



**UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

**UNECE CONVENTION ON THE TRANSBOUNDARY
EFFECTS OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS**

**Fourth Consultation for Points of Contact for the
Purpose of Accident Notification and Mutual
Assistance designated within the UNECE
Industrial Accident Notification System**

Zagreb, 25-26 March 2010

INFORMATION NOTICE FOR THE FOURTH CONSULTATION

I. Introduction

1. The Parties to the UNECE Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents, in accordance with its articles 10 and 12, have, inter alia, to provide for the establishment and operation of compatible and efficient industrial accident notification systems at appropriate levels to inform neighbouring countries and, if possible, to provide mutual assistance in the event of an industrial accident. Furthermore, in accordance with article 17, Parties have to designate or establish one point of contact for the purpose of industrial accident notification and one point of contact for the purpose of mutual assistance. These points of contact should preferably be the same.
2. Prompt and effective notification of potentially affected countries in the event of an industrial accident is crucial for their immediately activating adequate response measures. Therefore, the Conference of the Parties adopted the UNECE Industrial Accident Notification System (IAN System) for notification – at the national level through the points of contact – of a major accident which causes or is capable of causing transboundary effects. The Conference of the Parties also decided to enhance the communication procedure under the IAN System at its fourth meeting (Rome, 15–17 November 2006) and to develop a Web-based application to be used by points of contact for notification under the IAN System (ECE/CP.TEIA/15/Add.1, decision 2006/3). The web-based application was put in operation in 2008.
3. The Conference of the Parties also reiterated that regular consultations involving points of contact should be held, particularly to review the effectiveness of the IAN System as well as to organize training sessions for personnel. This activity is part of the workplan under the Convention (ECE/CP.TEIA/19, Annex I).

4. Croatia offered to organize the next consultation in Zagreb.
5. The consultation, prepared by a task force comprising members from Austria, Croatia, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Romania and Switzerland, will be the fourth opportunity for the points of contact to meet following the entry into force of the Convention and the adoption of the IAN System, as well as their first opportunity to discuss the effectiveness of the IAN System with the use of the Web-based application.
6. The Conference of the Parties and its Bureau recommended that personnel of points of contact from all Parties and other UNECE member countries should take an active part in this event.
7. The present document contains logistical information on the Fourth consultation for points of contact for the purpose of accident notification and mutual assistance designated within the IAN System.

II. Objectives

8. The key objectives are to provide a forum for:
 - (a) Reviewing the effectiveness of the UNECE IAN System on the basis of the communication tests and the analytical exercises conducted before the end of 2009;
 - (b) Discussing the effective use of IAN System alongside with other available notification systems; and
 - (c) Sharing experience and good practices regarding the procedures for delivery of reliable data from field to point of contact in course of emergency situation/industrial accident.

III. Dates and venue

9. The consultation will take place from 25 to 26 March 2010 in Zagreb, Croatia, at the invitation of the National Protection and Rescue Directorate and the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction of Croatia.
10. The session will be held at the Hotel ARISTOS, at the following address:

Cebini 33, Buzin
10010 ZAGREB
CROATIA

11. The consultation will be held under the auspices of the UNECE within the framework of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents.

IV. Organization of work of the consultation

12. The consultation will consist of three sessions.

Session I will be devoted to the discussion on how to further strengthen the effectiveness of UNECE IAN System taking into account the results of the communication tests and analytical exercises carried out using the IAN web-based application in the course of 2009.

In session II, points of contact will discuss the effective use of IAN System alongside other systems existing under other international agreements and used for notification of different emergencies¹. The points of contact will look for possible solutions aiming at effective use of the available systems at the same time streamlining their work.

Session III will comprise sharing of experience and good practices regarding the procedures for delivery of reliable data from field to point of contact in course of emergency situation/industrial accident.

13. A detailed provisional programme is contained in Annex I. It will be reproduced before the consultation and updated as necessary.

V. Working languages

14. The consultation will be conducted in both English and Russian.

VI. Participation

15. The consultation is open to experts from all UNECE member countries. Personnel working at the points of contact are particularly welcome and are encouraged to attend.

16. Personnel of points of contact from countries with economies in transition, in particular from Parties to the Convention, may be eligible to receive financial support (see ECE/CP.TEIA/19 Annex III) to participate in the consultation. Requests for financial support should be submitted together with the registration form to the Convention's secretariat as soon as possible, **but not later than 26 February 2010**. The financial support request form is available at: <http://www.unece.org/env/teia/welcome.html>.

VII. Registration of participants

17. Each participant should complete a registration form (available at: <http://www.unece.org/env/teia/welcome.html>) and return it to the Croatian organizers and the

¹ There can be cases when, in accordance with the different multilateral agreements, more than one of the existing notification systems should be used.

UNECE secretariat at the addresses indicated on the registration form as soon as possible, **but not later than 1 March 2010.**

VIII. Arrival of participants, transport and hotel accommodation

18. Airport transfer to/from Hotel ARISTOS can be arranged by Croatian organizers on 24 March (upon arrival) and 27 March (upon departure). Each participant wishing to benefit from the transfer should indicate it on the registration form providing clearly his/her times of arrival and departure to and from Zagreb. Participants traveling on other dates, or wishing to stay at other hotels can use taxi services available (e.g. taxi service offered by the hotel ARISTOS costs ca. € 14 for a ride) or Croatia airlines bus leaving the airport every half an hour ('00 and '30, ca € 4.2 for a ride).

19. Accommodation will be reserved by Croatian organizers for registered participants at the Hotel ARISTOS on the basis of the information provided in the registration form. A registration desk will be open to assist participants on 24 March from 2.00 p.m.

20. The cost of accommodation (per night/per person), including full board (breakfast, lunch and dinner) is approximately € 110. Participants staying at different hotels would be provided with lunch and dinner only at their own expenses.

IX. Visas

21. Participants requiring an entry visa should contact the nearest diplomatic representation of Croatia.

22. To facilitate the process of obtaining a visa, the National Protection and Rescue Directorate of Croatia will provide, upon request, participants requiring visas with a personal invitation letter. Contact person is Mr. Marijan Bajt, tel. +385 1 4814 911 or +385 1 4551792, mob. +385 91 1121 119, fax. +385 1 3855 989 or +385 1 4920 384, e-mail: dc112@duzs.hr.

Annex I**Provisional agenda***Thursday, 25 March*

9:30-10:00	Opening
	Chairman, <i>representative of Croatia</i>
9:30-9:45	Welcoming statement – <i>representatives of Croatia</i>
9:45-10:00	Welcoming statement and introduction to the training by <i>representative of UNECE secretariat</i>
10:00-16:40	SESSION I – Effectiveness of UNECE Industrial Accidents Notification System
10:00-10:30	Statistics of the communication tests, Mr. Lukasz Wyrowski, <i>UNECE secretariat</i>
10:30-11:00	Results of an analytical exercise carried out by Croatia with notification to Slovenia – Mr. Marijan Bajt, <i>National Protection and Rescue Directorate, Croatia</i>
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-12:00	Results of an analytical exercise carried out by Switzerland with notification to Germany and France – Mr. Dominique Rauber, <i>National Emergency Operations Centre, Switzerland</i>
12:00-12:30	Results in testing notification using the UNECE IAN System during an in-field exercise on the Danube River between Bulgaria, Romania and Serbia – Mr. Pavle Pavkovic, <i>Ministry of Defense of Serbia</i> , Mr. Francisc Senzaconi, <i>General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations of Romania</i>
12:30 -14:00	Lunch

14:00-15:30	Discussion on the results of the exercises, agreement by PoCs on their recommendations to CoP-6 on enhancing the effectiveness of IAN System and on testing policies
15:30-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-16:30	Conduct of the exercises to revise contingency planning – <i>representative of International Safety Research Inc</i>
16:30-16:40	Wrap-up of the first day
16:40	Closing of the first day of the consultation
17:00	Excursion to old town of Zagreb (approx. 3 hours)
20:00	Official dinner

Friday, 26 March

9:30-12:40	SESSION II Effective use of the different notification systems
9:30-10:00	Problems in notifications – obligations for use of several notification systems in an event of emergency situation – Mr. Christian Krol, <i>Federal Alarm Centre of the Federal Ministry of Interior of Austria</i>
10:00-10:30	Information exchange system in the scope of nuclear and radiological incidents, data format used in the exchange of information – network concept, Mr. Gerhard de Vries, <i>Joint Research Centre of European Commission</i>
10:30-11:00	Benefits of standardization in data format for countries like the Netherlands operating national and international notifications systems and benefits for countries using only systems available internationally, Mr. Ruud de Krom, <i>Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment of the Netherlands</i>
11:00-11:30	Coffee break

11:30-12:30	Discussion leading to an agreement by PoCs on their recommendations to CoP-6 on a possible way forward in notification – moderator Mr. Ruud de Krom
12:30-12:40	Wrap up
12:40 -14:00	Lunch
14:00-17:00	Session III Sharing of good practice on procedures for delivering reliable data to points of contact for international notification
14:00-14:30	Croatian practice, <i>representative of Croatia</i>
14:30-15:00	French practice, <i>representative of France</i>
15:00-15:30	Ukrainian practice, <i>representative of Ukraine</i>
15:30-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-16:45	Discussion
16:45-17:00	Wrap up of the session III and the fourth consultation
17:00	Closing of the fourth consultation
18:00	Dinner
