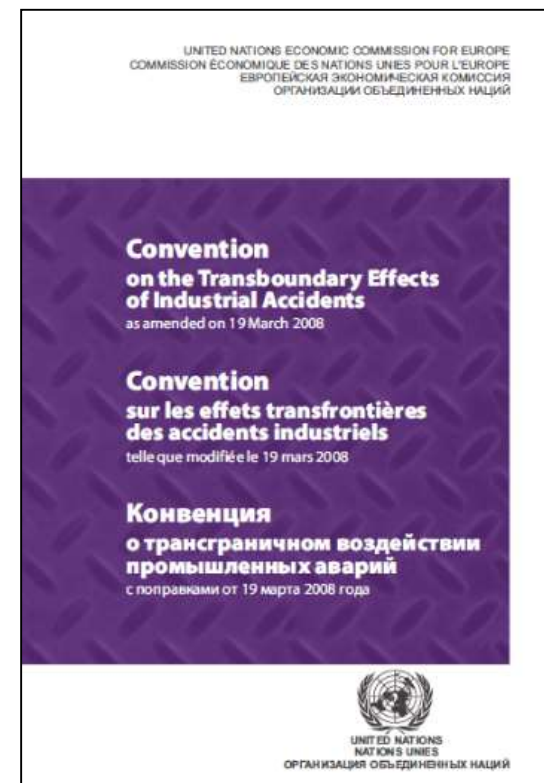


ADVANTAGES OF ACCESSION AND MAIN REQUIREMENTS OF THE UNECE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS CONVENTION

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UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents

- ✓ Designed to protect people and the environment from industrial accidents by preventing, preparing for and responding to accidents
- ✓ Accidents regulated by the Convention:
 - ✓ associated with hazardous activities (production, use, storage, handling or disposal of hazardous substances)
 - ✓ capable of causing transboundary impact
- ✓ **Covers tailings and NATECH (man-made accidents caused by natural hazards)**
- ✓ 42 Parties
- ✓ Tajikistan has been a beneficiary country of the Assistance and Cooperation Program of the UNECE Convention since 2005.



SCOPE OF THE CONVENTION

What kind of accidents does the Convention deal with?

- involving hazardous activities (production, use, storage, handling or disposal of hazardous substances)
- capable of causing transboundary impacts
- at tailings
- The list of substances and categories of substances is included in Annex I to the Convention. This annex was updated at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (December 2014, Geneva)

Examples of hazardous activities:

- Fertilizer plants
- Chemical enterprises
- Oil storage



KEY COMMITMENTS

- **IDENTIFICATION AND NOTIFICATION OF HAZARDOUS ACTIVITIES**
- **DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND MEASURES FOR**
 - **Prevention** of industrial accidents
 - **Preparedness** for industrial accidents
 - Industrial accident **response**, including industrial accident notification and mutual assistance
- **PUBLIC AWARENESS AND INVOLVEMENT**



Working Group on Implementation

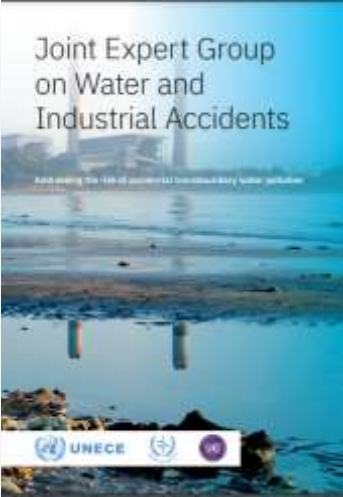
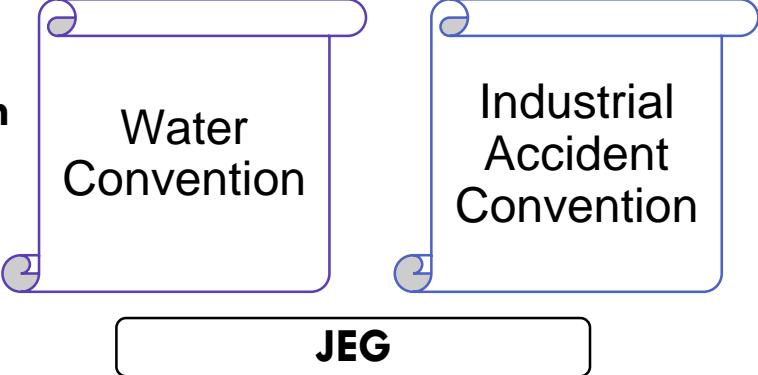
- The Working Group on Implementation supports Parties and beneficiary countries of the Assistance and Cooperation Program to strengthen the implementation of the provisions of the Convention
- **3-4 February 2022:** Special session/workshop on best practices and lessons learned in the implementation of the UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents (ENG, FR и RUS)
- Best Practice Tables for Reporting Periods (Available at the following link): <https://unece.org/environment-policy/industrial-accidents/good-practices-implementing-industrial-accidents-convention>



Joint ad hoc expert group on water and industrial accidents and its methodology

Joint Expert Group (JEG):

- Founded in 1998
- Focused on preventing accidental water pollution, including in the event of **Natech accidents**, and its consequences
- Combining integrated water resources management with industrial safety



Develops methodologies and checklists



UNECE Tailings Safety and Best Practice Guidelines and related methodology



- Developed under the UNECE Industrial Accidents and Water Conventions and approved at COP-5 (2008) and WS-5 (2009)
- Contains safety principles and recommendations for:
 - ✓ Governments
 - ✓ the competent authorities, and
 - ✓ tailings operators
- Cover technical and organizational aspects related to:
 - Construction preparation and construction
 - Operation and management
 - Object Inspection
 - Identification, evaluation and management of abandoned sites
 - Planning for emergencies

A methodology has been developed to support countries in the practical application of the guidelines

Online Toolkit for Improving Tailings Safety

Онлайн-инструментарий и подготовка по повышению безопасности хвостохранилищ

Общий обзор

Промышленные аварии на хвостохранилищах уже приводили к экологическим катастрофам с разрушительными последствиями для людей и окружающей среды на территории стран и за их пределами. Крупные промышленные аварии в регионе ЕЭК ООН и за его пределами побудили страны разработать и внедрить инструменты в рамках Конвенции ЕЭК ООН о трансграничном воздействии промышленных аварий для повышения безопасности хвостохранилищ и предотвращения таких аварий в будущем.



Этот онлайн-инструментарий помогает странам в укреплении безопасности хвостохранилищ и практики управления ими. Он служит центральным узлом для всех, кто хочет узнать о важности обеспечения безопасности хвостохранилищ, соответствующей работе и инструментах в рамках Конвенции. В то же время он обеспечивает для стран дистанционную подготовку без необходимости личного присутствия, чтобы улучшить их знания о воздействиях и проблемах, связанных с хвостохранилищами, чтобы применять существующие руководящие принципы, включая инструменты ЕЭК ООН, для повышения безопасности хвостохранилищ. Этот интерактивный инструментариий и подготовка включают в себя четыре раздела в раскрывающемся меню ниже: справочная информация о безопасности хвостохранилищ; трехстадийная практическая учебная подготовка для стран по совершенствованию практики безопасного управления; резюме работы ЕЭК ООН по хвостохранилищам и партнеров; а также дополнительная литература, включающая ключевые доклады и ссылки на источники информации.

Повышение безопасности шахтных хвостохранилищ и улучшение управления ими позволяют странам лучше понимать риски бедствий и управлять ими, в том числе и в рамках межведомственного и межсекторального сотрудничества. Таким образом, эта работа способствует достижению целей Повестки дня на период до 2030 года с ее целями в области устойчивого развития и Сендайской рамочной программы по снижению риска бедствий. Это также укрепляет государственное управление недрами, устойчивую инфраструктуру и устойчивость к бедствиям как в самих странах, так и за их пределами.

Справочная информация - Призыв к незамедлительным действиям

Практическая подготовка (3 стадии)

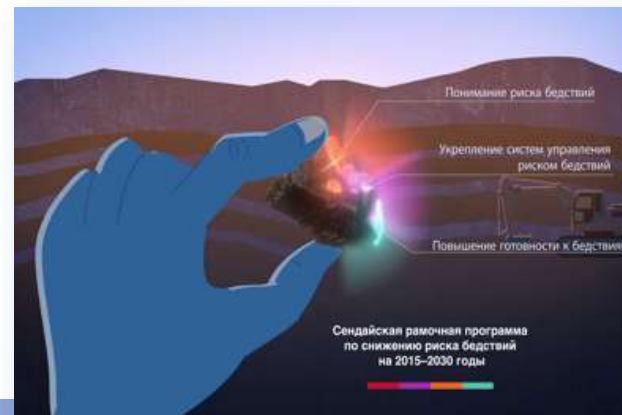
Работа ЕЭК ООН в области хвостохранилищ и партнеры

Дополнительная литература - ключевые доклады и ссылки на источники информации по безопасности хвостохранилищ

- Promotes knowledge of tailings safety through online training on the application of relevant safety guidelines and methodology

Consists of:

- Reference information on the safety of tailings
- Practical training → 3-step approach
- Brief information on UNECE work related to tailings and partners
- Further reading (main reports and links)
- Available at: <https://unece.org/ru/environment-policy/industrial-accidents/onlayn-instrumentariy-i-podgotovka-po-povysheniyu>



Includes tailings safety training video (ENG, RUS)



Tajikistan and the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention

- Signed a high-level declaration and thereby committed to:
 - Submit regular reports on the implementation of the Convention
 - Work towards joining the Convention
- Since 2005, it has been a beneficiary country of the Assistance and Cooperation Program of the UNECE Convention and receives support (mainly through project activities, including trainings, seminars, reports and recommendations, exchange of information and experience)
- With the support of the Convention secretariat, prepared self-assessments (2018, 2021), action plans (2018, 2021), tailings training (2021) and legal analysis of legislation (2022) to strengthen the implementation of the provisions of the Convention
- Collaborates with the Implementation Working Group to strengthen industrial safety and cross-border cooperation (2023 teleconference)
- End of May 2023 - holding a sub-regional workshop on strengthening the safety of tailings and preventing accidental water pollution in Central Asia

Benefits of joining the Industrial Accidents Convention

- ✓ Tajikistan will be able to participate in decision-making by the Parties
- ✓ Tajikistan can nominate a candidate for membership of the Bureau and the Working Group on Implementation and, as such, actively shape the work of the Convention
- ✓ Tajikistan will contribute to influence the development of international treaty law and policy, demonstrate their compliance and continue to improve its national policy in the field of industrial safety
- ✓ As a Party, Tajikistan will also receive further support from other Parties and from the UNECE secretariat to improve the implementation of the Convention.
- ✓ Tajikistan will provide better protection to the population of the country if an industrial accident with transboundary consequences occurs in a neighboring or coastal country, and increase the chances of obtaining the necessary funding to solve critical problems in this area
- ✓ Accession to the Convention will strengthen the capacity of Tajikistan to prevent industrial accidents, quickly respond to them and manage the risks of man-made accidents caused by natural disasters (Natech)
- ✓ Tajikistan will strengthen cross-border cooperation in key areas of sectoral policy, including environmental protection and industrial policy cooperation, as well as emergency response and cross-border preparedness.



Workshop and Decision 2020/1 “Improving the safety of tailings in the UNECE region and beyond”

- ✓ The workshop took place on December 1, 2020 with the support of Germany
- ✓ 43 countries, 115 participants, 37 organizations
- ✓ Preparedness and response are important, but prevention is key
- ✓ Tailings safety is a regional issue, not just a national one

Decision to strengthen the safety of tailings –actions taken at the Eleventh Conference of the Parties (December 2020), agreed by the Parties and recommended to other countries:

- Use the *UNECE Tailings Safety and Best Practice Guidelines and associated methodology to achieve harmonized application*
- *Improve inter-agency and stakeholder coordination – at the national and cross-border levels*
- *Review tailings legislation and policy in line with international best practice, such as safety guidelines, and work to establish a good practice standard*
- **Step up efforts to improve tailings safety and accident prevention in the face of more extreme weather events driven by climate change**
- *Include tailings in the identification and notification of hazardous activities*



Decision 2020/1, first of all, underlines the obligation of countries to prevent accidents at tailings, recommends countries in the UNECE region and invites those outside it to apply the UNECE Guidelines on the Safety of Tailings and the associated Methodology.

ROADMAP FOR IMPROVING THE SAFETY OF TAILINGS IN THE UNECE REGION AND BEYOND

WHY IS A ROADMAP NEEDED?

1

Define key goals to improve tailings safety based on decision 2020/1

2

Set the direction, actions and priorities for Parties and Member States in the UNECE region and beyond

3

Note the activities that the secretariat of the UNECE Convention can carry out in support of parties and other UNECE member countries, as well as cooperation with other international organizations

5 KEY GOALS TO IMPROVE TAILINGS SAFETY

Understanding the risks associated with the operation of tailings facilities, within and beyond national borders

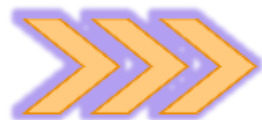
Eliminate tailings risks based on strategy and management

Prevention and preparedness for accidental water pollution from tailings to maintain water quality

Prevention of industrial accidents caused by natural hazards and adaptation to climate change

Information and knowledge sharing and capacity building

Roadmap for improving the safety of tailings in the UNECE region and beyond



NEXT STEPS

2023–2024

- Promote understanding of the risks associated with tailings
- Review and update existing measures and legislation
- Use existing and create new working groups and national coordination mechanisms
- Report tailings as a hazardous activity (10th reporting cycle)

В зависимости от наличия средств

- Prepare an overview: tailings facilities in the ECE region, possible existing threats, risks and hot spots**
- Improve shared understanding and risk management across countries**
- Facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogue on existing benefits and challenges in the ECE region**

2025–2026

Proposed Next Steps

By October 31, 2023 - Submit a report for the 10th round of reporting on the implementation of the Convention



2023 - Consider accession to the UNECE Industrial Accidents Convention to further strengthen industrial safety, cross-border cooperation and knowledge sharing



Identification and notification of neighboring countries of hazardous activities, including tailings, and implementation of other basic requirements of the Convention

Thank you for your attention!

Questions?

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