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UNECE CONVENTION ON THE TRANSBOUNDARY EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS

COMMITTEE OF COMPETENT AUTHORITIES DIRECTIVE 96/82/EC (SEVESO II)

WORKSHOP ON COST-EFFECTIVENESS FOR MAJOR ACCIDENT PREVENTION

12 October 2011

Novotel Centrum Warszawa
starting at 9 a.m.

INFORMATION NOTICE

I. Introduction

Assuring safe operation at hazardous industrial sites is a crucial task for public authorities, which use various systems or approaches for this purpose. The different systems for achieving the set goal – high level of industrial safety – can create different cost. Some systems might be more effective in terms of public spending than others. At the same time certain solutions which can be accepted in one country may find resistance in another.

In times of decreasing public spending, the availability of funds in state budgets for assuring major accident prevention can decline. In such a case, and with no system change or application of new solutions, a decrease in availability of funds can lead to a decline in safety level. To prevent such situation, solutions for assuring safe operation by spending less public funds or cost-optimisation should be identified.

The workshop on cost-effectiveness for major accident prevention will look into different systems adopted and discuss their costs for the state budget and their acceptance. The workshop will also attempt to identify unnecessary costs in assuring major accident prevention as well as look into case of failures of systems and costs such failures can create at the side of public authorities. Participants will be encouraged to formulate solution for influencing future developments for achieving better cost-effectiveness.

The workshop is organized under the auspices of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents and the Committee of the Competent Authorities responsible for the implementation of the Directive 96/82/EC (Seveso II). The Government of Poland, Chief Inspectorate of Environmental Protection and National Headquarters of the State Fire Service, offered to host the workshop.

This note provides information on the objectives, organization of work and logistics for the workshop.

II. Objectives and organization of work

The purpose of the workshop is to facilitate a dialogue at international level aimed at discussing different systems for assuring major accident prevention in view of their costs, in particular at the side of public authorities, and to identify opportunities and possible solutions for cost optimisation.

More specific objectives are as follows:

- (a) To signal potentially unnecessary costs in assuring major accident prevention;
- (b) To initiate discussion on possible solutions for cost optimisation; and
- (c) To formulate concrete solutions for influencing future developments for achieving better costs-effectiveness.

The workshop will be organized on 12 October 2011, under the leadership of the Government of Poland, with the support of the UNECE secretariat of the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents and the European Commission Directorate General for Environment. It will be held back to back with the 26th meeting of the Committee of Competent Authorities (CCA) responsible for the implementation of the Directive 96/82/EC (Seveso II).

The workshop is addressed to all those who are responsible for or involved in the process of implementing policies in the area of major accident prevention: first and foremost representatives of competent authorities, but also local authorities, representatives of academia, research institutes, non-governmental organizations and the private sector including representatives of chemical industry and insurance sector.

A provisional programme is to be issued at the beginning of September 2011.

III. Practical information

The workshop will start at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, 12 October, and should end at 5 p.m. of the same day. It will be held at the premises of Novotel Centrum Warszawa, 94/98 Marszałkowska street, Warsaw, Poland. The working languages will be English, French, German, Polish and Russian.

Registration

Participants invited to attend the 26th CCA meeting on 13 October 2011 are requested to register to the workshop using the Polish accreditation system established for the CCA meeting. For further information, please consult the accreditation guide available through the European Commission.

Other participants are requested to complete the registration form available at the Convention's website at <http://live.unece.org/index.php?id=25329> and return it to the secretariat to the address indicated on the registration form as soon as possible, **but not later than 16 September 2011.**

Focal points are requested to disseminate information on the workshop and to facilitate nomination of relevant experts from their respective countries.

Financial support

Participants from countries with economies in transition, particularly from the competent authorities of Parties to the Conventions who are eligible for financial support (see ECE/CP.TEIA/22, annex III) could receive such support to facilitate their participation in the workshop. Requests for financial support should be submitted to the UNECE secretariat as soon

as possible, **but not later than 9 September 2011**. The financial support request form is available at: <http://live.unece.org/index.php?id=25329>.

Visa

Participants requiring an entry visa should contact the nearest diplomatic representation of Poland. The Chief Inspectorate of Environmental Protection, at request, will provide participants with invitation letters.

Airport transfer

Participants are requested to arrange their own transfer from Warsaw Chopin Airport to the workshop's venue on arrival and back to the airport upon departure. Public transportation (the bus no. 175 circulates between the airport and the Novotel Centrum Warszawa) or taxi services are available. For more information consult <http://www.lotnisko-chopina.pl/en/passenger/access-and-car-parks/Public-transport>.

Hotel accommodation

A block booking has been done by the organizers at the hotel Novotel Centrum Warszawa, the venue of the meeting (<http://www.novotel.com/gb/hotel-3383-novotel-warszawa-centrum/index.shtml>). The rates start from 549 PLN +8% VAT for one night in single standard room (approximately 150 Euro) to 709 PLN + 8% VAT for one night in double superior room.

Participants who wish to stay at the Novotel Centrum Warszawa should complete the hotel form available at: <http://live.unece.org/index.php?id=25329> and return it directly to the hotel following the instructions contained in the form. For further information, including payment or confirmation of reservation by a credit card, participants are requested to contact directly the hotel.

Participants should note that the organizers do not guarantee the availability of rooms in the Novotel Centrum Warszawa outside the scheduled meeting dates and do not cover the costs of accommodation.

Other suggestions for hotel accommodations that are located in the vicinity of the workshop's venue include:

- Hotel Mercure Warszawa Grand:
- <http://www.accorhotels.com/pl/hotel-3384-mercure-warszawa-grand/index.shtml>
- Hotel Intercontinental: <http://warszawa.intercontinental.com>
- Hotel Bristol: <http://www.lemeridien.pl/>
- Hotel Campanile www.campanile-varsovie.pl
- Hotel Westin: www.westin.pl
- Hotel Sobieski: www.sobieski.com.pl
- Hotel MDM: www.hotelmdm.com.pl

Additional information:

For additional information, please contact:

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