

UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of industrial Accidents

Capacity building activity within the Assistance Programme

Workshop on strengthening the safety measures at hazardous activities

Vadul lui Voda (Moldova), 13-14 December 2007

INFORMATION NOTICE

Introduction

1. Within the framework of the preparatory phase of the Assistance Programme under the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents it was identified that Moldova has insufficient experience with regard to prevention of industrial accidents and ensuring an adequate level of safety at hazardous activities. The Moldavian authorities expressed therefore their interest in working on strengthening the safety measures at hazardous activities and asked for assistance in this respect.
2. The Government of Czech Republic decided to support Republic of Moldova in strengthening the safety at hazardous activities and provided financial resources to the Assistance Programme under the Convention for organization of workshop on safety aspects. The workshop should be organized for Moldova and for experts from neighbouring countries. This, on one hand, will promote the cooperation between the countries. On the other, it can also lead to the application of common standards and methodologies by neighbouring countries, what would facilitate their cooperation.
3. This note provides information on the theme, organization of work for the workshop.

Objectives

4. The key objectives of the workshop are:
 - (a) To discuss the legislation and standards on safety and identify the legal acts and standards to be implemented in the Republic of Moldova;
 - (b) To discuss the role of authorities in ensuring adequate safety through issuing licences and permits, conducting inspections and providing guidelines to operators and identify tools/practices through adoption of which safety at hazardous activities could be further strengthened in the Republic of Moldova;

(c) To promote the cooperation and application of common standards on safety between neighboring countries.

Dates and venue

5. The workshop will take place on 13-14 December 2007 in Vadul-lui-Voda, in the premises of the Hotel "Odyssey",

36, Pescarilor str.
Parcul Nistrean,
Vadul lui Voda

Organization of work

6. The workshop will consist of three sessions.

Session I: Legislation and standards on safety with the focus on what are the requirements on safety provided for in the national legislation and standards.

The session will comprise:

Presentation by Moldavian expert on the legislation and standards on safety adopted in Moldova,

Presentation by Czech expert on the legislation and standards on safety adopted in Czech Republic,

Discussion on legislation and standards on safety needed for ensuring adequate level of safety. The discussion will involve participants from Romania and Ukraine and will be also devoted to consideration on common standards on safety.

Session II: The role of authorities in ensuring safety at hazardous activities

The session will comprise:

(a) The role of authorities in issuing permits, licences (licences and permits in planning phase and operational phase of a hazardous activity)

Presentation by Moldavian expert on the licensing process and verification of safety documentation; presentation based on a case study for chlorine storage including assessment of risks and verification of safety management system by inspectors

Presentation by Czech/Western expert on the licensing process and verification of safety documentation; applying the same approach

Discussion on permits and licences needed for ensuring adequate level of safety. The discussion will involve participants from Romania and Ukraine and will be also devoted to consideration on common approaches.

(b) Inspections at hazardous activities

Presentation by Moldavian expert on conducting an inspection at hazardous activity based on the case study for chlorine storage, specifying what and how is inspected

Presentation by Czech/Western expert on conducting an inspection at a hazardous activity similar to selected by Moldova, applying the same approach

Discussion on conducting the inspections at hazardous activity needed for ensuring adequate level of safety. The discussion will involve participants from Romania and Ukraine and be also devoted to consideration on common methodologies.

(c) Guidelines to operators

Presentation by Czech/Western expert on good practice in providing the guidelines on safety to operators – meetings with operators, dissemination of booklets, etc

Presentation(s) by operator(s) of hazardous activity on what kind of assistance is expected from the authorities

Discussion on the role of authorities in providing safety guidelines. The discussion will involve participants from Romania and Ukraine

Session III: The steps to be undertaken to strengthen the safety.

The session will comprise a discussion on what steps should be undertaken with regard to improving safety at hazardous activities. All the aspects of sessions I and II should be considered and an attempt should be made to draw up a list of items on which further work needs to be done.

7. A detailed provisional programme for the workshop will be issued 3 weeks before the workshop. For this purpose the Moldavian presentation should be submitted to the secretariat at least 4 weeks before the workshop.

Working languages

8. The workshop will be conducted in English and Russian.

Participation

9. The workshop is designed for inspection personnel of national and local authorities in Moldova responsible for ensuring adequate safety at hazardous activities. Experts from inspection authorities from Romania and Ukraine will be invited to participate in the workshop.

Practical information

10. The experts nominated to participate in the workshop will be provided transportation from Chisinau to the workshop's venue. The details will be sent to participants shortly before the workshop.