

EESTI VABARIIGI
ALALINE ESINDUS ÜRO JUURES

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

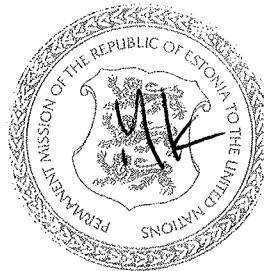
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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Estonia to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Division of Sustainable Development of Department of Economic and Social Affairs and referring to the General Assembly resolution 65/149 and the questionnaire on issues of environmental effects related to waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea, has the honour to submit hereby the response to the questionnaire.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Estonia to the United Nations in New York avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Division of Sustainable Development of Department of Economic and Social Affairs the assurances of its highest consideration.

New York, April 24, 2013

Enclosure



Division of Sustainable Development
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
NEW YORK

Situation

1. Is there an environmental risk for your country/region to be affected by waste originating from chemical munitions dumped at sea (WOCMDS)? If so, what are the environmental challenges and effects posed by WOCMDS?

Answer: In Accordance with available information, Estonia, within its waters of jurisdiction, does not have dumped chemical munition (DCM). Therefore Estonia does not treat the DCM issue as national environment, economic or social challenge.

2. Does the scientific community in your country/region examine the environmental effects related to WOCMDS? If so, what are the findings of such scientific researches?

Answer: Estonian scientific community, after consulting the made available information, have concluded: although the problem of DCM is moderately relevant for the Baltic Sea, its obvious effect does not have relevance for Estonia. Due to the location of the generally known deposit areas and sites of general discovery, that are off from Estonian marine area and based on available information, there is very limited need for scientific research.

Response to Incidents

3. Does your country/region have the experience in responding to incidents related to WOCMDS?

Answer: N/A

4. Does your country/region have the capacity to respond to incidents related to WOCMDS?

Answer: N/A

5. Has your government/organization developed an action plan or built capacities to respond to incidents related to WOCMDS? If not, does your government/organization intend to do so in the future?

Answer: Estonia has participated in the work of HELCOM ad-hoc group HELCOM CHEMU. Estonia was in the correspondence of established HELCOM MUNI Working Group in 2010 till 2012. No demand for state policy based on historical information on absence of dumped chemical munition in Estonian marine waters.

Raising awareness and other actions

6. Does your government/organization provide information on WOCMDS to civil society and industry? Does your government/organization raise awareness on WOCMDS and how?

Answer: information on dumped chemical munition issues in the Baltic Sea area is released when requested by general public, industry etc interest.

7. Are there any partnerships between government, industry and civil society in your country/region on raising awareness, reporting and monitoring of WOCMDS?

Answer: HELCOM cooperation have provided needed framework to address Baltic Sea regional dumped chemical munition issues. No other modes of relevant partnership modes within the state does exist.

Cooperation

8. Does your government cooperate with other States, regional and/or international organizations to assess or increase awareness of WOCMDS?

Answer: HELCOM cooperation provides sufficient general framework to address Baltic Sea regional dumped chemical munition issues.

9. What would be, in your view, possible modalities for international cooperation to assess and increase awareness of WOCMDS?

Answer: N/A