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**ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE  
JOINT MEETING OF THE CHEMICALS COMMITTEE AND  
THE WORKING PARTY ON CHEMICALS, PESTICIDES AND BIOTECHNOLOGY**

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**OECD SERIES ON CHEMICAL ACCIDENTS  
Number 12**

**Report of the Workshop on Communication related to Chemical Releases Caused by Deliberate Acts,  
Rome, Italy, 25 – 27 June 2003**

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OECD Environment, Health and Safety Publications

Series on Chemical Accidents

No. 12

**Report of the Workshop on Communication related to Chemical  
Releases Caused by Deliberate Acts**

Rome, Italy, 25 – 27 June 2003

Environment Directorate  
ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
Paris, 2004

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*Health Aspects of Chemical Accidents: Guidance on Chemical Accident Awareness, Preparedness and Response for Health Professionals and Emergency Responders* (1994)  
[prepared as a joint publication with IPCS, UNEP-IE and WHO-ECEH]

*Guidance Concerning Health Aspects of Chemical Accidents. For Use in the Establishment of Programmes and Policies Related to Prevention of, Preparedness for, and Response to Accidents Involving Hazardous Substances* (1996)

*Report of the OECD Workshop on Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in Relation to Chemical Accident Prevention, Preparedness and Response* (1995)

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*Internet Publication, Report of CCPS/OECD Conference and Workshop on Chemical Accidents Investigations* (2002)

*Special Publication, International Directory of Emergency Response Centres for Chemical Accidents* (2002, revision of 1<sup>st</sup> edition published in 1992)

*No. 10, Guiding Principles for Chemical Accident Prevention, Preparedness and Response: Guidance for Industry (including Management and Labour), Public Authorities, Communities and other Stakeholders* (2003, revision of 1<sup>st</sup> edition published in 1992)

*No. 11, Guidance on Safety Performance Indicators, A Companion to the OECD Guiding Principles for Chemical Accident Prevention, Preparedness and Response: Guidance for Industry, Public Authorities and Communities for developing SPI Programmes related to Chemical Accident Prevention, Preparedness and Response* (Interim Publication scheduled to be tested in 2003-2004 and revised in 2005) (2003)

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## About the OECD

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) is an intergovernmental organisation in which representatives of 30 industrialised countries in North America, Europe and the Pacific, as well as the European Commission, meet to co-ordinate and harmonise policies, discuss issues of mutual concern, and work together to respond to international problems. Most of the OECD's work is carried out by more than 200 specialised Committees and subsidiary groups made up of Member country delegates. Observers from several countries with special status at the OECD, and from interested international organisations, attend many of the OECD's Workshops and other meetings. Committees and subsidiary groups are served by the OECD Secretariat, located in Paris, France, which is organised into Directorates and Divisions.

The work of the OECD related to chemical accident prevention, preparedness and response is carried out by the Working Group (formerly Expert Group) on Chemical Accidents, with Secretariat support from the Environment, Health and Safety Division of the Environment Directorate. The objectives of the Chemical Accidents Programme include exchange of information and experience, analysis of specific issues of mutual concern in Member countries, and development of guidance materials related to chemical accident prevention, preparedness and response. As a contribution to meeting these objectives, over a dozen Workshops have been held since 1989.

As part of its work on chemical accidents, the OECD has issued several Council Decisions and Recommendations (the former legally binding on Member countries), as well as numerous Guidance Documents and technical reports (see partial list on page 5 and 6). Publications include the OECD's *Guiding Principles for Chemical Accident Prevention, Preparedness and Response*; *Guidance Concerning Chemical Safety in Port Areas* (a joint effort with the IMO); *Guidance Concerning Health Aspects of Chemical Accidents*; the joint IPCS/OECD/UNEP/WHO publication, *Health Aspects of Chemical Accidents*; and the joint OECD/UNEP *International Directory of Emergency Response Centres* (currently being revised by the OECD, UNEP-TIE and the Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit).

The Environment, Health and Safety Division produces publications in seven series: **Testing and Assessment**; **Good Laboratory Practice and Compliance Monitoring**; **Emission Scenario Documents, Pesticides**; **Risk Management**; **Harmonisation of Regulatory Oversight in Biotechnology**; and **Chemical Accidents**. More information about the Environment, Health and Safety Programme and EHS publications is available on the OECD's web page.

*This publication was produced within the framework of the Inter-Organisation Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC).*

**This report is available electronically, at no charge.**

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**The Inter-Organisation Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) was established in 1995 by UNEP, ILO, FAO, WHO, UNIDO and the OECD (the Participating Organisations), following recommendations made by the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development to strengthen co-operation and increase international co-ordination in the field of chemical safety. UNITAR joined the IOMC in 1997 to become the seventh Participating Organisation. The purpose of the IOMC is to promote co-ordination of the policies and activities pursued by the Participating Organisations, jointly or separately, to achieve the sound management of chemicals in relation to human health and the environment.**

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## FOREWARD

This report presents the main output of the Workshop on Communication related to Chemical Releases Caused by Deliberate Acts, which took place in Rome, Italy, on 25-27 June 2003. The workshop was co-sponsored by seven international organisations: the *OECD* (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development), the *NATO* (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation), the *OPCW* (Organisation for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons), REMPEC (Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Centre for the Mediterranean Sea)/*UNEP-IMO* (UN International Maritime Organisation), the *UN-ECE* (UN Economic Commission for Europe), *UNEP* (UN Environment Programme), and the *WHO* (World Health Organization). The workshop was hosted by the 'Fire Fighters, Public Rescue and Civil Defence Department' of the Italy Ministry of Interior.

50 experts representing nine member countries, one non-OECD country, and the sponsor organisations, as well as a number of observers invited by the host country, attended the Workshop. Participants came from government, industry, academia, international organisations and other non-governmental organisations (see List of Participants in [Annex 2](#)).

The objective of the Workshop was to exchange experience and solutions regarding policies in connection with public information in the context of deliberate chemical threats and explore the potential conflict between transparency and increased risk.

The Workshop included sessions on: (i) Community right-to-know *versus* information security; (ii) Public/private communication partnerships; (iii) Chemical facilities security: Communication challenges; (iv) Crisis communication; and (v) Capacity building (see Workshop Agenda in [Annex 1](#)).

The OECD Working Group on chemical Accidents recommended that this report be forwarded to the Joint Meeting of the Chemical committee and Working Party on chemicals, Pesticides and Biotechnology, for consideration as an OECD publication. The Joint Meeting agreed that it should be made available to the public. It is published under the authority of the Secretary-General of the OECD.

## WORKSHOP REPORT

### Introduction

A Workshop on “Communication Related to Chemical Releases Caused by Deliberate Acts”, was organised within the context of the IOMC Co-ordinating Group on Chemical Accidents<sup>1</sup>. This Workshop was a part of the activity on “Counter-terrorism: New security risks related to chemicals”. The OECD had the lead in organising the Workshop<sup>2</sup>.

This event was co-sponsored by seven international organisations: the *NATO* (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation), the *OECD* (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development), the *OPCW* (Organisation for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons), *REMPEC* (Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Centre for the Mediterranean Sea)/*UNEP-IMO* (UN International Maritime Organisation), the *UN-ECE* (UN Economic Commission for Europe), *UNEP* (UN Environment Programme), and the *WHO* (World Health Organization).

The Workshop was hosted by the “Fire Fighters, Public Rescue and Civil Defence Department” of the Ministry of Interior in Italy. It took place on 25 – 27 June 2003, at the “Istituto Superiore Antincendi” (ISA), Rome, Italy.

The Workshop was chaired by *Debbie Dietrich*, Director of Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office (CEPPO), EPA, US. In addition, every session had a chair person (see the name of session chairs in the Workshop Agenda in Annex 1 to the report).

### Why a Communication Workshop?

In light of terrorism events of September 2001, public authorities, industry, and communities are undertaking further efforts to prevent and prepare for possible terrorist events involving chemical (as well as other) substances, to protect public health and the environment from the consequences of such events.

A meeting of the IOMC Co-ordinating Group on Chemical Accidents (CGCA) was held in Geneva, in June 2002, on “*Counter-terrorism: New Security Risks Related to Chemicals*”. One of the recommendations of this meeting was that a workshop should be organised related to risk communication and public information. It was further agreed that the workshop should be co-sponsored by interested international organisations. The OECD, as current Secretariat for the CGCA, was tasked with taking the lead in organising the Workshop.

The CGCA meeting identified issues that are unique to situations where a chemical incident is caused by deliberate act and concluded that one of the most pressing issues relates to communication with the public. For example, in many countries there is an on-going debate concerning the importance, on the one hand, of providing information to the public (and to other countries), and on the other hand, the need to maintain security of any information that might facilitate terrorist acts.

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<sup>1</sup> The Inter-Organisation Programme for the Sound Management of Chemicals (IOMC) is composed of seven international organisations: UNEP, ILO, FAO, WHO, UNIDO, UNITAR and OECD. The IOMC Co-ordinating Group on Chemical Accidents (CGCA) includes other organisations interested in the subject, including the UN ECE, REMPEC, OPCW and NATO, as well as representatives of industry, labour, environmental groups and national authorities.

<sup>2</sup> The OECD is the Secretariat to the IOMC Co-ordinating Group on Chemical Accidents.

The CGCA meeting also noted that one goal of terrorist activities is to cause panic and disrupt systems; risk communication is a critical component of addressing this. It was recognised there is obviously a conflict between more transparency to reassure the public, and confidentiality to ensure site security. In addition, it was pointed out that in the “Internet age”, withholding of official information only encourages the dissemination of incorrect or incomplete information from unofficial sources. In a related matter, it was suggested that the need for risk-related information concerning hazardous installations diminishes if the installation increases its level of inherent safety.

## **Objectives and Scope**

The objectives of the Workshop were to:

- Exchange experience and solutions regarding policies, programmes and tools in connection with risk communication and public information related to chemical threats as the result of deliberate acts (in order to minimise the risks of chemical incidents and to mitigate adverse effects to health and the environment should an incident occur);
- Identify the elements of risk communication that are different in the context of terrorist acts, as compared to risk communication related to chemical safety in general;
- Explore the potential conflict between transparency and increased risk, i.e. the need to provide information to the public concerning possible risks in a community (both before and after possible incidents), versus the need to limit public dissemination of information that might increase those risks by facilitating terrorist attacks;
- Discuss the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders;
- Address issues related to the exchange of information between countries concerning potential and actual trans-boundary incidents;
- Begin development of guidance on effective policies and practices, including consideration of the nature of information that should be shared, the audiences for such information, and who should be responsible for providing information; and
- Identify issues that could benefit from further exploration in a national or international context.

The scope of the Workshop included sabotage and attacks against hazardous installations (production/storage) or transport facilities, as well as the deliberate release of hazardous chemical substances in a way that could harm human health or the environment (effectively becoming chemical weapons).

## **Survey of existing policies, tools and programmes**

A questionnaire was developed to establish an inventory of existing policies, tools or programmes related to the provision of information to the public associated with risks to the public from releases of chemical substances. The survey questionnaire was circulated in February 2003. A two-month period was allocated for responses back. Any agency or organisation with relevant information was encouraged to respond to the questionnaire.

Responses to questionnaire were received from Canada, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the OPCW; the United States provided the following two documents: (1) Assessment of the increased risk of terrorist or other criminal activity associated with posting off-site consequence analysis information on the Internet – Department of Justice, April 18, 2000; (2) Assessment

of incentives created by public disclosure of off-site consequence analysis information for reduction in the risk of accidental releases – US Environmental Protection Agency-CEPPO, April 18, 2000.

## **Workshop Programme and Participation**

A workshop programme was prepared by a Planning Committee, consisting of representatives of sponsor organisations as well as several countries. The Workshop agenda is presented in [Annex 1](#).

The Workshop consisted of the following six sessions:

### ***Session I – Community Right-to-Know versus Information Security***

The purpose of this session was to explore the tension relating to provision of information to the public concerning hazardous installations. On the one hand, making information available about risks in the community could help reduce likelihood of accidents as well as help the public understand how to react appropriately should there be a release of hazardous chemicals. On the other hand, there is a concern that providing information to the public may also provide terrorists with information they could use to help plan or carry out terrorist attacks.

### ***Session II – Public/Private Communication Partnerships***

This session examined partnerships among government, non-governmental organisations and the chemical industry to assist in the dissemination of information relevant to chemical security. The session explored models for working partnerships that can be used to share chemical security preparedness, threat and emergency information.

### ***Session III – Chemical Facilities Security: Communication Challenges***

This session explored broad approaches to facility security in order to prevent deliberate acts (such as workplace violence, vandalism, sabotage and attacks of terrorists) that might compromise the safety of sites/installations. The session provided an opportunity for participants to discuss vulnerabilities assessment methodologies and present tools, methods, guidelines and practices to demonstrate how a site security can prevent deliberate releases of hazardous substances. The challenges related to internal communications (within a hazardous installation) were also considered, as well as what information should be communicated to the public and to public authorities.

### ***Session IV – Crisis Communication***

The purpose of the session was to explore ways of effective risk communication in crises involving the release of chemicals caused by deliberate acts. Risk communication has become a key responsibility of response personnel, including public health professionals, in a crisis. The media, political decision-makers, and the general public expect timely and quality information from experts. While a crisis is by its nature difficult to predict, effective communications can be planned in advance. This session provided an opportunity for participants to discuss how to deliver a message in a crisis in order to inform the public and key decision-makers, focus attention on the issues at hand, reduce panic, and provide valuable consensus building. Participants were asked to consider how experience with risk communication for chemical accidents can be applied in the context of chemical releases caused by deliberate acts. In particular, this session provided an opportunity to consider any differences in communication requirements for accidents and for releases due to deliberate acts (e.g., in defining the appropriate target audiences, involvement of different stakeholder groups, and the nature of the adverse impacts including possible psychological aspects).

***Session V – Capacity Building***

The purpose of the session was to explore capacity building needs for effective response to chemical releases caused by deliberate acts, with a focus on capacity building for response personnel including medical and public health officials. (It was also addressed training of industry to improve prevention of, preparedness for, and response to deliberate acts resulting in the release of chemicals, as well as the role of the media in crises involving chemical releases). The session discussed relevant experience in capacity building and training tools that are available, as well as future training needs and tools that should be developed. In this regard, the session provided an opportunity to review experience related to capacity building for prevention of, preparedness for and response to chemical accidents, as well as experience in other relevant fields. Finally, the session provided an opportunity to explore issues such as risk perception, management and communication in order to strengthen all stakeholder roles in both developed and developing countries.

***Session VI – Discussion session: Basis for developing guidance on risk communication and public information related to chemical releases caused deliberately***

This session provided participants with an opportunity to discuss issues raised during earlier sessions and to review discussions in the context of the Workshop objectives. The purpose of the session was also to establish a basis for developing guidance on risk communication and public information related to deliberate chemical threats.

50 experts participated in the workshop, representing nine member countries, one non-OECD country, the sponsor organisations, the European Commission, NGOs, IGOs, industrial organisations, and other stakeholders (see list of participants in [Annex 2](#)). The workshop was attended by representatives of a wide range of interested parties including:

- Governments; e.g. ministries responsible for public health, the environment, civil protection/defence, labour safety, industry;
- International organisations interested in the subject; e.g., those involved in technological and chemical accidents/disasters, chemical weapons, security of industrial installations and emergency planning and response, including the sponsoring organisations and others;
- Industry, chemical industry associations, individual companies, etc.;
- Other non-governmental organisations; e.g., environmental groups, community-based committees, etc.

70 observers attended the workshop, at the invitation of the Italian Interior Ministry.

**Output of the Workshop**

The Workshop generated a series of conclusions (see further section on “Conclusions and Issues”) that could serve as the basis of guidance on risk communication and provision of information to the public related to deliberate chemical threats. These conclusions will be discussed by the OECD Working Group on Chemical Accidents (WGCA)<sup>3</sup> at their 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting on 5-7 November 2003 (OECD, Paris). The WGCA will decide whether a group of experts should be established to draft a Guidance Document on risk communication and public information related to chemical releases caused deliberately

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<sup>3</sup> The Working Group on Chemical Accidents (WGCA) is composed of representatives of OECD member countries, the European Commission, the Business and Advisory Committee to the OECD (BIAC), the Trade-Union's Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC), NGOs and IGOs. The WGCA manages the OECD Programme on Chemical Accidents; it meets once a year, in Paris.

(see note below). This document would provide guidance on the nature of information to share, the audiences for such information, and who should be responsible for providing information.

Note: At its 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting in November 2003, the Working Group on Chemical Accidents decided not to pursue this project.

The present report presents the main output of the Workshop. The conclusions and recommendations which follow, were drafted by the rapporteurs for the Workshop and do not represent a consensus of the participants in the workshop. Following the usual declassification procedure, the Workshop report will be published as OECD Environmental Health and Safety Publication, in the series on Chemical Accidents (No. 12).

## **Conclusions and Issues**

### ***General conclusions***

1. In light of the September 11, 2001 attacks and the related new threat situation, there is a risk of deliberate acts causing releases of hazardous chemicals.
2. Both the state as the guarantor of public safety, and the operators of chemical facilities and transportation modalities, have duties with regard to preventive measures. This calls for additional activities by both parties.
3. Countries should take precautionary and preventive measures to prevent terrorism, to impede or prevent external terrorist attacks or entry by force into establishments, and to ensure that the possible effects of deliberate acts are considered in emergency plans and made aware to emergency first responders.
4. Governments should increasingly share chemical security information among nations and between different levels and agencies of government, particularly those with responsibility for foreign and domestic intelligence and for preparedness and response.
5. Operators should protect their facilities and transportation modalities with the goal of preventing hostile persons from causing a major accident.
6. Operators and governments should communicate appropriately with the public about the possible effects of chemical releases caused by deliberate acts. Decisions on the management of the related risks should be made transparent to the public in ways that do not increase those risks. Public input in those management decisions will reduce risks.
7. Countries should assist each other to improve their capacities for detection, decontamination and destruction of biological and chemical agents, and for providing related medical treatment.

### ***Conclusions and observations from Session I***

1. As a general rule, society benefits when information about the risks posed by chemical operations is shared broadly.
2. However, there is a concern that some security related information may increase risks if released broadly.

3. The fundamental question is whether a particular form of disclosure of a particular kind of information about some chemical operations would, overall, reduce or increase the risk posed by those operations.
4. Authorities should establish processes for making such determinations, whether generically or for single cases.
5. The processes should balance the expected gain in security against the expected losses, like limitation of democratic rights, loss of safety and transparency gained by risk communication.
6. In doing so, authorities may benefit by considering the examples of other authorities that have previously established such processes, such as the U.S. experience regarding Risk Management Plans, the ongoing Dutch experience with its register for risk situations involving hazardous substances and the recommendations of the German Hazardous Incidents Commission.
7. Authorities should ensure that the processes they establish include persons competent in assessing the potentials both for risks to be reduced, and to be increased, by the proposed disclosure.

#### ***Conclusions and observations from Session II***

1. The participants agreed that partnerships among government, non-governmental organizations, and the chemical industry are essential to enhance environmental security and improve capacity to prevent, detect, and mitigate deliberate acts intended to create chemical releases.
2. They noted the value of public right to know laws, and the dissemination of information relevant to chemical security, as an important component of public/private partnerships to achieve safer and more secure facilities. At the same time, participants agreed that a balance should be achieved between providing meaningful information relevant to community security and providing information too broadly in ways that may assist would-be attackers.
3. Enterprises conducting chemical operations should establish effective communication channels with relevant public authorities at all levels of government, including those responsible for emergency preparedness and response, domestic security, and public health and safety.
4. Participants recognized that chemical security entails not just site security. Security for chemical facilities necessarily extends to the management of chemicals from supply chain to the environmentally sound disposal of hazardous wastes, and includes secure operations, information systems, health, safety and emergency response regimes.
5. In addition to physical security measures, facilities should consider environmental management regimes which reduce risks and pollution, incorporate security measures, and integrate communications in these areas with secure communication to emergency responders and other agencies, where feasible.
6. Direct communication with the public should be planned, coordinated, and designed to be effective to the entire community at risk. Emergency response plans should be updated to include scenarios for intentional acts. Facilities and government authorities should ensure that they are implemented. Training and practical exercises are recommended.

*Conclusions and observations from Session III*

1. It is basically possible for attacks on an establishment to be mounted by external or internal offenders.
2. If major accidents can be prevented by safer technology this will reduce security risks.
3. Under the new threat situation it is necessary to impede and detect ingress by unauthorised persons into the relevant establishment. The perimeters of establishments – or if appropriate the common perimeter in the case of industrial complexes – must be secured by technical and organisational means to ensure that unauthorised persons cannot gain access without using force. This should include effective fences kept under surveillance, organisation of gate controls and patrols, etc.
4. Non-site personnel should be kept identifiable. Visitors and external companies must be monitored appropriately.
5. Industrial complexes (especially chemical parks) place special demands on security measures because of the large number of legally independent operators. As a rule, the vulnerability of hazardous installations can only be minimised by means of a coordinated security system (common site fence and security personnel).
6. Employees must be made aware of the need to secure the establishment, and must be involved.
7. It may be necessary to take additional measures to protect installations or parts thereof that are especially hazardous or at risk from terrorist attacks from interference by unauthorised persons. The measures to be taken are to be derived from a systematic approach (Security Analysis), for which different methodological approaches exist.
8. Much of the information necessary for assessment of the security risk situation by the operators and the authorities is already available under the provisions on the safety report according to the EU Seveso II Directive. The Security Analysis may be a part of the overall Safety Report according to the EU Seveso-II-Directive.
9. Countries should take precautionary and preventive measures to impede or prevent external terrorist attacks or entry by force into establishments. The necessary resources for this purpose must be made available even in times of limited budgets.
10. The measures taken by the state and by the operator should be in keeping with the nature and extent of the security risk.
11. Among the most vulnerable points in the chemical supply chain involve transportation of chemicals through seaports, by ships, on railways, on roads, and through pipelines. Government agencies and industry should focus their collaborative security efforts on inter-modal transportation, and in particular, ports and terminals where chemicals and fuels may be instruments of attacking critical infrastructures. Governments should foster collaboration among the many agencies and authorities that have information, data, and intelligence that are relevant to detect suspect shipments, consistent with IMO recommendations and those in reports on crime and security in seaports.
12. Since total protection can never be guaranteed, external emergency measures have a particularly important role to play. The competent authorities in this sector must receive the necessary



information from the operators and must take the measures within their sphere of responsibility without delay.

#### ***Conclusions and observations from Session IV***

1. The manner, content and delivery of information to the public at the time of a deliberate act using chemicals will influence the ability of the public to act properly in minimizing the health impact (including psychological effects).
2. Countries need to prepare crisis communication plans, and these plans should “expect the unexpected” and should be evaluated.
3. Countries should develop formal risk and crisis communication plans that clearly identify roles, responsibilities, training needs, competencies, and procedures, also taking into account the unexpected (with the assistance of international organizations).
4. Countries should develop back-up plans, back-up facilities, back-up procedures, and back-up personnel plans.
5. Countries should develop and undertake tabletop, role play, and simulation exercises that test crisis communication capabilities *vis-à-vis* the public and media.

#### ***Conclusions and observations from Session V***

1. Countries face the need to strengthen the competencies and capabilities in health communication of those involved in emergency response, especially with regard to deliberate acts.
2. The ability of countries to detect deliberate acts early, for example in the case of “silent release,” and to timely respond to such acts, depends in part upon a well developed public health infrastructure.
3. Countries, with the assistance of international organizations, should train those involved in responding to deliberate chemical releases in the principles of health risk communication. Materials should be developed to strengthen the capacities of a range of professionals, including public health professionals, emergency responders, medical professionals and others.
4. In order to strengthen the information basis for risk communication, countries (together with international organizations, where appropriate) should improve their capabilities regarding surveillance, early detection, and epidemiological investigation of chemical incidents caused by deliberate acts.

#### ***Conclusions and observations from Session VI - Basis for Guidance***

The Workshop reviewed the work of the rapporteurs summarizing the conclusions of the previous sessions. Participants identified areas for further work concerning risk communication and provision of information to the public in the context of deliberate chemical threats. The final set of conclusions could serve as the basis of guidance to provide concrete recommendations on the nature of information to share, the audiences for such information, and who should be responsible for providing information.

ANNEX 1

**Workshop on Communication related to  
Chemical Releases Caused by Deliberate Acts**

*Rome, 25–27 June 2003*

AGENDA

<b>Wednesday 25 June 2003</b>
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<b>9:00 – 10:00</b>	<b>REGISTRATION</b> Distribution of badges
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<b>10:00 – 11:30</b>	<b>OPENING SESSION</b> Welcome and Introduction	[Duration: ≤1h30]
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**Welcoming addresses**

Host country: *Francesco Paolo Palmeri*, Civil Defense and Civil Protection,  
[10-15 min] Ministry of Interior, Italy

*Guido Parisi*, ISA, Italy

Sponsor organisations: [total: ≤ 1h]	OECD	<i>Rob Visser</i>	[15-20 min]
	NATO	<i>Carsten Fausboll</i>	[≤ 5 min]
	REMPEC/IMO	<i>Elias Sampatakakis</i>	[≤ 5 min]
	OPCW	<i>Sukanya Devarajan</i>	[≤ 5 min]
	UN ECE	<i>Jeremy Wates</i>	[≤ 5 min]
	UNEP		
	WHO	<i>Kersten Gutschmidt</i>	[≤ 5 min]

**Introduction**

[10 min] *Debbie Dietrich*, US EPA, Workshop Chair  
Workshop Objectives

[15-20 min] *Marie-Chantal Huet*, OECD Secretariat

- (i) Workshop Agenda
- (ii) Survey on existing policies and programmes used for public information related to deliberate chemical threats

**11:30 – 15:30 SESSION I** [Duration: ≥ 2h30]  
**Community Right-to-Know *versus* Information Security**

*Please note that the lunch break will begin at 13H00*

**Session Chair:** *Giancarlo Ludovisi*, ISPESL, Italy

The purpose of this session is to explore the tension relating to provision of information to the public concerning hazardous installations. On the one hand, making information available about risks in the community could help reduce likelihood of accidents as well as help the public understand how to react appropriately should there be a release of hazardous chemicals. On the other hand, there is a concern that providing information to the public may also provide terrorists with information they could use to help plan or carry out terrorist attacks.

Presentations:

- *Jeremy Wates*, UN ECE  
"The UN ECE Convention and the PRTR protocol"
- *Roland Fendler*, UBA, Germany  
"Germany's regulations on confidentiality of information"
- *Kathy Jones*, EPA, USA  
"Communication and chemical safety"
- *Giancarlo Ludovisi*, ISPESL, Italy  
"Management of emergencies due to deliberate acts"
- *Cees Braams*, Ministry of Housing, Planning and the Environment, The Netherlands  
"The new Dutch register for risk-situations involving hazardous substances"
- *Apostolos Paralikas*, European Environmental Bureau (EEB)  
"Community right-to-know – Protecting the public and reducing the threat: A win-win situation"

**13:00 – 14:30 LUNCH**

**14:30 – 15:30 SESSION I (continued)**  
**Community Right-to-Know *versus* Information Security**

Continuation of Session I

*Please note that a 30-minute coffee break will be taken at end of Session I, at 15H30*

**16:00 – 18:00 SESSION II**  
**Public/Private Communication Partnerships**

[duration: ≤ 2h]

**Session Chair:** *Michael Penders*, President of Environmental Security International, USA

This session will examine partnerships among government, non-governmental organisations and the chemical industry to assist in the dissemination of information relevant to chemical security. This session will explore models for working partnerships that can be used to share chemical security preparedness, threat and emergency information.

Presentations:

- *Mary-Ann Spicer*, NEEC, Environment Canada, Canada  
 "Some initiatives in Environment Canada since September 11"
- *Michael Penders*, Environmental Security International  
 "Security chemical safety and the public right to know: Reconciling public and private imperatives and or community environmental security"
- *Paul Orum*, Working Group on Community Right-to-Know, USA  
 "Communicating problems AND solutions: A public interest perspective on chemical security"
- *James Conrad*, American Chemistry Council (ACC)  
 "Responsible Care® models for communication partnerships"
- *Timothy Gablehouse*, Colorado Emergency Planning Commission  
 "Information sharing between facilities and communities improves safety, builds capacity and enhances security"
- *Roberto Arditti*, Journalist, Italy  
 "Emergency communication – How institutions can work with media"

18:00

End of day 1

<b>Thursday 26 June 2003</b>
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**9:30 – 11:30 SESSION III**

[Duration: 2h]

**Chemical Facilities Security: Communication Challenges**

**Session Chair:** *Christian Jochum*, Major Hazards Commission, Germany

The purpose of this session is to explore broad approaches to facility security in order to prevent deliberate acts (such as workplace violence, vandalism, sabotage and attacks of terrorists) that might compromise the safety of sites/installations. This session will provide an opportunity for participants to discuss vulnerabilities assessment methodologies and present tools, methods, guidelines and practices to demonstrate how a site security can prevent deliberate releases of hazardous substances. This session will also explore the challenges related to internal communications (within a hazardous installation) as well as consider what information should be communicated to the public and to public authorities.

Presentations:

- *Joachim Uth*, UBA, Germany  
"The German Guideline on Combating Interference by Unauthorised Persons"
- *Paola De Nictolis*, Engineer, Ministry of Interior  
"Security of highly hazardous chemical facilities – The importance of internal and external communications as prevention activity"
- *Herbert Bender*, BASF on behalf of the European chemistry CEFIC  
"Vulnerability assessment methodologies and preventive measures"

*Please note that a 30-minute coffee break will be taken at end of Session III, at 11H30.*

**12:00 – 15:30 SESSION IV**

[Duration: 2h]

**Crisis Communication**

*Please note that the lunch break will begin at 13H00*

**Session Chair:** *Randy Hyer*, Communicable Disease Surveillance and response, WHO

**Co-Chair** *Kersten Gutschmidt*, International Programme on Chemical Safety, WHO

The purpose of the session is to explore ways of effective risk communication in crises involving the release of chemicals caused by deliberate acts. Risk communication has become a key responsibility of response personnel, including public health professionals, in a crisis. The media, political decision-makers, and the general public expect timely and quality information from experts. While a crisis is by its nature difficult to predict, effective communications can be planned in advance. This session will provide an opportunity for participants to discuss how to deliver a message in a crisis in order to inform the public and key decision-makers, focus attention on the issues at hand, reduce panic, and provide valuable consensus building. Participants will be asked to consider how experience with risk communication for chemical

accidents can be applied in the context of chemical releases caused by deliberate acts. In particular, this session will provide an opportunity to consider any differences in communication requirements for accidents and for releases due to deliberate acts (e.g., in defining the appropriate target audiences, involvement of different stakeholder groups, and the nature of the adverse impacts including possible psychological aspects).

Presentations:

- **Randy Hyer**, WHO  
"Global guidance on public health communications" [15 min]
- **Vincento Covello**, Director of Center for Risk Communication, New York, USA  
"Rising to the risk and crisis communication challenge: Lessons learned from New York City's Response to 9/11" [25 min]
- **Brian Butler**, Counter-Terrorism Communications, UK  
"Making the Public Alert not alarmed – the UK experience" [20 min]
- **Mario Troiano**, European Institute of Psychology of Emergency  
"Methodology of emergency psychology and psychological aspects in the prevention, planning and managing of emergency" [15 min]

**13:00 – 14:30 LUNCH**

**14:30 – 15:30 SESSION IV (continued)  
Crisis Communication**

Continuation of Session IV

*Please note that a 30-minute coffee break will be taken at end of Session IV, at 15H30*

**16:00 – 18:00 SESSION V** [Duration: 2h]  
**Capacity Building**

**Session Chair:** **Gary Coleman**, Director of WHO Collaborating Centre for the Public Health Management of Chemical Incidents, Health Protection Agency, Cardiff, UK

**Co-Chair** **Kersten Gutschmidt**, IPCS, WHO

The purpose of the session is to explore capacity building needs for effective response to chemical releases caused by deliberate acts, with a focus on capacity building for response personnel including medical and public health officials. (It will also address training of industry to improve prevention of, preparedness for, and response to deliberate acts resulting in the release of chemicals, as well as the role of the media in crises involving chemical releases). The session will discuss relevant experience in capacity building and training tools that are available, as well as future training needs and tools that should be developed. In this regard, the session will provide an opportunity to review experience related to capacity building for

prevention of, preparedness for and response to chemical accidents, as well as experience in other relevant fields. The session provides opportunity to explore issues such as risk perception, management and communication in order to strengthen all stakeholder roles in both developed and developing countries.

Presentations:

- **Stephen Palmer**, University of Wales College of Medicine, UK  
"Capacity building and lessons learnt" [20 min]
- **Isis Pluut**, Emergency and Humanitarian Action, WHO  
"The need for capacity building" [15 min]
- **Gratiliano Gai**, Ministry of Health, Italy  
"Sanitary instruments and objects predisposed from the Ministry of health for response to chemical accidents caused by deliberate acts" [15 min]
- **Silvano Barberi**, Ministry of Interior, Italy  
"Analysis of lessons learnt as regard to the prevention procedures, planning activities and management of chemical accidents, with particular attention to NBCR ones" [15 min]

18:00
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End of day 2
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**Friday 27 June 2003**

**9:30 – 11:00 SESSION VI** [Duration: 1h30]  
**Discussion Session – Basis for developing guidance on risk communication and public information related to chemical releases caused deliberately**

*Session Chair: Fabrizio Colcerasa*, Director of the Central Directorate for Emergency and Technical Rescue, Ministry of Interior, Italy

Along with *the Chairs of previous sessions*

The purpose of this session is to provide participants with an opportunity to discuss issues raised during earlier sessions and to review discussions in the context of the Workshop objectives. It will provide the basis for making recommendations related to the development of guidance. In this regard, the session will explore effective policies and practices, including consideration of the nature of information that should be shared, the audiences for such information, and who should be responsible for providing information.

There will be no formal presentations during this session

**12:00 – 14:00 CLOSING SESSION** [Duration: 2h]  
**General Discussion**

*Session Chairs:* **Debbie Dietrich**, US EPA, Workshop Chair  
**Francesco Paolo Palmeri**, Prefect, Director of the Central Directorate for Civil Defence and Civil Protection Policy, Ministry of Interior, Italy

*Workshop Rapporteurs:*  
**James Conrad**, ACC, US  
**Roland Fendler**, UBA, Germany  
**Kersten Gutschmidt**, WHO  
**Michael Penders**, ESI, US

During this session, the Workshop rapporteurs will present draft Workshop conclusions and recommendations, which will:

- Summarise the main Workshop discussion issues;
- Present recommendations concerning “best practices”;
- Identify issues that should be further explored in a national or international context; and
- Include proposal(s), as appropriate, for developing guidance on risk communication and public information related to chemical releases caused deliberately. This could address, *inter alia*, the nature of information that should be shared, the audiences for such information, and who should be responsible for providing information.

14:00 End of Workshop



ANNEX 2

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Chemical Releases Caused by Deliberate Acts  
25 - 27 June 2003, Rome, Italy**

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