

National Tripartite Workshop on the Implementation of the Prevention of Major
Industrial Accidents and Social Dialogue
17-19 November 2007
Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Workshop organized by the Ministry of Labor, in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) was attended by representatives of Workers, Employers and Government.

The participants of the Workshop believe it is vital to prevent major industrial accidents through full implementation of the ILO Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents Convention (No.174). At the same time, it is essential to reinforce national OSH systems and programmes for occupational safety and health as a foundation for full implementation of the Convention.

The tripartite Workshop came up with the following recommendations:

I: Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents

1. MOL in KSA should be the lead agency for full implementation for Convention No. 174 and overall promotion of occupational safety and health.
2. Establish a taskforce involving the following key stakeholders:
MOL, MOP & MOH, MOI, Royal Commission of Industrial Cities, KACST, and Employers' and Workers' Organizations.
3. Establish a permanent national committee for the prevention of major industrial accidents and develop an action plan for full implementation of the Convention.
4. The taskforce should examine the 20 steps suggested in "Preventing Major Industrial Accidents in Asia: A Guide" in developing further specific actions for full implementation of the Convention.
5. Establish a list of hazardous substances and threshold quantities for the identification of major hazard installations (MHI) covering flammable and toxic materials. Major oil, gas and chemical companies could take a lead in establishing such a list.

II. Promoting Occupational Safety and Health

1. Establish a national OSH organization as the highest national authority for OSH under close collaboration of the MOL and MOH.
2. Establish a national coordination committee for OSH involving relevant authorities, employers' and workers' organizations and other stakeholders.
3. Strengthen OSH systems and programmes, particularly OSH legislation and inspectorate.
4. Promote Safety Culture through OSH Campaigns and training, including the observation of World Day for Safety and Health at Work (28 April).

5. Consider ratification of ILO Conventions, including Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155); Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161); and, Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187).
6. Strengthen the OSH data collection system, including improved collaboration with hospitals.
7. Develop action programmes for hazardous industries such as construction and mining.
8. Establish a mechanism for securing adequate financial and human resources for the national OSH system, including a major hazard control system.