for the exchange of data (type and scope of data, frequency of exchange);
- The modalities for reviewing, revising and testing of compatible emergency plans.

What if the minimum procedures, implementation rules are not covered/fully covered?



For good level of preparedness a good system is necessary – the three mechanisms need to be fully in place
