

Thematic session 2: Identification and notification of hazardous activities

UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

*Seminar on good practices and lessons learned in implementing the
UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents
Geneva and online, 3-4 February 2022*

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Industrial Accidents Convention: Article 4 Identification and notification hazardous activities (Annex I and Annex III)

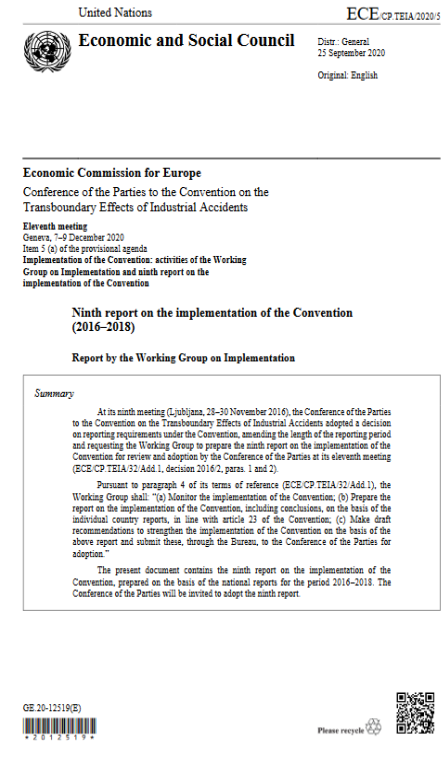
- Parties of origin shall take measures, as appropriate, to identify hazardous activities within its jurisdiction and to ensure that affected Parties are notified of any such proposed or existing activity.
- Parties concerned shall, at the initiative of any such Party, enter into discussions on the identification of those hazardous activities that are, reasonably, capable of causing transboundary effects.
- Parties shall, with respect to proposed or existing hazardous activities, apply the **procedures set out in Annex III hereto.**
- **Annex I** of the Convention -List of hazardous substances for the purposes of defining hazardous activities.



- Location criteria for identification of possible transboundary effects of industrial accidents are provided in **the Guidelines for Location Criteria**, adopted through decision 2000/3 (ECE/CP.TEIA/2, annex IV) as amended by decision 2004/2 (ECE/CP.TEIA/12, annex II).
- The template for the notification of hazardous activities in accordance with article 4 of and Annex III to the UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.

9th report on implementation: *Key findings of the WGI*

- Almost all countries identified hazardous activities or having concluded that they do not have hazardous activities.
- Growing number of countries apply both the Convention criteria to identify hazardous activities.
- Almost all countries notified all affected Parties.

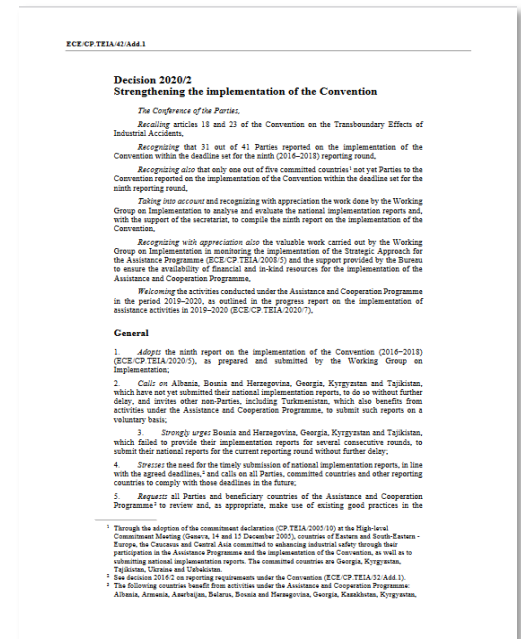


9th report on implementation: *Key recommendations of the WGI*

- The WGI calls on all Parties and committed countries which have not yet identified hazardous activities in line with the criteria under the Convention, to comply with this essential requirement as soon as possible.
- The WGI to encourage all Parties and committed countries to take further actions to strengthen their notification of the hazardous activities identified and related consultation processes.

Decision 2020/2: Strengthening the implementation of the Convention

- Calls on all Parties and beneficiary countries that have not yet identified hazardous activities in line with the criteria under the Convention to comply with this essential requirement without further delay.
- Also calls on all Parties and beneficiary countries that have not yet notified their hazardous activities to one or more affected countries, to proceed with such notifications without further delay.



Decision 2020/2: Strengthening the implementation of the Convention

- Encourages all Parties and beneficiary countries regardless of whether they currently have hazardous activities, to develop notification and consultation mechanisms or, if these are already in place, to strengthen such processes.
- Invites all Parties and beneficiary countries to provide further information on the nature and location of their hazardous activities as part of their implementation reports, in order to improve understanding of the specific disaster risks and to prepare for them, in accordance with priority 1 (“Understanding disaster risk”) of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030.

How to implement Article 4, the related WGI recommendations and Decision 2020/2?

- Apply the **Annex I** and the location criteria for identification of possible transboundary effects of industrial accidents (**the Guidelines for Location Criteria**, adopted through decision 2000/3 (ECE/CP.TEIA/2, annex IV) as amended by decision 2004/2 (ECE/CP.TEIA/12, annex II)).
- Use the template for the notification of hazardous activities in accordance with article 4 of and **Annex III** to the UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.
- Review and apply the UNECE Safety Guidelines and good practices for TMF, complemented by the TMF methodology (developed by the German Environment Agency) offer a strong regional tool, available for application also beyond the region.
- Review the UNECE Safety guidelines and good practices for pipelines to support current and future Parties in strengthening industrial accident prevention, preparedness and response, as well as to support them in fulfilling their implementation of the Convention when voluntarily extended to pipelines.
- Germany and Belarus will demonstrate good practices in implementing Article 4 in their presentations in this session.

Other relevant good practices (reported)

Austria	Maintained International River Commissions Organized meetings with neighboring countries Organized international emergency exercises (i.e. Comprotex and Taranis)
Belarus	Completed notification and consultation processes with Lithuania and Latvia on hazardous installations capable of causing transboundary effects, including pipelines
Germany	Regularly exchanged information and experiences on the prevention of accidents and disaster control through the Franco-German-Swiss Conference of the Upper Rhine Conducted identification and notification of tailings management facilities (TMFs) in the Danube River Basin and beyond, using the TMF Methodology
Netherlands	Maintains a notification list pertaining to hazardous activities on the BRZO plus website