

**ASSISTANCE
PROGRAMME**

**THE CONVENTION:
AN IDEAL LEGAL INSTRUMENT FOR THE
PREVENTION OF, PREPAREDNESS FOR
AND RESPONSE TO
INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS**

**HIGH LEVEL
COMMITMENT
MEETING**

**Geneva,
14-15 Dec 2005**

**ERNST BERGER (Switzerland)
Former (First) Chairperson of the Conference of the Parties
(2000-2004)**

Content of Presentation

- **Important Major Accidents in Europe**
- **UNECE Convention on Industrial Accidents:**
 - **Clearly Defined Scope**
 - **Identification and Notification**
 - **Owner Responsibility and Government Control**
 - **Emergency Preparedness and Public Participation**
 - **Accident Notification and Mutual Assistance**
- **Implementation of the Convention**
- **The Assistance Programme**

1 June 1974: Catastrophic Explosion in Flixborough

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CONVENTION ON THE TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS КОНВЕНЦИЯ О ТРАНСГРАНИЧНОМ ВОЗДЕЙСТВИИ ПРОМЫШЛЕННЫХ АВАРИЙ

10 July 1976: Accident in Seveso, Northern Italy

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1 Nov. 1986: Sandoz Warehouse fire in Basel, CH

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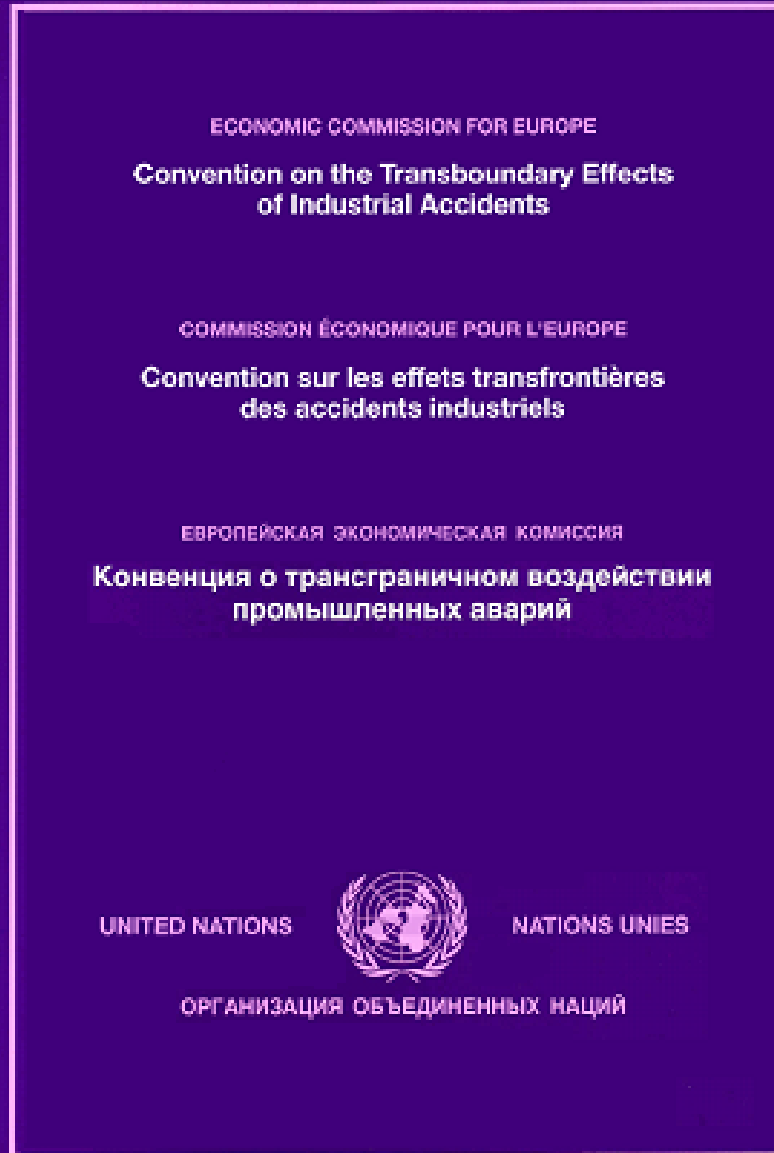
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**UNECE Convention on
Industrial Accidents**



Clearly Defined Scope

Article 2.1

This Convention shall apply to the prevention of, preparedness for and response to **industrial accidents capable of causing transboundary effects**

Articles 1(a) and 1(b)

(a) **Industrial accident** means an event resulting from an uncontrolled development in the course of any **activity involving hazardous substances**.....

(b) **Hazardous activity** means any activity in which one or more hazardous substances are present or may be present in quantities larger than the **threshold quantities listed in Annex I and which is capable of causing transboundary effects**.....

Identification and Notification

Article 4.1

For the purpose of undertaking preventive measures and setting up preparedness measures, each Party 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**.

Example of Identification, Seveso II Directive

Les installations classées en Aquitaine Etablissements classés "Seveso"

Etablissement	Dept.	Ville	Classement
COM GAZ - Atur	24	Atur	Seveso seuil bas
BERGERAC NC	24	Bergerac	Seveso seuil haut
EURENCO FRANCE	24	Bergerac	Seveso seuil haut
MARY ARM	24	Bergerac	Seveso seuil haut
POLYREY	24	Couze-et-Saint-Front	Seveso seuil haut
BREZAC - St Lizier	24	Creysse	Seveso seuil haut
BREZAC - Le Fleix	24	Le Fleix	Seveso seuil haut
INTERSPRAY	24	Neuvic	Seveso seuil bas
DE BONFILS	24	Saint-Félix-de-Villadeix	Seveso seuil haut

Owner Responsibility and Government Control

Article 3.3

The Parties shall ensure that the **operator is obliged to take all measures necessary** for the safe performance of the hazardous activity and for the prevention of industrial accidents.....

Article 17.1

Each Party shall designate or establish one or more **competent authorities** for the purposes of this Convention...

Emergency Preparedness / Public Participation

Article 8.2

Each Party shall ensure for hazardous activities the **preparation and implementation of on-site contingency plans...**

Article 8.3

Each Party shall ensure for hazardous activities the **preparation and implementation of off-site contingency plans...**

Article 9

Each Party shall ensure that **adequate information is given to the public** in the areas capable of being affected by an industrial accident...

Accident Notification / Mutual Assistance

Article 10.2

In the event of an industrial accident with trans-boundary effects, the Party of origin shall ensure that affected Parties are ... **notified through the industrial accident notification systems...**

Article 12.1

If a Party needs assistance in the event of an industrial accident, it may **ask for assistance** from other Parties ...

Article 17.2.

Each Party shall designate or establish a **point of contact for the purpose of industrial accident notifications and mutual assistance...**

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Implementation of the Convention

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