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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
TO THE CONVENTION ON THE TRANSBOUNDARY
EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

Fourth meeting
Rome (Italy), 15–17 November 2006
Item 13 of the provisional agenda

PLAN OF ACTION UNDER THE CONVENTION

**Draft Decision on the Priorities, Workplan and Resources
under the Convention for 2007–2008**

Submitted by the Bureau in cooperation with the Convention's secretariat

The Conference of the Parties,

1. Entrusts the secretariat, in cooperation with the Bureau, to update the long-term programme of work under the Convention to reflect the outcome of the work carried out since its third meeting as well as its decisions taken at this meeting and to make the updated programme of work available through the Convention's website;
2. Sets the following priorities for its activities in 2007 and 2008:
 - (a) Provision, on a needs-driven basis, of assistance to Parties in implementing the Convention and to other UNECE member countries in ratifying or acceding to it;

(b) Provision of guidance and assistance in applying the amended annex I to the Convention and the guidelines to facilitate the identification of hazardous activities for the purposes of the Convention;

(c) Further progress in the identification of hazardous activities and their notification to neighbouring Parties;

(d) Promotion of measures to prevent industrial accidents, including accidental water pollution;

(e) Promotion of bilateral cooperation under the Convention, in particular in implementing preparedness and response measures; and

(f) Improvement of the efficiency and enhancement of the communication procedures within the UNECE Industrial Accident Notification System;

3. Adopts the workplan for 2007–2008 as set out in annex I to this decision;

4. Requests the Parties, and invites Governments of other UNECE member countries, to participate actively in the implementation of the workplan for 2007–2008 and invites Parties to take the lead in specific projects within the workplan;

5. Accepts the secretariat's report on the use of financial resources under the Convention in 2000–2006 (ECE/CP.TEIA/2006/11);

6. Adopts the budget of the Convention for 2007–2008 as set out in annex II to this decision;

7. Decides that the Parties will contribute financially and/or in kind to the budget of the Convention on a voluntary basis and recommends that they make their contributions as soon as possible;

8. Invites other UNECE member countries to contribute to this budget as well;

9. Welcomes the contributions to the budget pledged, at the meeting, by the following Parties to the Convention:, and by the following other UNECE member countries:

10. Endorses the guiding principles for financial assistance to support the participation of experts and representatives from countries with economies in transition in meetings organized within its framework and in the activities under the assistance programme, depending on the availability of funds, as set out in annex III to this decision;

11. Invites the Executive Secretary of UNECE to continue to provide secretariat support for the tasks outlined in the workplan for 2007–2008;

12. Requests the UNECE secretariat to manage voluntary financial contributions in agreement with the donor countries/institutions;

13. Requests its Bureau to draw up, with the support of the secretariat, a budget for the next two-year period for adoption at the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Annex I

WORKPLAN UNDER THE CONVENTION FOR THE YEARS 2007–2008

The following are specific elements of the workplan under the Convention for 2007–2008, selected, on the basis of priorities agreed by the Conference of the Parties, from the long-term programme of work under the Convention (available at <http://www.unece.org/env/teia/programme.htm>).

The following abbreviations are used throughout annexes I–III: Working Group on Implementation – WGI; Working Group on the Development of the Convention – WGD; Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents – JEG.

PROGRAMME AREA 1: Monitoring of and assistance in the implementation of the Convention

1.1 Implementation of the Convention

1.1.1 Maintenance of the list of competent authorities and of the password-protected folder containing national implementation reports within the Convention's website (secretariat);

1.1.2 Preparation of the fourth report on the implementation of the Convention (WGI);

1.1.3 Drawing up of draft conclusions and recommendations to strengthen the implementation of the Convention on the basis of the report on the Convention's implementation (WGI).

1.2 Assistance to Parties in implementing the Convention and to Signatories and other UNECE member countries wishing to become a Party in ratifying the Convention

1.2.1 Completion of fact-finding missions to countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA) and South-East Europe (SEE) and reporting on their outcome to the Bureau (EECCA and SEE countries not yet visited/fact-finding teams/Bureau/WGI/secretariat);

1.2.2 Organization of needs-driven capacity-building activities within the assistance programme for the EECCA and SEE countries in accordance with the action plan for the programme's implementation phase – ECE/CP.TEIA/2006/4 (Bureau/WGI/secretariat).

PROGRAMME AREA 2: Scope of the Convention

2.1 Hazardous activities

- 2.1.1 Elaboration of guidance on the application of the amended annex I to the Convention (WGD/WGI/secretariat);
- 2.1.2 Maintenance of information on hazardous activities in a password-protected folder on the Convention's website (WGI/secretariat).

PROGRAMME AREA 3: Prevention of industrial accidents

3.1 Prevention of accidental water pollution

- 3.1.1 Continuation of work on the prevention of accidental water pollution as specified in the progress report of the Joint Expert Group on Water and Industrial Accidents (ECE/CP.TEIA/2006/9) (JEG);
- 3.1.2 Organization of a workshop on the safety of tailings dams, in conjunction with a meeting of the Joint Expert Group (Georgia, Germany, JEG, Conventions' secretariats);
- 3.1.3 Organization of a technical visit to a hazardous activity to study the implementation of the conclusions and recommendations of the Hamburg seminar (JEG/Conventions' secretariats).

PROGRAMME AREA 4: Points of contact and industrial accident notification

4.1 UNECE Industrial Accident Notification System

- 4.1.1 Maintenance of the list of points of contact (secretariat);
- 4.1.2 Testing of the UNECE IAN System (points of contact/secretariat);
- 4.1.3 Organization of consultations/training sessions for personnel of points of contact (points of contact/secretariat);
- 4.1.4 Enhancement of the communication procedures under the UNECE IAN System (points of contact/secretariat).

PROGRAMME AREA 5: Emergency preparedness, response and mutual assistance

5.1 Emergency preparedness and response

- 5.1.1 Promotion and organization of a transboundary response exercise to a simulated industrial accident (host countries/Bureau/JEG/secretariat).

PROGRAMME AREA 6: Responsibility and liability

6.1 Responsibility and liability regime

- 6.1.1 Organization of a consultation among the Parties to the Industrial Accidents and/or Water Conventions to review the reasons for the current ratification status of the Protocol and the steps taken by UNECE member countries to ratify it (Bureau in cooperation with the Bureau of the Water Convention¹/Conventions' secretariats).

PROGRAMME AREA 7: Scientific and technological cooperation

7.1 Exchange of information and safety technologies

- 7.1.1 Establishment of a register of institutions and experts capable of providing assistance regarding preventive, preparedness and response measures (Parties/secretariat).

PROGRAMME AREA 8: Past industrial accidents

8.1 Reporting of past industrial accidents

- 8.1.1 Operation of the UNECE Past Industrial Accident Reporting System, within the framework of the existing EU Major Accident Reporting System (MARS), and distribution of information on past industrial accidents (Major Accident Hazards Bureau/secretariat).

¹ Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes.

Annex II

RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS FOR 2007–2008

No.	Programme area/element/activity	Lead and supporting country/institution	Contributions	Expected budget	Expected output
1.	Monitoring of and assistance in the implementation of the Convention				
1.1	Implementation of the Convention				
1.1.1	Maintenance of the list of competent authorities and of the password-protected folder containing national implementation reports within the Convention's website	Secretariat All Parties			List of competent authorities on the website
1.1.2	Preparation of the fourth report on the implementation of the Convention	WGI All Parties		€5,000	Fourth report on the implementation of the Convention
1.1.3	Drawing up of draft conclusions and recommendations to strengthen the implementation of the Convention on the basis of the report on the Convention's implementation	WGI			Conclusions and recommendations for adoption by the Parties
1.2	Assistance to Parties in implementing the Convention and to Signatories and other UNECE member countries wishing to become a Party in ratifying the Convention				
1.2.1	Completion of fact-finding missions to EECCA and SEE countries and reporting on their outcome to the Bureau	EECCA and SEE countries Secretariat Bureau/WGI	Donors to the assistance programme	€60,000	Assessment of the implementation of the Convention's basic tasks
1.2.2	Organization of needs-driven capacity-building activities within the assistance programme for the EECCA and SEE countries in accordance with the action plan for the programme's implementation phase – ECE/CP.TEIA/2006/4	EECCA and SEE countries Secretariat Bureau/WGI	Donors to the assistance programme	€550,000	Provision of needs-driven assistance to EECCA and SEE countries

2.	Scope of the Convention				
2.1	Hazardous activities				
2.1.1	Elaboration of guidance on the application of the amended annex I to the Convention	WGD/WGI Secretariat	European Commission	€10,000	Better application of annex I
2.1.2	Maintenance of information on hazardous activities in a password-protected folder within the Convention's website	WGI All Parties/secretariat			Information on hazardous activities
3.	Prevention of industrial accidents				
3.1	Prevention of accidental water pollution				
3.1.1	Continuation of work on the prevention of accidental water pollution	JEG Hungary/Germany	To be arranged by the JEG		Implementation of the programme of work
3.1.2	Organization of a workshop on the safety of tailings dams, in conjunction with a meeting of the JEG	Georgia Germany/JEG Conventions' secretariats	Germany	€25,000 (industrial accidents part)	Safety guidelines for tailings dams
3.1.3	Organization of a technical visit to a hazardous activity to study the implementation of the conclusions and recommendations of the Hamburg seminar	<i>Host country</i> JEG Conventions' secretariats	<i>Host country</i> (in kind)	€25,000 (industrial accidents part)	Implementation monitoring and lessons learnt
4	Points of contact and industrial accident notification				
4.1	UNECE Industrial Accident Notification System				
4.1.1	Maintenance of the list of points of contact	Secretariat Points of contact			List of points of contact on the website
4.1.2	Testing of the UNECE IAN System	Points of contact Secretariat		€2,000	Operability of the System
4.1.3	Organization of consultations/training sessions for personnel of points of contact	<i>Host country</i> Points of contact Secretariat		€25,000	Review of the System's effectiveness/training for points of contact
4.1.4	Enhancement of the communication procedures under the UNECE IAN System	Secretariat Points of contact		€35,000	Up-to-date procedures

5.	Emergency preparedness, response and mutual assistance				
5.1	Emergency preparedness and response				
5.1.1	Promotion and organization of a transboundary response exercise to a simulated industrial accidents	<i>Host countries</i> Bureau/JEG/Secretariat	To be arranged by the Bureau and the secretariat	€30,000	Improved preparedness and response measures
6.	Responsibility and liability				
6.1	Responsibility and liability regime				
6.1.1	Organization of a consultation to review the reasons for the current ratification status of the Protocol and the steps taken by UNECE member countries to ratify it	Bureaux Conventions' secretariats		€10,000	Promotion of entry into force of the Protocol
7.	Scientific and technological cooperation				
7.1	Exchange of information and safety technologies				
7.1.1	Establishment of a register of experts capable of providing assistance regarding preventive, preparedness and response measures	Secretariat All Parties			Register of experts
8.	Past industrial accidents				
8.1	Reporting of past industrial accidents				
8.1.1	Operation of the UNECE Past Industrial Accident Reporting System within the framework of the existing EU-Major Accident Reporting System (MARS) and distribution of information on past industrial accidents	European Commission – DG JRC Secretariat	In kind In kind		UNECE Past Industrial Accident Reporting System
Fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties		<i>Host country</i> Bureau/Secretariat		€75,000	Conference of the Parties
Two meetings of the Bureau and two joint meetings of the Bureau and the WGI		Bureau WGI Secretariat	To be arranged by the Bureau	€24,000	Bureau, Bureau/WGI joint meetings

Promotion of the Convention and assistance in implementation of the workplan	Secretariat Bureau	To be arranged by the Bureau and the secretariat	€12,000	Promotional material, substantive background papers and equipment
Additional staffing in the Convention's secretariat (2007–2008)		To be arranged by the Bureau	€185,000	Implementation of the assistance programme

Annex III

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT THE PARTICIPATION OF EXPERTS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION IN MEETINGS ORGANIZED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AND IN THE ACTIVITIES UNDER THE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME

1. The following countries of Eastern European, Caucasus and Central Asia (EECCA):, as well as the following countries of South-Eastern Europe (SEE):, are eligible for full financial assistance (travel expenses and daily subsistence allowance (DSA)) to support the participation of their experts and representatives in activities organized within the framework of the Conference of the Parties.
2. The countries of EECCA and SEE, as accepted by the Conference of the Parties as recipient countries in the assistance programme under the Convention, are eligible for full financial assistance (travel expenses and DSA) to support the participation of their experts and representatives in capacity-building activities organized within the programme.