



MINISTERSTWO
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Second Warsaw Conference

Reducing chemical threats and enhancing chemical safety and security

28th May 2015

Scientific and Research Centre for Fire Protection
National Research Institute
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Poland

Introductory statement

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President of the Board, ICCSC

Objectives of the second Warsaw Conference

1. With great pleasure we extend our warmest welcome to all of you at the second Warsaw Conference on reducing chemical threats and enhancing chemical safety and security. The conference is a follow-up of the conference on chemical security and environmental protection: challenges and perspectives for enhancing economic, trade, research and development cooperation, conducted in Warsaw on 14th May, 2014.
2. The Conference is organized jointly by the Ministry of Economy, Research Centre for Fire Protection - National Research Institute and the International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security, a leading international partner to enhance chemical security and promote a global chemical security culture.
3. A leading objective of the conference is to review the implementation of the Conclusions of the first Warsaw conference, to present the existing capabilities and potential of the Polish and international partners from governments, industry, science and technology in the areas of chemical security and environmental protection. We will consider the different areas of chemical security and their application in the international security, economic and trade cooperation, as well as in science and technology exchanges.
4. The conference will be an excellent opportunity to strengthen cooperation between the international and Polish partners to explore new ideas and programs to enhance chemical security as well as the environmental protection.

5. We are deeply convinced that your active participation in the conference will contribute to the enhancement of the global chemical security and environmental protection.

6. The Conference will consider concrete suggestions to enhance chemical security and environmental protection, and promote the international cooperation.

Enhancing chemical safety and security through innovative approaches

7. The globalization and spread of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) industries and materials is rapid and very dynamic, but international responses in the area of prevention, preparedness and response against misuse of these agents remain weak.

8. Therefore, in the process of strengthening the international system of control of chemicals we have to embrace both chemical safety AND chemical security. Chemical safety and security are ways and means for governments, civil society and organizations to help **reduce chemical threats and increase international cooperation in the peaceful uses of chemistry.**

9. The International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS) in Warsaw, Poland is dedicated to promoting practical, measurable ways to enhance chemical safety and security at local, national, regional and global levels, and to foster a global culture of chemical safety and security. The ICCSS offers its many national and international partners a venue for cooperation in capacity building, training and exchanging best practices in chemical safety and security based on the principles of sustainability, continuity, multi-stakeholder participation, public-private partnership and modern management.

10. Today, global threats and challenges are increasing in tandem with the globalization and spread of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) industries and materials. This requires unified global action that transcends political and geographic groupings, and the ICCSS has succeeded in removing the traditional political concepts and prejudices that have long hindered global cooperation in chemical safety and security. We partner with players from all over the world, from developing countries and developed countries alike.

11. The ICCSS fosters global co-operation in the context of preventing the re-emergence of chemical weapons, and of preventing and responding to the misuse of CBRN agents. We have replaced the concept of non-proliferation of chemical weapons with preventing of the re-emergence of chemical weapons. We have shifted attention from preventing chemical terrorism to preventing and responding to the misuse of chemicals.

12. We have combined chemical safety with chemical security, and have developed a bottom approach that actively engages local authorities and addresses chemical safety and security in all peaceful uses of chemistry. And in our programmes we emphasize small- and medium-sized chemical companies and the transportation of hazardous substances.

ICCSS innovative programs and lasting partnerships

13. **The Integrated Chemical Safety and Security Program (ICSSP) in Ukraine**, developed jointly by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and Ukrainian stakeholders with the ICCSS as the international coordinator. The program is a unique initiative with results-oriented management to enhance chemical safety and security at chemical plants, in the transportation of chemicals and energy carriers, airports and seaports, and critical infrastructure.

14. **International program on identifying and neutralizing Chemical Improvised Explosive Devices** - The program will offer regular training courses and best practices exchanges to civilian and military first responders, antiterrorist unit members and others who deal with the threat of Chem-IEDs, using a training of trainers (ToT) approach.

15. **Program to promote local awareness and responsibility in chemical safety and security** - This initiative aims to enable local governments and actors to meet the safety and security challenges posed by the increasing use of chemicals and access to hazardous substances at the local level. Its main focus is to create local sustainable development policies and safety and security in chemical production, especially at the level of small and medium chemical companies (SMEs) and operators, as well as in chemical waste management and the transportation of hazardous materials. The program was developed based on the growing awareness that traditional emergency responses are no longer adequate to meeting the challenges posed by chemical failures and disasters, whether from natural causes or human activity. Meeting the potential risks associated with chemical activities requires the cooperation of all stakeholders, including governments, industry, civil society organizations and the media. Local communities should know what activities with hazardous substances are taking place in their vicinity, and participate in dialogue on what resources are required to counter potential threats and minimize potential losses.

16. **The Kenyan Program on Chemical Safety and Security is our current priority**, a pilot program that will establish a template for enhancing safety and security in the manufacture, transport use of chemicals in developing countries. The first stage of the Kenyan Program is the creation of a training system for border clearance, customs and the transportation system for dangerous goods in accordance with EU standards.

First Global Summit and Fair Chemical Safety and Security

17. A biggest undertaking by the ICCSS and its leading partner Targi Kielce SA and Polish and international partners is the preparation and conduct of the first Global Summit and Fair Chemical Safety and Security, which will take place in Kielce, Poland from 16 to 18 November this year. The Summit will bring together leaders and multi-stakeholder audiences from all over the world, including government policy makers, national and international regulatory bodies, industry - including chemical associations and companies - laboratories, academia, NGOs and independent experts.

18. The Global Summit and Fair will feature three main areas of activity. The first is a conference with policy statements conducted in plenary sessions and substantive thematic

forums - including a forum devoted to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions. The second activity is the Fair, where state-of-the-art technologies and solutions in chemical safety and security will be exhibited and demonstrated. The third set of activities will be practical trainings, table top exercises and exchanges of best practices.

19. The summit will be opened with an African Forum on Chemical Safety and Security, where we will introduce the Kenyan program and the potential for capacity building in other African countries to enhance their chemical safety and security. An Ukraine Chemical Security Forum will also be organized to highlight the importance of introducing effective safety and security in the peaceful uses of chemistry and protection of critical infrastructure in Ukraine.

20. The Global Summit and Fair embody three innovative concepts.

21. First, the Summit reflects the need for global, coherent, synergistic and whole-society and whole-Government approaches to chemical safety and security. Second, the Summit is not government-led, but rather a grassroots initiative by those who are directly engaged in the business of chemical safety and security. Governments are supporting the Summit but in partnership with industry, academia and civil society. And third, the Summit will be a truly global event, free from political exclusion.

22. We are pleased to invite all stakeholders of the environmental and chemical safety conventions to join us in preparing and staging the Summit and Fair to enhance chemical safety and security in the peaceful uses of chemistry.

23. The outcomes of the Warsaw Conference will register the progress made in internationalizing and operationalizing the leading national and international programs to strengthen chemical safety and security in peaceful uses of chemistry. We hope the Warsaw Conference will sustain the existing momentum to develop a true global partnership to enhance chemical safety and security.