



# **Results of electronic consultation of the points of contact (ECE/CP.TEIA/B/2012/INF.3)**

## **ITEM 12. UNECE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS NOTIFICATION SYSTEM**



# **Decision of COP-6**

**The Conference of the Parties, at its sixth meeting:**

- **acknowledged the efforts of the points of contact aimed at strengthening effectiveness of IAN System, and of notification in general**
- **requested the points of contact to perform recommended testing & exercises, and to discuss results at next consultation**
- **invited the points of contact to report on their work at COP-7**



# **Bureau request**

**Bureau and Working Group on Implementation requested secretariat to invite representatives of points of contact to hold an electronic consultation to brainstorm on future of IAN System and formulate recommendations for consideration by COP-7**

**Secretariat also decided to carry out a communications test**



# Questionnaire

- **Exercises using IAN System**
  - 2 in 2012; 1 in 2011; 1 in 2010; 3 in 2009; 1 in 2005
- **Difficulties**
  - Lack of use or need; technical limitations; broader problems, e.g. inadequate English skills
- **Numerous other systems for early warning**
- **Need exercises and training**
- **Future?**
  - Adequate (>5) – keep it simple; merge with other systems; address other accidents; close down (1) or discuss; improve



**11 June 2012 at 07:17 UTC**

## **Communications exercise**

- **31 Parties identified in IAN System (8 not)**
- **But 8 of these Parties did not access System when notified**
- **3 non-party States in IAN System (only 1 reacted, 27 hrs late)**
- **23 Parties accessed System within between 4 and 315 minutes (16 Parties in under 30 minutes)**

**System difficulties: Administrator access no longer functions following UNECE website migration in 2011, so difficult to register users, etc.**



## Possible actions to strengthen the mechanism for notification

- Bureau or secretariat could contact each Party to insist on respect of obligation to identify point of contact, and to provide official contact details of body operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Secretariat could repeat communications exercise at weekend or night, without announcing exact date. Exercises could be repeated periodically
- IAN System could be repaired to provide administrator access – *may require funding of a consultant*
- Inadequacies in IAN System could be corrected – *would require funding of a consultant*
- IAN System could be upgraded in line with some proposals made in replies to questionnaire – *would require funding of a consultant*
- Meeting of points of contact could be held – *would require funding*