"INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRES"

A joint publication of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

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The "International Directory of Emergency Response Centres" is the result of a co-operative project by OECD and UNEP. It has been prepared in response to the worldwide demand for easily accessible information about sources of help in case of emergencies involving hazardous substances. It contains details of 36 Emergency Response Centres in 29 countries all over the world. The Centres have been chosen to meet the following criteria:

- they are accessible to callers worldwide, 24 hours a day;
- they respond in the case of accidents involving non-radioactive hazardous substances (some may also respond in case of accidents involving radioactive substances and/or to natural disasters);
- they maintain lists of experts and other information which they will share internationally;
- they serve as co-ordination points for emergency response operations in their countries.

The main purpose of the "International Directory" is to help emergency responders in finding immediate advice from foreign experts when an accident involving hazardous substances occurs. By contacting the Centres in the Directory technical advice may also be obtained in order to help prevent technological accidents and plan and prepare emergency response.

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It is intended that the "International Directory" will be regularly updated and expanded. It is being issued free of charge. Copies can be obtained from the:

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