Seveso-III Directive and TEIA Convention

Technical mission to support Montenegro in the implementation of the UNECE Convention on Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

30 November 2021
Overview

- **Origin of the Seveso legislation**
- EU action to prevent industrial accident
- Linkages with the TEIA Convention
- Contribution to other legal areas
Where does it come from?

1982 – Seveso I

2003 – Seveso II amendment

1996 – Seveso II

2012 – Seveso III

1 June 2015 – transposition period for Seveso III ended

Bhopal
Mexico City

Seveso

GHS

Toulouse
Enschede
Baia Mare
Impacts of major accidents

- Human health and environment
- Economic damages
- Response and follow-up costs
- Socio-economic impact
- Political impact

→ Average cost of an industrial accident: €150 million
Overview

• Origin of the Seveso legislation

• **EU action to prevent industrial accident**
  • Seveso-III Directive: objectives, main provisions
  • The JRC - MAHB
  • Results

• Linkages with the TEIA Convention

• Contribution to other legal areas
Seveso-III Directive Fundamentals

- **Objective:** Prevention of major accidents and limitation of their consequences for human health and environment

- **Scope:** industrial plants where dangerous substances are present in certain quantities (cf. list in Annex 1)

- **2 tiers approach:** Proportionnale to the risk (tonnage threshold)
Seveso-III - Key pillars

Lessons learnt
- Review legislation,
- Share experiences,
- Adjust provisions, permit…

Prevention - Limit risk
- Identification,
- Safety management,
- Land-use planning
- Inspection

Response
- Inform and act
- Cooperation
- Remediation

Preparation - Limit impact
- Emergency plans,
- public participation
The JRC - MAHB

• Provides scientific and technical support for policy associated with **chemical safety**
  • Seveso Inspections Series
  • Accident analysis
  • Consequence analysis and assessment (ADAM)
The JRC - MAHB

- Collects and makes available to EU Member State data on chemical accidents to support lessons learning and also on EU hazardous (Seveso) sites (eMARS and eSPIRS databases)
Results

- 11 776 establishments reported in 2018

- Major accident over time
Results

- Fatalities
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TEIA as stepping stone towards Seveso-III

- Focus on high and transboundary risk
- Less sophisticated requirements
- Fewer resources needed

→ Insufficient for EU but easier to achieve
Seveso-III to implement TEIA

- More holistic risk management
- More requirements
- Some TEIA aspects not covered

→ Two steps in one go, but more demanding
Seveso-III complementing TEIA

Seveso-III-Directive is stricter and more specific compared to the Industrial Accidents Convention:

- Not only transboundary effects
- Applies as of lower thresholds
- Mandatory inspections
- More descriptive on all requirements

→ When deciding on how to implement TEIA: consider requirements of Seveso-III
TEIA complementing Seveso-III

Seveso-III does not cover all aspects:

- Accident notification
- Mutual assistance
- Research and development
- Technology exchange
- Mining, landfills, pipelines

→ Aspects covered by other legislation or not under EU competence
Considerations for non-EU countries

The Seveso-III Directive:
• was developed to work in the EU context
  • it presumes some aspects which are granted in the EU but not necessarily given outside the EU, e.g. the Aarhus principles
  • self-evident cross border cooperation between EU Member States
  • burden sharing & subsidiarity (EU vs. Member State competence)
Considerations for non-EU countries

The Seveso-III Directive:

• does not cover all risks to be addressed
  • facilities under the lower threshold
  • industry sectors/activities covered by other legislation
  • some kind of chemical hazards

• does not apply beyond EU borders
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Integrated policy making

*Implementation of TEIA & Seveso-III contributes to other policy areas (examples):*

- [Union's Civil Protection Mechanism](#) → Sendai Disaster Risk Management
- [Protection and resilience of critical entities](#)
- [CBRN risk mitigation](#)
- [Chemicals legislation](#) → [Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals](#)
Summary

• Major accidents pose a threat to environment, human health and economic growth
• TEIA and Seveso are complementary
• Contribution to other legislation
Thank you for your attention

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