

Environmental Performance Review recommendations on tailings safety:

Action plans for Central Asian countries



Project overview

- At the Subregional workshop on strengthening mine tailings safety in Central Asia (Almaty, 20-21 Nov 2019), countries stressed the needs to:
 - *Share information in the area of mine tailings safety at the subregional level*
 - *Take urgent action in managing tailings risks and accidents triggered by natural disasters (Natech events)*
 - *Develop a harmonized regional approach for tailings management*
- At the Technical meeting to prepare for the on-site training in Tajikistan and to enhance capacity for governance and policy-making on tailings safety in Central Asia (online, 23 April), countries agreed to:

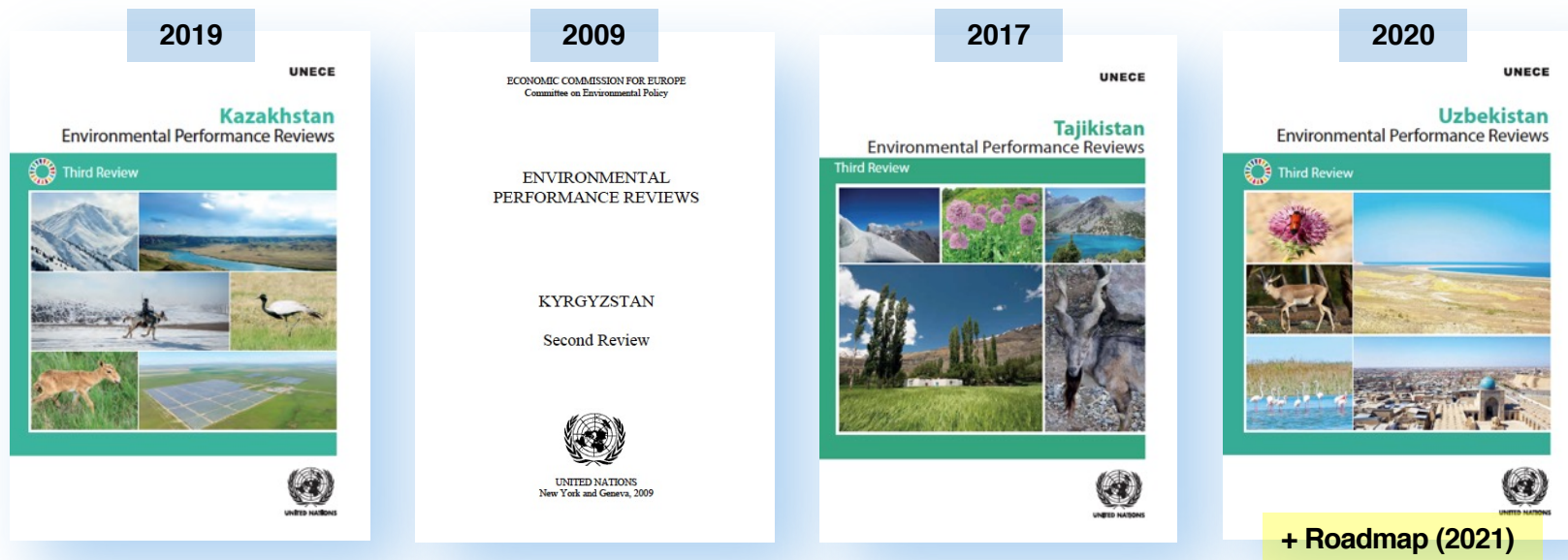
Work with UNECE to prepare an Action Plan to implement their tailings-related EPR recommendations

Update their Self-Assessment & Action Plan for Implementation of the Industrial Accidents Convention (countries to present)

- Aims of these tasks:
 - *Strengthen Convention implementation, tailings safety, Natech risk reduction*
 - *Implementation of CoP-11 decision 2020/1 on strengthening tailings safety*
 - *Complement assistance projects and activities*

Environmental Performance Reviews (EPRs)

- Latest EPRs of Central Asian countries contain recommendations related to the Industrial Accidents Convention and tailings management
- Uzbekistan also has a Roadmap to guide implementation of its EPR recommendations



- The new EPR Action Plans specifically guide the implementation of EPR recommendations on the IA Convention and tailings

Process to prepare EPR Action Plans

as agreed at the technical meeting on 23 April

UNECE: desk review of EPRs to identify and assess recommendations related to the Convention and tailings

UNECE: draft actions countries can take to implement their EPR recommendations to strengthen tailings safety

Countries and UNECE: discuss the draft actions

UNECE: prepare EPR Action Plans to present today

Countries: finalize EPR Action Plans & implement them

UNECE

Kazakhstan

Environmental Performance Reviews



Third Review



EPR Recommendation 11.3

The Government should strengthen the implementation of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents to enhance industrial safety, in particular by:

- a. *Benefiting fully from the two projects implemented under the Convention and contributing to the project activities;*
- b. *Ensuring coordination among the appointed competent authorities under the Convention...;*
- c. *...*

**Kazakhstan
Environmental Performance Review
Third Review (2019)**

***Draft Action Plan to Strengthen Implementation of the Industrial
Accidents Convention and Mine Tailings Safety (2021)***

Introduction

Kazakhstan's 3rd UNECE Environmental Performance Review (EPR)¹ was developed to take stock of progress made by Kazakhstan in the management of its environment since 2008 and to provide expert recommendations for further progress. The present document was prepared to outline specific actions that Kazakhstan can take to implement several of its EPR recommendations with a focus on strengthening implementation of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (Industrial Accidents Convention) and strengthening mine tailings safety. The UNECE secretariat, in cooperation with Kazakhstan, formulated this action plan taking into account the country's legal obligations under the Convention, as well as existing projects, tools and guidance materials. This action plan provides concrete actions that Kazakhstan can take to implement its EPR recommendations to that effect.

Background

Kazakhstan acceded to the Industrial Accidents Convention on 11 January 2001. It remains the only country of Central Asia that is a Party to the Convention. The Convention aims to protect human beings and the environment through the prevention of, preparedness for and response to industrial accidents capable of causing transboundary effects.² Its measures apply to hazardous activities at, among other installations, tailings management facilities (TMFs), which are prevalent in Kazakhstan. Parties also have obligations to report on their implementation of the Convention. The country has regularly reported on the Convention's implementation, including for the:

- First reporting round (2000-2001)
- Third reporting round (2004-2005)
- Fourth reporting round (2006-2007)
- Fifth reporting round (2008-2009)
- Sixth reporting round (2010-2011)
- Seventh reporting round (2012-2013) (late submission)
- Eighth reporting round (2014-2015)
- Ninth reporting round (2016-2018) (late submission)

¹ Kazakhstan's full EPR is available in English and Russian at <https://unece.org/environment-policy/publications/3rd-environmental-performance-review-kazakhstan>, UN Doc. ECE/CEP/185.

² The full Convention text is available in English and Russian at <https://unece.org/more-1>.

Actions to implement recommendation 11.3 (a) & (b)

- *Lead the organization of consultations with UNECE on the establishment of National Policy Dialogues for Industrial Safety with the subsequent signature of a respective agreement, such as Memorandum of Understanding or exchange of letters*
 - *By who? Ministry of Emergency Situations, Ministry of Ecology, Geology and Natural Resources and all relevant stakeholders*
 - *By when? December 2021*
- *Enhance transboundary cooperation and joint planning with neighbouring countries, including by strengthening relations with counterparts during UNECE assistance activities and by organizing meetings, drafting joint action plans and conducting exercises with them on transboundary issues, such as accidental water pollution from TMF failures*
 - *By who? Ministry of Emergency Situations and Ministry of Ecology, Geology & Natural Resources*
 - *By when? July 2022 and continuous*

- ...

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE
Committee on Environmental Policy

ENVIRONMENTAL
PERFORMANCE REVIEWS

KYRGYZSTAN

Second Review



UNITED NATIONS
New York and Geneva, 2009

EPR Recommendation 6.1

The Government should entrust the National Water Council to develop as soon as possible and implement a comprehensive and coherent national strategy for the integrated management of water resources. The strategy should be elaborated in cooperation with all relevant national, regional and local authorities as well as NGOs. The strategy should focus on the sustainable use of water resources, and should include protection of water quality, water supply, water pollution control, flood protection, use of water for energy purposes and international obligations.

Kyrgyzstan
Environmental Performance Review
Second Review (2009)

**Draft Action Plan to Strengthen Implementation of the Industrial
Accidents Convention and Mine Tailings Safety (2021)**

Introduction

Kyrgyzstan's 2nd UNECE Environmental Performance Review (EPR)¹ was developed to take stock of progress made by Kyrgyzstan in the management of its environment since the country was first reviewed in 2000. The present document was prepared to outline specific actions that Kyrgyzstan can take to implement several of its EPR recommendations with a focus on strengthening implementation of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (Industrial Accidents Convention) and strengthening mine tailings safety. The UNECE secretariat, in cooperation with Kyrgyzstan, formulated this action plan taking into account the country's commitments under the Convention, as well as existing projects, tools and guidance materials. This action plan provides concrete actions that Kyrgyzstan can take to implement its EPR recommendations to that effect.

Background

Kyrgyzstan has been a beneficiary country to the Industrial Accidents Convention's [Assistance and Cooperation Programme](#) since 2005. As a signatory to the High-level Commitment Declaration (CP.TEIA/2005/12)² under this [Programme](#), Kyrgyzstan has committed to implementing the Convention and regularly reporting on its implementation, to which it has only submitted national implementation reports for the third reporting round (2004-2005) and fourth reporting round (2006-2007). The Convention aims to protect human beings and the environment through the prevention of, preparedness for and response to industrial accidents capable of causing transboundary effects.³ Its measures apply to hazardous activities at, among other installations, tailings management facilities (TMFs), which are prevalent in Kyrgyzstan. UNECE has developed tools and guidance materials and facilitates assistance projects to support countries in implementing the Convention.

Several UNECE assistance projects have benefited Kyrgyzstan, including, among others:

- [Project on strengthening industrial safety in Central Asia through the implementation of and accession to the Convention \(2016–2019\)](#)
- [Project on National Policy Dialogues for Industrial Safety in Central Asia \(Phase I: Launch, ongoing\)](#)

¹ Kyrgyzstan's full EPR is available in English and Russian at <https://unece.org/environment-policy/publications/2nd-environmental-performance-review-kyrgyzstan>, UN Doc. ECE/CEP/153.

² Available at https://unece.org/DAM/env/teia/doc/AP/AP_Introduction/CP.TEIA.2005.12_EN.pdf.

³ The full Convention text is available in English and Russian at <https://unece.org/more-1>.

Actions to implement recommendation 6.1

- *Identify TMFs that pose high risks for accidental water pollution, including through the application of the TMF Methodology (i.e. THI, TRI and Checklist) and, based on the risks identified, integrate mitigation measures (as per the TMF Methodology's Measure Catalogue) into the national IWRM strategy*
 - *By who? Ministry for Energy and Industry*
 - *By when? June 2022 and continuous*
- *Support activities to identify and map TMFs in transboundary river basins, including the Syr Darya river basin, and take measures to prevent accidental water pollution, including through the update or development of joint contingency plans*
 - *By who? Ministry for Energy and Industry and Ministry of Emergency Situations*
 - *By when? February 2022*
- *Ensure the Industrial Accidents Convention's prevention, preparedness and response measures are sufficiently integrated into the national IWRM strategy*
 - *By who? Ministry for Energy and Industry and Ministry of Emergency Situations*
 - *By when? April 2022*

UNECE

Tajikistan Environmental Performance Reviews

Third Review



EPR Recommendation 15.5

The Government should build on the work and experiences of other countries on industrial risk management by:

- a. *Nominating a national focal point(s) and competent authority/authorities for the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents;*
- b. *Ensuring the continuous involvement of the relevant bodies in activities under the Convention and, notably, under the Assistance Programme;*
- c. *Nominating point(s) of contact for industrial accident notification and mutual assistance to the Industrial Accident Notification system under the Convention;*
- d. *Engaging in national capacity building activities to strengthen institutional structures and policymaking on industrial accident prevention, preparedness and response;*
- e. ...

**Tajikistan
Environmental Performance Review
Third Review (2017)**

***Draft* Action Plan to Strengthen Implementation of the Industrial
Accidents Convention and Mine Tailings Safety (2021)**

Introduction

Tajikistan's 3rd UNECE Environmental Performance Review (EPR)¹ was developed to take stock of progress made by Tajikistan in the management of its environment since 2010. The present document was prepared to outline specific actions that Tajikistan can take to implement several of its EPR recommendations with a focus on strengthening implementation of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (Industrial Accidents Convention) and strengthening mine tailings safety. The UNECE secretariat, in cooperation with Tajikistan, formulated this action plan taking into account the country's commitments under the Convention, as well as existing projects, tools and guidance materials. This action plan provides concrete actions that Tajikistan can take to implement its EPR recommendations to that effect.

Background

Tajikistan has been a beneficiary country to the Industrial Accidents Convention's [Assistance and Cooperation Programme](#) since 2005. As a signatory to the High-level Commitment Declaration (CP.TEIA/2005/12)² under this Programme, Tajikistan has committed to implementing the Convention and regularly reporting on its implementation, to which it has only submitted a national implementation report for the Third reporting round (2004-2005). The Convention aims to protect human beings and the environment through the prevention of, preparedness for and response to industrial accidents capable of causing transboundary effects.³ Its measures apply to hazardous activities at, among other installations, tailings management facilities (TMFs), which are prevalent in Tajikistan. UNECE has developed tools and guidance materials and facilitates assistance projects to support countries in implementing the Convention.

Several UNECE assistance projects have benefited Tajikistan, including, among others:

- [Project on strengthening industrial safety in Central Asia through the implementation of and accession to the Convention \(2016–2019\)](#)
- [Project to strengthen the safety of mining operations, in particular tailings management facilities \(TMFs\), in Tajikistan and Central Asia \(2019-2020\)](#)
- [Project on National Policy Dialogues for Industrial Safety in Central Asia \(Phase I: Launch, ongoing\)](#)

¹ Tajikistan's full EPR is available in English and Russian at <https://unece.org/environment-policy/publications/3rd-environmental-performance-review-tajikistan>, UN Doc. ECE/CEP/180.

² Available at https://unece.org/DAM/env/teia/doc/AP/AP_Introduction/CP.TEIA.2005.12_EN.pdf.

³ The full Convention text is available in English and Russian at <https://unece.org/more-1>.

Actions to implement recommendation 15.5 (d)

- *Facilitate IIWG workshops and training sessions, including with experts as needed, to engage relevant members across national authorities and bodies in their respective roles in implementing and enforcing prevention, preparedness and response measures and to strengthen the respective national authorities' and bodies' individual and joint capacities*
 - *By who? Service for State Supervision of Safe Work in Industry and Mining, Committee of Emergency Situations and Civil Defense, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, Ecology Committee and all other relevant authorities and bodies*
 - *By when? June 2021*
- *Improve the understanding and management of risk management of natural hazards triggering technological disasters (Natech) in strengthening tailings safety and governance, e.g. by integrating industrial/chemical hazards and risks, industrial and Natech accident prevention, preparedness and response into national disaster risk reduction strategies developed under the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction*
 - *By who? Service for State Supervision of Safe Work in Industry and Mining and all relevant authorities and bodies*
 - *By when? December 2021 and continuous*

- ...

UNECE

Uzbekistan Environmental Performance Reviews



Third Review



UNITED NATIONS

+ Roadmap (2021)

EPR Recommendation 15.5

The Cabinet of Ministers should:

- a. *Approve and proceed with the implementation of the National Action Plan for the implementation of priority actions identified based on results of Uzbekistan's self-assessment of progress towards accession to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents;*
- b. *Consider accession to the Convention to fully enjoy its benefits and enhanced level of prevention of and preparedness for industrial accidents with potential transboundary effects;*
- c. *Identify hazardous activities that may cause accidents with potential transboundary effects and subsequently notify its neighbours of such activities*

Uzbekistan
Third Environmental Performance Review (2020) &
Roadmap for the implementation of its EPR
Recommendations (2021)

***Draft** Action Plan to Strengthen Implementation of the Industrial
Accidents Convention and Mine Tailings Safety (2021)*

Introduction

Uzbekistan's 3rd UNECE Environmental Performance Review (EPR)¹ was developed to examine the progress made by Uzbekistan in the management of its environment since it was reviewed for the second time in 2009–2010 and to assess the implementation of the recommendations made in the second review. Uzbekistan's roadmap was prepared in 2021 to guide the implementation of its EPR recommendations. The present document supplements these documents with specific actions that Uzbekistan can take to further implement several of its EPR recommendations with a focus on strengthening implementation of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (Industrial Accidents Convention) and strengthening mine tailings safety. The UNECE secretariat, in cooperation with Uzbekistan, formulated this action plan taking into account the country's commitments under the Convention as well as existing projects, tools and guidance materials. This action plan provides concrete actions that Uzbekistan can take to implement its EPR recommendations and roadmap to that effect.

Background

Uzbekistan has been a beneficiary country to the Industrial Accidents Convention's [Assistance and Cooperation Programme](#) since 2005. As a signatory to the High-level Commitment Declaration (CP.TEIA/2005/12)² under this [Programme](#), Uzbekistan has committed to implementing the Convention and regularly reporting on its implementation. The country reported on the Convention's implementation, including for the:

- Third reporting round (2004-2005)
- Fourth reporting round (2006-2007)
- Eighth reporting round (2014-2015)
- Ninth reporting round (2016-2018) (late submission)

The Convention aims to protect human beings and the environment through the prevention of, preparedness for and response to industrial accidents capable of causing transboundary effects.³ Its measures apply to hazardous activities at, among other installations, tailings management

¹ Uzbekistan's full EPR is available in English and Russian at <https://unece.org/environment-policy/publications/3rd-environmental-performance-review-uzbekistan>; UN Doc. ECE/CEP/188; and its Roadmap is available in Russian at <https://unece.org/environment/documents/2021/01/roadmap-uzbekistan-3rd-epr>.

² Available at https://unece.org/DAM/env/teia/doc/AP/AP_Introduction/CP.TEIA.2005.12_EN.pdf.

³ The full Convention text is available in English and Russian at <https://unece.org/more-1>.

Actions to implement recommendation 15.5 (b)

- *Ensure that sufficient and stable funding is allocated for the full implementation of and accession process to the Industrial Accidents Convention*
 - *By who? Ministry of Emergency Services*
 - *By when? February 2022*
- *Preparation for accession to the Industrial Accidents Convention, including through:*
 - i. *Updating Uzbekistan's national legislation and policy to align with the Convention;*
 - ii. *Ensuring national governance sufficiently covers the prevention of, preparedness for and response to industrial accidents capable of causing transboundary effects, including through the full implementation of the Convention, and is coordinated across appropriate ministries and departments;*
 - iii. *Proceeding to accede to the Convention through the respective national channels.*
- *By who? Ministry of Emergency Services*
- *By when? the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2022*

Common approach across the region

Identification

- Hazardous activities under Industrial Accidents Convention (Annex I)
- TMF mapping + inventory, including those with high risks
- Activities to identify + map TMFs in transboundary river basins

Coordination *(in + across countries)*

- Inter-Institutional Working Group on tailings + accidental water pollution
- Regular IIWG meetings, trainings sessions, events to build capacity
- Updates of joint action plans for emergencies + responses to accidents

Natech

- Improve understandings of Natech risk management
- Create awareness on Natech risks at TMFs
- Integrate Natech hazards/risks into national DRR strategies under Sendai

IAN system

- Ensure Points of Contact are kept up to date
- Ensure readiness to send/receive assistance requests + notification
- Participate in IAN System tests (sub-regional + UNECE biennial tests)

Accession *(not KAZ)*

- Establish a sustainable process for NPDs on Industrial Safety
- Update legislation + policy
- Ensure national governance + coordination across ministries

Next steps **for countries to move** forward

June 2021

- After meeting, countries to review, approve, submit their documents to UNECE
- Countries to forward documents to WGI for review

Mid-October 2021: 42nd WGI meeting

- Working Group on Implementation to discuss updated Self-Assessments + Action Plans by KAZ, KYR, TAJ and UZB **and to monitor the implementation**

2022: Subregional workshop

- Countries to report on progress in implementing their EPR Action Plans and updated Self-Assessments + Action Plans

November/December 2022: CoP-12

- Central Asian countries to share progress with Conference of the Parties

Thank you for listening

Convention on the Transboundary
Effects of Industrial Accidents

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