

Joint Expert Group

REPORT ON THE PROGRESS ON DRAFTING A GUIDELINE FOR CONTINGENCY PLANNING AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATERS



Péter Kovács

*Deputy Under-Secretary
for Water Management*

*Ministry of Rural Development
Hungary*



Francisc Senzaconi

*Head of Department
Disaster Prevention*

*General Inspectorate for
Emergency Situations
Romania*



CONSEQUENCES OF ACCIDENTS



Even a small amounts of hazardous substances released into water environment can cause huge environmental damages, as the impact is far-reaching and often transboundary...

THE JOINT EXPERT GROUP (JEG)



JEG was established under the “Water”- and the “Industrial Accidents”-Conventions to work on issues related to the prevention of accidental water pollution which is of interest to both Conventions.

Co-Chairmanship:
“Water”Convention + “Industrial Accident” Convention

CURRENT JEG CORE GROUP PARTICIPANTS

- **Co-chairs: Hungary and Romania**
- **Experts: Czech Republic, Kazakhstan, Republic of Moldova, Sweden**
- **UNECE TEIA Secretariat, Water Convention Secretariat**
- **Project consultant**

BASIS FOR CURRENT JEG ACTIVITIES

■ **Current Strategy for the JEG**

- prepared by the co-chairmens of the JEG in consultation with the Bureaux of the Water Convention and of the Industrial Accidents Convention in June 2009
- endorsed by the Meeting of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes in Geneva, 10-12 November 2009

■ **Mission of JEG**

- assistance in organising exercises, workshops, seminars and conferences
- drawing up training materials
- drafting specific guidelines on good practices and recommendations

BASIS FOR CURRENT JEG ACTIVITIES



German-Polish field exercise on the Odra River combined with the technical workshop on joint management of transboundary emergencies involving international water paths, Urad and Slubice 8 - 10 September 2009.

Recommendation:

A sound methodology for building an effective crisis management system focusing on transboundary emergencies with effects on watercourses should be developed!

CURRENT TASK OF JEG

- To draw up a checklist/methodology for contingency planning in transboundary context for application to transboundary waters
 - Requested by the countries,
 - Based on a questionnaire,
 - Approved by both Bureaux

CURRENT TASK OF JEG

- The checklist/methodology should be based on existing methodologies for elaboration of contingency plans and on good practices available as well as address common challenges.
- A 7 steps plan was dawn up and put into practice in order to a better coordination and time fitted work.
- Now we are in step 5 – finalization of the draft version for testing in a project.

THE TIMEFRAME FOR THE FINALIZATION OF THE WORK

- **End of November – establishing a pool of experts for the final contribution to the guidelines**
- **31 January 2013 - deadline for experts to provide their input**
- **February-March 2013 - consultant working on revising the draft**
- **Late March 2013 - meeting of the JEG members and identified technical experts hosted by Hungary (around 15 experts plus consultant and the secretariat)**

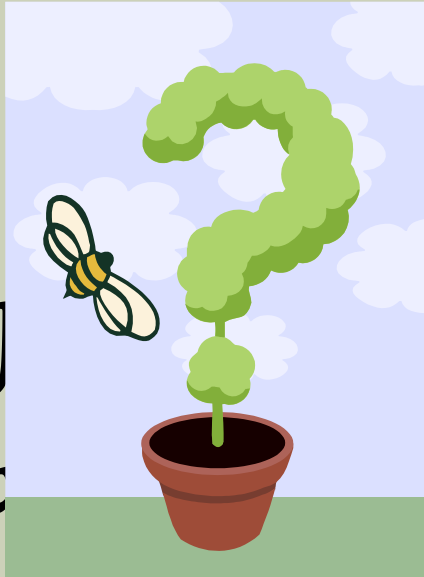
THE CONTENT OF THE VERSION 0.6 OF THE GUIDELINE

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Principles for crisis management and contingency planning in the context of transboundary waters**
- 3. Recommendations**
 - 3.1. Recommendations to UNECE member countries**
 - 3.2. Recommendations to competent authorities**
 - 3.3. Recommendations to operators of hazardous activities**
- 4. ANNEX**

THE CONTENT OF THE VERSION 0.6 OF THE GUIDELINE

- **The document is build in the form of guidelines**
- **No case studies are included in the second part of the Guidelines**
- **A checklist might be included in the annex as an example**

THANK YOU FOR ATTENTION!



■ J encourage the Parties to nominate
e: contributing to the finalization
of the Guidelines

