

Mexico-United States

Joint Contingency Plan

Preparedness for and Response to Emergencies
and Contingencies Associated with Chemical
Hazardous Substances in the Inland Border Area



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency



SEMARNAT
SECRETARÍA DE
MEDIO AMBIENTE
Y RECURSOS NATURALES
SEGOB
SECRETARÍA DE
GOBERNACIÓN



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Office of Emergency Management
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100 Introduction

Recognizing that chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies primarily affect the local community and that 90% of the population in the Inland Border Area resides in 15 pairs of Sister Cities—15 cities in the United States of Mexico (Mexico) and 15 cities in the United States of America (United States or U.S.)—future planning efforts are required to respond to an event of considerable magnitude that involves one or more chemical hazardous substances.

The Mexico-United States Joint Contingency Plan for Preparedness for and Response to Emergencies and Contingencies Associated with Chemical Hazardous Substances in the Inland Border Area (hereafter referred to as the Inland Border Plan), provides a mechanism for cooperation between Mexico and the United States to respond to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency that may present a significant threat for both Participants or that affects one of them in such a way that justifies the notification of the other Participant or request for assistance.

This Inland Border Plan is not intended to supersede any statutory authorities held by either Participant, to create any legally binding rights or obligations under domestic or international law with regard to the Participants or any other entity, or to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable by law or equity against the Participants or any other entity.

101 Purpose

- 101.1 The purpose of the Inland Border Plan is based on the principles of Annex II of the 1983 La Paz Agreement, which seeks to protect health, human safety and the environment, providing joint and coordinated responses to significant chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies that affect the Inland Border Area between Mexico and the United States.

102 Objectives

- 102.1 The objectives of this Inland Border Plan are:
- to provide a bi-national coordination mechanism to ensure appropriate and effective cooperative preparedness and response measures between Mexico and the United States during significant chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies; and
 - to develop a notification system for chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies in the area covered by this Inland Border Plan.

103 Scope

- 103.1 The Inland Border Plan applies to significant incidents and emergencies involving chemical hazardous substances that affect or have the potential to affect the environment along the Inland Border Area of Mexico-U.S. (as shown in Appendix J). As used in this Inland Border Plan, the term “chemical hazardous substances” includes oil. This Inland Border Plan includes contingencies and emergencies involving chemical hazardous substances in the Inland Border Area that have the potential for transboundary effects, and may apply to incidents and emergencies that although directly affecting one country, are of such magnitude as to justify notifying or requesting assistance from the other country (e.g., for technical advice, responders

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and equipment). The chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies that affect the marine environment or coastal waters are covered in the Joint Contingency Plan between the Secretariat of the Navy of the United Mexican States and the United States Coast Guard Regarding Pollution of the Marine Environment by Discharges of Hydrocarbons or Other Hazardous Substances (MEXUS Plan), updated on July 11, 2017.

- 103.2 This Inland Border Plan does not provide for either notification or response to contingencies or emergencies caused by radiological substances or materials, biological substances, or terrorist acts.
- 103.3 Nothing that is contained in the Inland Border Plan is intended to supercede, or preclude the development or implementation of, existing or future agreements or arrangements between Mexico and the United States. Nor is it intended to affect any rights and obligations of the Participants established pursuant to other agreements or international instruments of which they are or may become Participants or Parties.
- 103.4 The Inland Border Plan is to be implemented in coordination with the MEXUS Plan in the event both plans are activated for the same contingency or emergency.

104 *Coordinating Authority*

- 104.1 This Inland Border Plan is to be implemented under the principles of the Agreement between the United States of America and the United Mexican States on Cooperation for the Protection and Improvement of the Environment in the Border Area, signed August 14, 1983 (known as the La Paz Agreement), that are authorized and established in accordance with Annex II of the Agreement, dated July 18, 1985.
- 104.2 The Coordinating Authorities of this Inland Border Plan are to have the roles of Co-chair. The United States is to have one Co-chair and Mexico two.
- 104.3 For Mexico, the Co-chairs for this Inland Border Plan are: the Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) through the Office of the Under Attorney of Industrial Inspection of the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA); and the National Coordination for Civil Protection (CNPC) within the Secretariat of Governance (SEGOB). For the United States, the Co-chair for this Inland Border Plan is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), through its Office of Emergency Management (OEM) within the Office of Land and Emergency Management.

In Mexico, the Joint Response Team (JRT) is composed of representatives of PROFEPA and CNPC; in the United States by EPA, and appropriate support agencies (as specified in Appendix H), to coordinate responses to chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies consistent with the provisions of Section 300 and Appendix I of this Inland Border Plan. The Co-chairs of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Border-wide Workgroup are to Co-chair the JRT. The Co-chairs of this Inland Border Plan are to be responsible for securing the involvement of the agencies in their respective countries. Such efforts are to be conducted in cooperation with the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs in Mexico and the Department of State in the United States.

- 104.4 The Co-chairs are to keep their respective National Coordinators, authorities designated by the La Paz Agreement, informed of all key activities and emergency activations conducted under this Inland Border Plan.

- 104.5 The responsibilities of specific agencies in Mexico are intended to be consistent with the General Law of Ecological Equilibrium and Environmental Protection (LGEEPA), the General Law for Prevention; and Integrated Waste Management (LPGIR), the Law of the National Agency for Industrial Safety and Environmental Protection for the Hydrocarbon Sector (LANSI) and the General Law of Civil Protection and the responsibilities for the specific agencies in the United States are to follow the U.S. National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), 40 CFR part 300 and its supplemental guidance. The NCP is authorized by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), in addition to the Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1972 as amended by the Oil Pollution Act (OPA) of 1990.
- 104.6 In the event of contingencies or emergencies involving activities of the hydrocarbons sector, Mexico's National Agency for Industrial Safety and Environmental Protection for the Hydrocarbons Sector (ASEA) is responsible for their attention, established under the LANSI.
- 104.7 In the event of a spill, discharge or release of chemical hazardous substances into international rivers and waters along the Inland Border Area, the Mexico and United States Commissioners to the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) are to respond to the event when doing so is consistent with IBWC authorities and to the extent resources permit. The Commissioners are to inform the Co-chairs of the Joint Response Team and the Tribal, state and local authorities in their respective countries of such events. If an incident exceeds the response capacity of the IBWC, the Commissioners have the responsibility to contact the National Center for Communications and Operations for Civil Protection (CENACOM) and the National Response Center (NRC) respectively, in order to assure that the response actions are carried out. Such notification is to follow the procedures established in the Appendix A of this Inland Border Plan.

105 *Joint Policies*

- 105.1 When a joint response is required to mitigate the effects of a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, this Inland Border Plan is intended to facilitate the provision of assistance to the affected country. Such assistance may include: facilitation of the entrance of officials from one country to the other; the provision of assistance at the request or after receiving the prior consent of the other country; the coordination of federal efforts, activities and resources of both countries; and/or the exchange of information between the Participants.
- 105.2 The Co-chairs are to promote the development, maintenance, and implementation of the Joint Contingency Plans of the Sister Cities that are coordinated with the local, state and Tribal authorities.
- 105.3 Effective communication between Mexico and the U.S is crucial to the successful implementation of this Inland Border Plan. The Co-chairs are to develop and maintain the necessary communication systems that allow for effective communication with regard to the chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies. Any chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency along the inland border that represents a potential threat to the other country, according to the provisions of Section 103.1 and 103.2 of this Plan, is to be reported as early as possible in accordance with the procedures established in Appendices A and B of this Inland Border Plan.
- 105.4 This Inland Border Plan is to be implemented in a manner consistent with the laws and regulations of each country.

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- 105.5 In a response situation covered by the Inland Border Plan, the Co-chairs, subject to the availability of appropriate funds and resources, are to make every effort to obtain resources that may be used in the joint response operations. In addition, each country is to have procedures in place to facilitate obtaining the necessary resources from both the public and private sectors that may be used to achieve a successful outcome to a joint response operation.
- 105.6 In observation of each country's legislation, each Co-chair is to encourage appropriate officials in his/her country to ensure the timely implementation of customs, immigration, and other necessary authorization mechanisms in order to facilitate an expedited entry and exit of responders and equipment needed to ensure an efficient joint response.
- 105.7 Each country, in observation of its current procedures and legislation, is to determine what type of chemical and/or biological countermeasures are to be employed in mitigating a chemical hazardous substance contingency or emergency in its territory.

106 *Related Plans in Mexico*

106.1 National Plans

- Organization Guide and Operation of the National System of Civil Protection Program (Secretariat of Governance)
- Program of Specific Action and Attention for Epidemiological Emergencies and Disasters 2013-2018 (Ministry of Health)
- Marine Plan of Assistance to the Civilian Population in Emergency and Disaster Cases and Areas (Navy Secretariat)
- Plan DN-III-E for Assistance to Civilian Population in Disaster Cases (Secretariat of National Defense)
- National Response Plan MX of the Federal Public Administration (Secretariat of Governance)
- Manual for the Attention of Hydroecological Emergencies and Environmental Contingencies that are present in Bodies of Water or National Assets under the National Water Commission (CONAGUA)
- National Contingency Plan for Spills of Hydrocarbons and Potentially Dangerous Hazardous Substances in the Mexican Marine Zones (Marine Secretary)

106.2 Civil Protection State Programs

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------|
| • Baja California | • Chihuahua | • Nuevo Leon |
| • Sonora | • Coahuila | • Tamaulipas |

107 *Related Plans in the United States*

- 107.1 The United States intends to implement this Inland Border Plan in a manner that is consistent with the NCP (40 CFR part 300). The NCP is the U.S. government's plan of action for responding to both oil spills, discharges and releases of hazardous substances (including biological and disease causing agents, illness generators and radioactive materials). For the purposes of this Inland Border Plan, the U.S. may implement the NCP to respond to potential chemical hazardous substances emergencies and contingencies.

200 Organization

The following is a summary of the federal response structure intended to provide the core framework for the coordination of a joint response to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency within this Inland Border Plan. A detailed list of functions and responsibilities of the federal agencies can be found in Appendix H. The federal response structure that is intended to provide the nucleus for coordinating a joint response to a polluting incident under this Inland Border Plan is summarized below.

201 Joint Response Team (JRT)

- 201.1 The JRT is the policy and decision-making body with overall responsibility for the maintenance and effective implementation of this Inland Border Plan for both the United States and Mexico.
- 201.2 The U.S. and Mexican Co-chairs of the JRT are represented by the EPA Office of Emergency Management (OEM), the Office of the Under Attorney of Industrial Inspection of the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA) and the National Coordination for Civil Protection (CNPC), respectively. They are also the coordinating authorities for the implementation of the Inland Border Plan.
- 201.3 The Agencies and relevant support institutions from each country are the members of the JRT.
- 201.4 The Co-chairs of the JRT are to ensure the coordination with JRT support agencies.

202 Situation/Incident-Specific Joint Response Team (ISJRT)

- 202.1 The ISJRT is responsible for implementing the Inland Border Plan effectively at the state and local level in Mexico and at the regional level in the United States, consistent with JRT policies.
- 202.2 The general function of the ISJRT includes planning and preparing for a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, as well as monitoring and supporting response operations, as necessary. The ISJRT may be called upon to resolve a preparedness issue that requires some localized geographic action, when a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency has occurred and a coordinated response and follow up are required, or when there is a threat to a specific geographic area that requires coordination with appropriate personnel. The Co-chairs of the JRT of Mexico and the U.S. are to designate, as appropriate, a representative to lead this team.
 - In Mexico, a representative from PROFEPA and a representative from the Civil Protection office.
 - In the United States, the Co-chair from the Regional Response Team (RRT) from the corresponding EPA Regional office may include members from the National Response Team (NRT), as described in section 300.110 of the National Contingency Plan. The RRT may also include Tribal, state, local and regional representatives.
- 202.3 The ISJRT may be comprised of federal, regional, state and local agencies from each country and in the case of the United States, also by representatives of Tribal Governments.

203 *On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs)*

- 203.1 The OSC is the federal authority designated in each country to perform the functions and responsibilities of coordination of joint response actions at the site of the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency in the Inland Border Area of that country and to provide information on the chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies to the ISJRT.
- 203.2 When the contingency or emergency occurs within federal jurisdiction, or in compliance with federal or state requirements, the OSC may:
- Direct the response to the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, including when the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency is beyond the response capabilities of the state and local incident commander, or,
 - Provide advice, assistance and support to the Tribal Governments, local or state incident commander and serve as coordinator and director of the federal government activities at the scene of the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency.
- 203.3 For Mexico, two OSCs are to be designated in the affected zone; one is to be designated by a PROFEPA Representative and the other by the National Coordination for Civil Protection (CNPC) from the Secretariat of Governance (SEGOB).
- 203.4 For the United States, the OSC is to be designated by the EPA Regional office in the affected zone, in accordance with the NCP.

204 *Coordination with the Tribal, Local, and State Governments for Preparedness and Response*

- 204.1 Local authorities are responsible for initiating and coordinating responses to contingencies and emergencies involving chemical hazardous substances. Therefore, each country is to encourage its Sister Cities to have up-to-date contingency plans (Sister City Plans) and information about potential hazards, as well as adequate equipment and trained personnel for responding to chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies. Ninety percent of the border population resides in fifteen pairs of inter-dependent Sister Cities. There are 26 U.S. Federally Recognized Tribes in the border region, which range in size from 9 to 17,000 members; and seven Indigenous Mexican Groups reside in the border area. Recognizing that chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies affect the local community first, JRT members determined that subsequent planning efforts are needed for the Tribal Governments and the 30 Border Cities—fifteen in Mexico and the adjacent fifteen in the United States—that could be affected by a major hazardous chemical substance release. The Sister City Contingency Plan Program was created to meet that need. Currently, fifteen paired Sister Cities have a Joint Contingency Plan.
- 204.2 To ensure that there is no duplication of effort by the authorities during a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, the Inland Border Plan and its Appendices are to be coordinated with all the existing Mexican plans and agreements and the emergency plans prepared by the local planning districts from the U.S. with regard to the international border, in compliance with the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), Title III, as well as the Area Contingency Plans developed under the Section 311 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) as amended by the Oil Pollution Act (OPA) of 1990.

- 204.3 Nothing in this Inland Border Plan imposes formal obligations to the Tribal, state, local and regional authorities beyond those established by the laws of both countries.
- 204.4 The Co-chairs for the Inland Border Plan are to ensure the development and implementation of the Sister City Plans at the Tribal, state and local level.

205 *Technical Assistance*

- 205.1 Technical assistance is available to help the OSC in response operations under this Inland Border Plan in the form of experts and specialized equipment through the ISJRT. Such resources include experts with experience in cleaning techniques, chemistry, engineering, biology, hydrology, health effects, toxicology, communications, natural resources and other related situations that involve control and evaluation of the response.

300 RESPONSE AND NOTIFICATION OPERATIONS

300 Response and Notification Operations

This section puts forward the general procedures for a joint, integrated and coordinated response at the federal level, to complement the response actions to Tribal, state, local and regional emergencies after a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency in the Inland Border Area. The specific details on these procedures for a joint response are indicated in Appendices D and I.

301 Notification

- 301.1 Any chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency that affects or has the potential to affect the environment along the Inland Border Area is to be reported immediately to the National Center for Communications and Operations for Civil Protection (CENACOM) or the National Response Center (NRC), which in turn is to notify its counterpart, following the notification procedures using the telephone numbers described in Appendix A of this document and providing the information described in Appendix B.
- 301.2 The OSC is to ensure that all the appropriate notifications in his/her respective country are performed, as described in Appendices A and D.

302 Preliminary Assessment

- 302.1 After receiving the notification of a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency in the Inland Border Area, the OSC, in consultation with the ISJRT, is to perform a preliminary assessment to determine whether the Inland Border Plan is to be activated and, in turn, transmit this information to the country's JRT Co-chair consistent with the activation procedures and form in Appendix C.

303 Joint Response Team Activation

- 303.1 If, after a preliminary assessment from the OSC, the ISJRT determines that the response action required exceeds its capabilities and resources, the ISJRT is to request the Co-chair of the JRT to activate the Inland Border Plan, using the form described in Appendices B and C.

The Co-chair of the JRT is to notify the National Coordinator that the activation of the Plan is recommended and if they concur, they may request that their Mexican counterpart activate the Plan, using the form located in Appendix C, with the information described in Appendix B.

The information is to be sent via email and by telephone.

- 303.2 After receiving the activation form, the National Coordinators or JRT Co-chairs are to notify their respective foreign affairs department that an environmental emergency has occurred (or has the potential to occur). For Mexico, this department is the Secretariat of Foreign Relations, which is to be notified through the General Directorate for North America, and for the United States it is the Department of State.

304 *Joint Response Team Deactivation*

- 304.1 If the Co-chairs of the JRT determine that the Inland Border Plan activation is no longer needed, based on OSC and ISJRT information, they are to deactivate the Inland Border Plan by sending an e-mail, completing the deactivation form found in Appendix C, and notifying the National Coordinators, as noted in the La Paz Agreement, the OSCs, the ISJRT and the foreign affairs departments, by telephone.

305 *Joint Response Team Procedures*

- 305.1 In the event of Inland Border Plan activation the ISJRT, is to provide recommendations to the OSC, which could include the following:
- Joint response actions that are to take place;
 - Status of the response operations in each country;
 - Personnel, equipment and financial resources available;
 - Information that is to be transmitted to the public;
 - Health and safety concerns; and
 - Environmental considerations.
- 305.2 Conflicts that cannot be resolved by the OSCs, are to be brought before the ISJRT for resolution; the JRT is to be consulted as needed.

306 *Documentation for a Joint Response*

- 306.1 The OSC, the ISJRT and the JRT under this Inland Border Plan are to prepare the appropriate documentation, consistent with Section 306.2 of this Inland Border Plan:
- 306.2 The OSC is to provide:
- The Preliminary Assessment, to describe the nature and effects of the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency (see Appendix E), indicating the identification of the source, and the quantity and the location of the chemical hazardous substance; an evaluation of the threat to human health or the environment; an evaluation of the magnitude of the release or threat of release; and whether the potentially Responsible Party is undertaking a proper response.
 - Situation Reports (SITREPs), to provide up-to-date information on the emergency incident and response action conducted under this Inland Border Plan. SITREPs are to describe the current status of the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, the actions taken, future plans, recommendations, and requests for assistance. The SITREPs are to be forwarded to the Co-chairs and the members of the ISJRT as frequently as necessary, or as determined by the Co-chairs.

300 RESPONSE AND NOTIFICATION OPERATIONS

306.3 The ISJRT is to provide the following:

- Final Incident Report. After a joint response has been terminated, the ISJRT is to prepare a final incident report in conjunction with the OSCs to be forwarded to the Co-chair. The Final Incident Report is to accurately describe the situation as it developed, the actions taken, the resources committed, the problems encountered, and recommendations as described in Appendix E. This report may be accessed through the EPA OSC website at <https://response.epa.gov>.
- Final Preparation and Planning Report. If the ISJRT is called to assist in conducting a preparedness exercise in the Inland Border Area, as specified in Section 202 of this Inland Border Plan, a Final Issue Report is to be prepared and transmitted to the Co-chair. This Final Preparation and Planning Report is to describe the specific issues in detail, the specific geographic area, and members of the ISJRT who worked on the drills, their roles, actions taken, ideas and options considered for the response and the pros and cons of each, as well as final recommendations.

306.4 The Co-chair has the responsibility to provide:

- Activation Declaration that formally activates the Inland Border Plan, providing a brief description of the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, and detailing the initial responsibilities.
- Deactivation Declaration that formally deactivates the Inland Border Plan, describing briefly the reasons for the deactivation.

307 Public Information

- 307.1 When a chemical hazardous substance contingency and emergency occurs, the affected population and general public are to receive timely and accurate information with regard to the nature of the incident, the actions being undertaken to solve the problem, and what the population needs to be protected from exposure. This information is intended to protect human lives, encourage understanding among the community, ensure the cooperation from all affected populations and the general public, and reduce the possibility of misinformation.
- 307.2 When the Inland Border Plan is activated, the Co-chair, in coordination with the ISJRT and the OSC, is to develop a public information strategy incorporating the guidelines from Section 307.1 of the Inland Border Plan.
- 307.3 Each Co-chair of the JRT is to assign, with the resources from his/her country, an on-scene public information specialist to act as a liaison between the Co-chair and interested Participants in their respective countries, including Tribal Governments, local and state authorities, electronic and printed news media, government press offices, the public, special interest groups, and concerned industries.
- 307.4 In coordination with the OSC, the public information specialists of each country are to jointly issue press releases and other public information relative to Section 307.2 of this Inland Border Plan. The published news releases are to contain response operations information. The Co-chairs in coordination with other representatives are to discuss policy issues prior to communicating them when the Co-chairs consider it necessary. The OSC is to notify the state and local authorities, as well as the ISJRT, of all activities related to public relations and press releases.

308 *Health and Safety*

- 308.1 Medical Services. Each of the coordinating local authorities has the responsibility to notify the appropriate health agencies of the need for medical services related to the chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies.
- 308.2 Worker Health and Safety. All government divisions and private organizations are responsible for the health and safety of their employees. Each agency and organization is to make sure that a program for occupational safety and health is made available for the protection of its workers at the response site. Workers involved at the response, and workers entering the response site, are to be informed of the response site hazards and provisions of the health and safety program. Involved workers are to follow standard operating procedures during the chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies.
- For the United States, the provisions of the health and safety program are to include: (1) standard operating procedures for entering and leaving the response site, (2) use of equipment and decontamination; (3) accountability for personnel entering and leaving the response site; (4) recommended safety and health equipment; (5) personal safety precautions; and (6) other measures as warranted.
- 308.3 Evacuation and Relocation. In the event of an evacuation, Tribal, state, and local authorities are to be in charge of identifying the evacuation zones, notifying the civilian population, and transporting and relocating them to a safe place, following their established procedures.

400 PREPARATION

400 Preparation

This section describes the planning and preparedness activities that are to take place prior to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency. Appendices H and I describe the specific functions and responsibilities of the JRT, the ISJRT and the OSC prior to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency.

401 Revision, Assessment, and Update of the Inland Border Plan

- 401.1 The Inland Border Plan may be assessed every five years, or as necessary, or at the request of one of the Co-chairs, with prior consultation with the JRT.
- 401.2 When reviewing the Inland Border Plan, the Co-chairs, in consultation with the JRT, are to take into consideration the following:
- The SITREPs provided by the OSC, the Final Incident Report and the Final Preparation and Planning Report, provided by the ISJRT;
 - Lessons learned from the exercises; and
 - Changes or updates in national policies and/or procedures in Mexico and the United States.
- 401.3 According to the assessment, the Co-chairs are to propose the changes and updates to the National Coordinators, as needed.
- 401.4 The proposed changes by the Co-chairs and subsequent approval by the National Coordinators are to be undertaken through written correspondence, once settled upon and validated by the Participants. When the changes are approved, they are to be inserted into a new revised version for the Inland Border Plan.

402 Drills

- 402.1 In order to evaluate each procedure of this Inland Border Plan, each Sister City pair is to plan and conduct binational table-top and field drills and exercises, as needed.
- 402.2 In order to promote greater efficiency between the entities and authorities involved in the Inland Border Plan, it is recommended that the JRT and the ISJRT organize planning meetings during dates when the drills take place and invite more than one Region or State.
- 402.3 In order to improve the response capacity in the Inland Border Area and have specialized personnel attend the chemical hazardous substances contingency and emergency, training courses are to be scheduled prior to the drill, taking into consideration the specific local needs.

403 Educational Activities

- 403.1 Both countries may participate in an exchange of educational activities including academic courses, seminars, workshops and conferences that contribute to the implementation of this Inland Border Plan.

500 Effective Date/Amendments/Termination

- 500.1 This Inland Border Plan supersedes the Mexico-United States Joint Contingency Plan for Preparedness for and Response to Environmental Emergencies caused by Releases, Spills, Fires, or Explosions of Hazardous Substances in the Inland Border Area, signed on September 5, 2008.
- 500.2 This Inland Border Plan is to take effect upon the signature of all Participants.
- 500.3 This Inland Border Plan is to be amended in accordance with Section 401.4 of this Inland Border Plan.
- 500.4 Any of the Participants may discontinue this Inland Border Plan at any time, by providing written notice at least ninety (90) days prior to the desired discontinuation date.

Signed on November 17, 2017, in Spanish and English.

For the United States of America

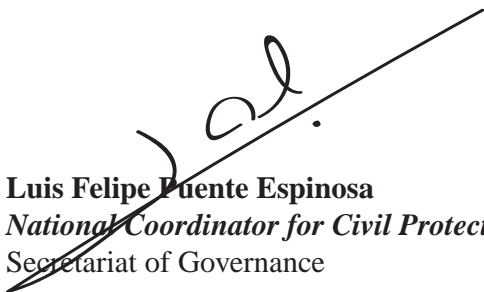


Reggie Cheatham
Director, Office of Emergency Management
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

For the United States of Mexico



Arturo Rodriguez Abitia
Deputy Attorney for Industrial Inspection of the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection
Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources



Luis Felipe Puente Espinosa
National Coordinator for Civil Protection
Secretariat of Governance

APPENDIX A

Telephone Numbers and E-mails to Notify of an Emergency

Any chemical emergency or contingency that involves a chemical hazardous substances, oil spill or discharge that has the potential to affect the other country should be reported by any local, state or federal officer in the following manner:

Notification in Mexico

For calls in Mexico, the National Center for Communications and Operations of Civil Protection (CENACOM) may be reached by dialing any of the following numbers and extensions:

CENACOM (Operates 24 hours a day/7 days a week)

(01) (52) (55) 5128 - 0000 with the following extensions: 36400, 36428, 36429, 37807, 37809 to 37812

(01) (800) 0041 - 300 (toll free number only in Mexico)

E-mail: cenacom@segob.gob.mx

For callers from the United States, CENACOM may be reached by dialing (011) (52) (55) 5128 - 0000 and any of the above extensions. The numbers follow the following format: 011 (International Code); 52 (Country Code); 55 (City Code); and telephone number:

(011) (52) (55) 5128 - 0000, exts.: 36400, 36428, 36429, 37807, 37809 to 37812

When providing notification of a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency to the NRC, the person who calls should provide as much information as possible from the list in Appendix B.

Subsequently, CENACOM is to notify (via e-mail and telephone) the members from both countries listed below. CENACOM is to also notify the JRT Co-chairs in Mexico and the NRC, in case of a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency (see Appendix A, Notification Procedures from Mexico).

The border state and local offices for emergency response may access the additional contact numbers for the United States agencies that are listed below. The Local Contingency Plans for Sister Cities (See Appendix J) contain local United States contacts and may be consulted for additional notification procedures.

Mexico Contacts

COATEA/PROFEPA, operates Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

(55) 5449 - 6300 exts. 16152 and 16986

(55) 2615 - 2045 (24/7 only in Mexico)

E-mail: coatea@profepa.gob.mx

JRT Co-Chair in Mexico (COATEA/PROFEPA), operates Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

(55) 5449 - 6391, Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm

(55) 3233 - 5890 (Cell phone)

(55) 5408 - 1564 (24/7)

(55) 2615 - 2045 (24/7)

E-mail: coatea@profepa.gob.mx

JRT Co-Chair in Mexico (CNPC/SEGOB), 24/7

(01) (55) 5128 - 0000 exts. 36400, 36428, 36429, 37807, and 37809 to 37812 (24/7)

(01) (800) 0041 - 300 (toll free number only in Mexico)

E-mail: cenacom@segob.gob.mx

National Coordinator in Mexico (SEMARNAT)

Coordination Unit for International Affairs

(01) (55) 5628 - 3907

E-mail: enrique.lendo@semarnat.gob.mx

General Directorate for North America (SRE)

(01) (55) 3686 - 5823 (telephone 1)

(01) (55) 3686 - 5863 (telephone 2)

E-mail: mibarrapl@sre.gob.mx

Civil Protection of the State of Baja California (Mexico)

(01) (664) 634 - 9360 (telephone Tijuana)

(01) (686) 555 - 4998 (telephone Mexicali)

(01) (646) 152 - 1684 (telephone Ensenada)

E-mail: arosquillas@baja.gob.mx

Civil Protection of the State of Sonora (Mexico)

(01) (662) 236 - 4400 (telephone 1)

(01) (662) 236 - 4402 (telephone 2)

(01) 800 - 277 - 2222 (toll free in Mexico only 3)

E-mail: aflores@proteccioncivilsonora.gob.mx

Civil Protection of the State of Chihuahua (Mexico)

(01) (614) 429 - 7317 (telephone 1)

(01) (614) 429 - 3300 exts. 10725 and 10726 (telephone 2)

(01) 800 - 480 - 8080 (toll free only in Mexico 3)

E-mail: proteccioncivil@chihuahua.gob.mx

Civil Protection of the State of Coahuila (Mexico)

(01) (844) 412 - 6316 (telephone 1)

(01) (844) 439 - 2746 (telephone 2)

(01) 800 - 000 - 3372 (toll free only in Mexico 3)

E-mail: subsecretariapc@coahuila.gob.mx

Civil Protection of the State of Nuevo Leon (Mexico)

(01) (818) 343 - 1116 ext. 107 (telephone 1)

(01) (818) 343 - 9530 (telephone 2)

(01) 800 - 200 - 7265 (toll free only in Mexico 3)

E-mail: pcivil@nuevoleon.gob.mx

Civil Protection of the State of Tamaulipas (Mexico)

(01) (834) 305 - 7132 (telephone 1)

(01) (834) 305 - 6596 (telephone 2)

(01) 800 - 718 - 8988 (toll free only in Mexico 3)

E-mail: proteccioncivil@tamaulipas.gob.mx

APPENDIX A

PROFEPA Branch Office in the State of Baja California, Mexicali (Mexico)

(01) (686) 5689 - 266

(01) (686) 5689 - 267 exts. 18051, 18067 and 18055

E-mail: emergencias_bc@profepa.gob.mx

PROFEPA Branch Office in the State of Sonora, Hermosillo (Mexico)

(01) (662) 2174 - 359 exts. 19200, 19201, 19204 and 19218

E-mail: emergencias_son@profepa.gob.mx

PROFEPA Branch Office in the State of Chihuahua, Juarez (Mexico)

(01) (656) 6823 - 990 exts. 18251, 18255, 18268 and 18270.

E-mail: emergencias_chih@profepa.gob.mx

PROFEPA Branch Office in the State of Coahuila, Saltillo (Mexico)

(01) (844) 485 - 1620

(01) (844) 485 - 0981 exts. 18301, 18302 and 18305

E-mail: emergencias_coa@profepa.gob.mx

PROFEPA Branch Office in the State of Nuevo Leon, Guadalupe (Mexico)

(01) (81) 8354 - 0391

(01) (81) 8354 - 9806

(01) (81) 8355 - 1102

(01) (81) 8355 - 1094 exts. 18851, 18852, 18855 and 18867

E-mail: emergencias_nl@profepa.gob.mx

PROFEPA Branch Office in the State of Tamaulipas, Victoria (Mexico)

(01) (834) 312 - 2456

(01) (834) 312 - 8663 exts. 19301, 19302 and 19305

E-mail: emergencias_tams@profepa.gob.mx

International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC)

(01) (656) 613 - 9916

(01) (656) 613 - 7950

(01) (656) 613 - 7959

E-mail: cilamex@cilamexeua.gob.mx

National Water Commission (CONAGUA)

General Coordination of Emergency Response and Watershed Councils Management

(01) (55) 5174 - 4000 exts. 1050 and 1051

E-mail: omar.gomez@conagua.gob.mx

Emergency Attention and Hydraulic Infrastructure Protection Agency (PIAE)

(01) (55) 5366 - 2124

(01) (55) 5366 - 2100 ext. 5224

E-mail: pedro.madrigal@conagua.gob.mx

Water Quality Management

(01) (55) 5377 - 0234

E-mail: enrique.mejia@conagua.gob.mx

National Agency for Industrial Safety and Environmental Protection for the Hydrocarbon Sector (ASEA)
(01) (55) 9126 - 0111 (24 hours a day)
E-mail: emergencias@asea.gob.mx

United States Contacts

The NRC may be reached by dialing 001-202-267-2675 (not a toll free number) for real incidents and for drills.

Notification in the United States

Callers from the United States may contact the National Response Center (NRC), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, using the following numbers:

1-800-424-8802 (toll free)
1-202-267-2675 (not toll free)

Callers from Mexico may reach the NRC by dialing:

001-202-267-2675 (not toll free) for drills and real incidents

Please note that the NRC may receive verbal notification in Spanish. The NRC utilizes a Spanish translator for these calls.

When providing notification of an emergency to the NRC, the person who calls is to provide as much information as possible from the list in Appendix B.

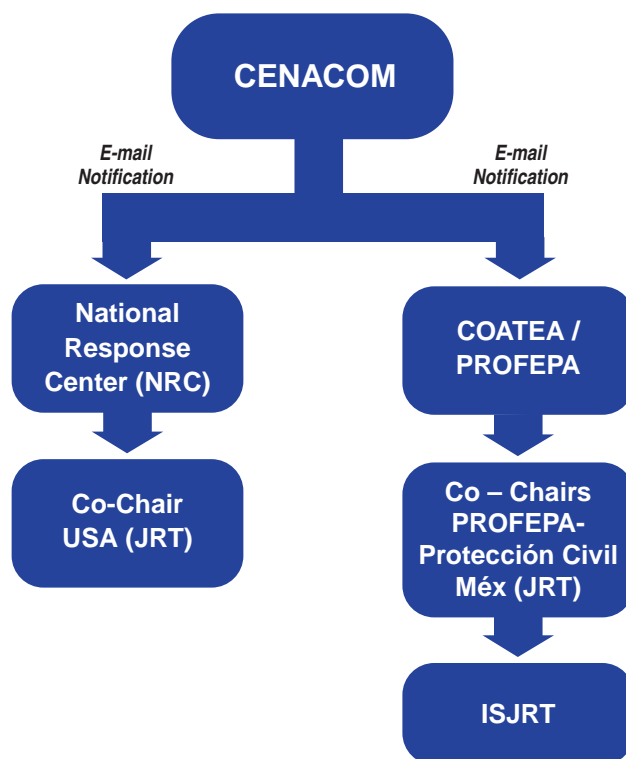
The NRC is to notify (via e-mail) the Participants in both countries in the following list. In the case of some state emergency management agencies (EMAs), the notification is to be made by fax. In the case of COATEA, Mexico, the notification is to be done by e-mail.

<i>United States Contacts</i>	
U.S. EPA Regional Coordinators	US EPA Region 9 US EPA Region 6
U.S. JRT Co-chair	US EPA Office of Emergency Management, Emergency Operations Center (202) 564-3850 eoc.epahq@epa.gov
<i>Mexican Contacts</i>	
National Center for Communications and Operations of Civil Protection (CENACOM)	(011) (52) (55) 5128 - 0000 exts. 36400, 36428, 36429, 37807, 37809 to 37812 cenacom@segob.gob.com
COATEA/PROFEPA	coatea@profepa.gob.mx

The NRC is to also notify the EPA On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) in the jurisdiction of the incident, who in turn are to follow up on the notification. The Tribal Governments are to be notified of incidents through the U.S. EPA Regional Coordinators in the appropriate Region.

APPENDIX A

Notification Procedures from Mexico



ACRONYM KEY:

CENACOM – National Center for Communications and Operations for Civil Protection (Protección Civil, SEGOB)

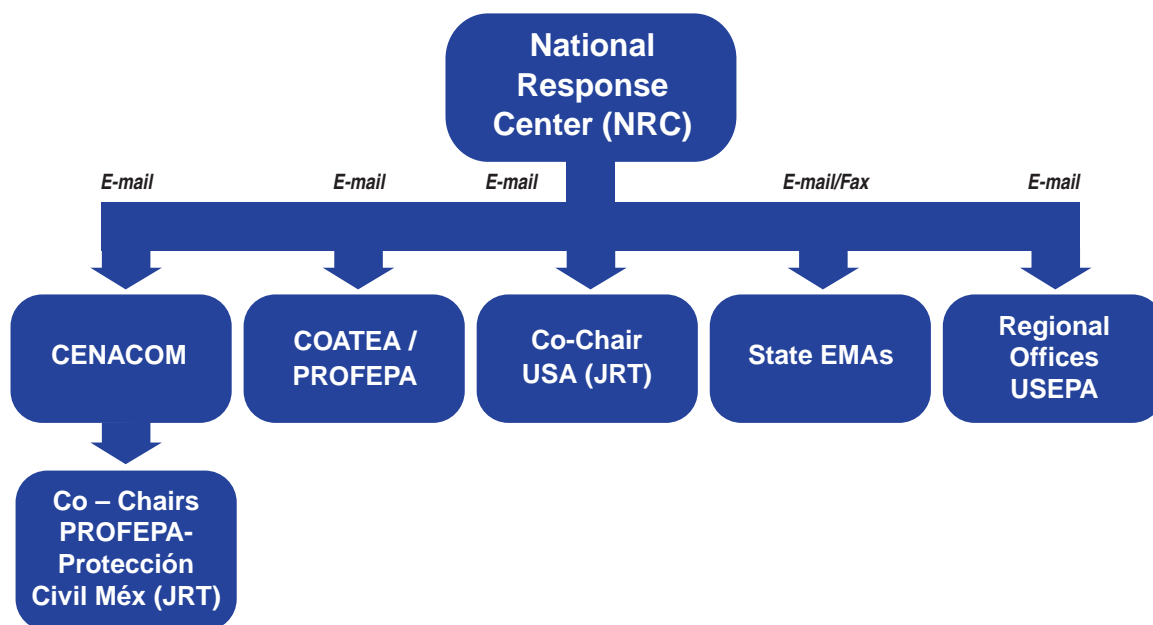
COATEA – Center for the Orientation of Emergencies (PROFEPA)

ISJRT – Incident-Specific Joint Response Team

JRT – Joint Response Team (Co-chairs Mexico PROFEPA, Protección Civil, and Co-chair U.S. EPA)

PROFEPA – Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection

Notification Procedures from U.S. EPA



ACRONYM KEY:

CENACOM – National Center for Communications and Operations for Civil Protection (Protección Civil, SEGOB)

COATEA – Center for the Orientation of Emergencies (PROFEPA)

EMA – Emergency Management Agency

JRT – Joint Response Team (Co-chairs Mexico PROFEPA, Protección Civil, and Co-chair U.S. EPA)

PROFEPA – Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (Mexico)

USEPA – U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

APPENDIX B

Notification Form

When any participating group is notified of a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency¹ covered under this Inland Border Plan, the following fields are to be provided to the National Response Center (NRC).

-
1. Is this a drill?/¿Este es un simulacro?
 2. Has there been a release of material/Is there a potential for the release of material?/¿Se ha liberado un material/
Hay alguna posibilidad de una liberación de material?
 3. Reporting party phone number/Número telefónico de la parte informante
 4. Reporting party last name/first name (can be anonymous)/Apellido/nombre de la parte informante (puede ser anónimo)
 5. Reporting party company/Empresa de la parte informante
 6. Reporting party organization type (i.e., private enterprise, private citizen, military, federal/state/local government, fire department, police department, other, unknown) / Tipo de organización de la parte informante (es decir, empresa privada, ciudadano particular, fuerzas armadas, gobierno federal/estatal/local, departamento de bomberos, departamento de policía, otro, desconocido)
 7. Reporting party address and state/Domicilio y estado de la parte informante
 8. Suspected responsible party last name/first name/Apellido/nombre de la supuesta parte responsable
 9. Suspected responsible party phone number/Número telefónico de la supuesta parte responsable
 10. Suspected responsible party company/Empresa de la supuesta parte responsable
 11. Suspected responsible party organization type (i.e., private enterprise, private citizen, military, federal/state/local government, fire department, police department, other, unknown)/Tipo de organización de la supuesta parte responsable (es decir, empresa privada, ciudadano particular, fuerzas armadas, gobierno federal/estatal/local, departamento de bomberos, departamento de policía, otro, se desconoce)
 12. Suspected responsible party address and state/Domicilio y estado de la supuesta parte responsable
 13. Brief description of the incident/Breve descripción del incidente
 14. Date and time incident occurred/Fecha y hora en que se produjo el incidente
-

¹Although the Mexico-United States Joint Contingency Plan (Inland Border Plan) focuses on “chemical hazardous substances” contingencies or emergencies, the Sister City Contingency Plans may reference all hazards.

15. Type of accident/Tipo de accidente

- *Aircraft/Aeronave*
- *Fixed facility/Instalación fija*
- *Mobile/Móvil*
- *Pipeline/Oleoducto*
- *Railroad/Ferrocarril*
- *Storage Tank/Tanque de Almacenamiento*
- *Vessel/Barco*
- *Unknown Sheen/Irregularidad de Petróleo*

16. Cause of accident/Causa del accidente

- *Derailment/Descarrilamiento*
- *Dumping/Vertimiento*
- *Equipment Failure/Falla en el Equipo*
- *Explosion/Explosión*
- *Operator Error/Error del Operador*
- *Over Pressuring/Presión Excesiva*
- *Transport Accident/Accidente de Transporte*
- *Vessel Sinking/Barco Hundido*
- *Other/Otro*
- *Unknown/Desconocido*

17. Description of the area where the incident occurred/Descripción del área donde se produjo el incidente

18. Incident location state/Estado donde se produjo el incidente

19. Incident location municipality (if known)/Municipio donde se produjo el incidente (si se conoce)

20. Type of vehicle, vessel, pipeline, train or facility involved (i.e., tractor trailer, cruise ship, break out, locomotive, chemical facility, unknown)/Tipo de vehículo, barco, oleoducto, ferrocarril o instalación involucrado/involucrada (es decir, remolque-tractor, crucero, fuga, locomotora, instalación de sustancias químicas, desconocido)

21. Material involved (UN identification, generic name, quantity transported)/Material involucrado (identificación ONU, nombre genérico, cantidad transportada)/Material involucrado (identificación ONU, nombre genérico, cantidad transportada)

APPENDIX B

-
22. Material released? (If yes, indicate quantity released)/¿Liberación de material? (si la respuesta es “sí,” señalar la cantidad derramada)
-
23. Material released in water? (If yes, indicate quantity released)/¿Liberación de material en el agua? (si la respuesta es “sí,” señalar la cantidad derramada)
-
24. Water bodies contaminated (name(s))/environmental impact/Cuerpos de agua contaminados (nombre(s))/afectación medioambiental
-
25. Fatalities? (If yes, provide number)/¿Muertos? (si la respuesta es “sí,” señalar la cantidad)
-
26. Injured? (If yes, provide number)/¿Lesionados? (si la respuesta es “sí,” señalar la cantidad)
-
27. Summary of damages/Resumen de daños
-
28. Actions taken/Medidas implementadas
-
29. Institutional response (Mexico)/Respuesta institucional (México)
-
30. Institutional response (United States)/Respuesta institucional (Estados Unidos)
-
31. Report number provided by the NRC/Número de reporte proporcionado por el NRC
-

Activation Form

If the Inland Border Plan is activated, the following information is required to supplement the information provided in the Notification Form (see Appendix B):

A Summary of information provided in the Notification Form/ Resumen de la información proporcionada en el Formulario de Notificación:

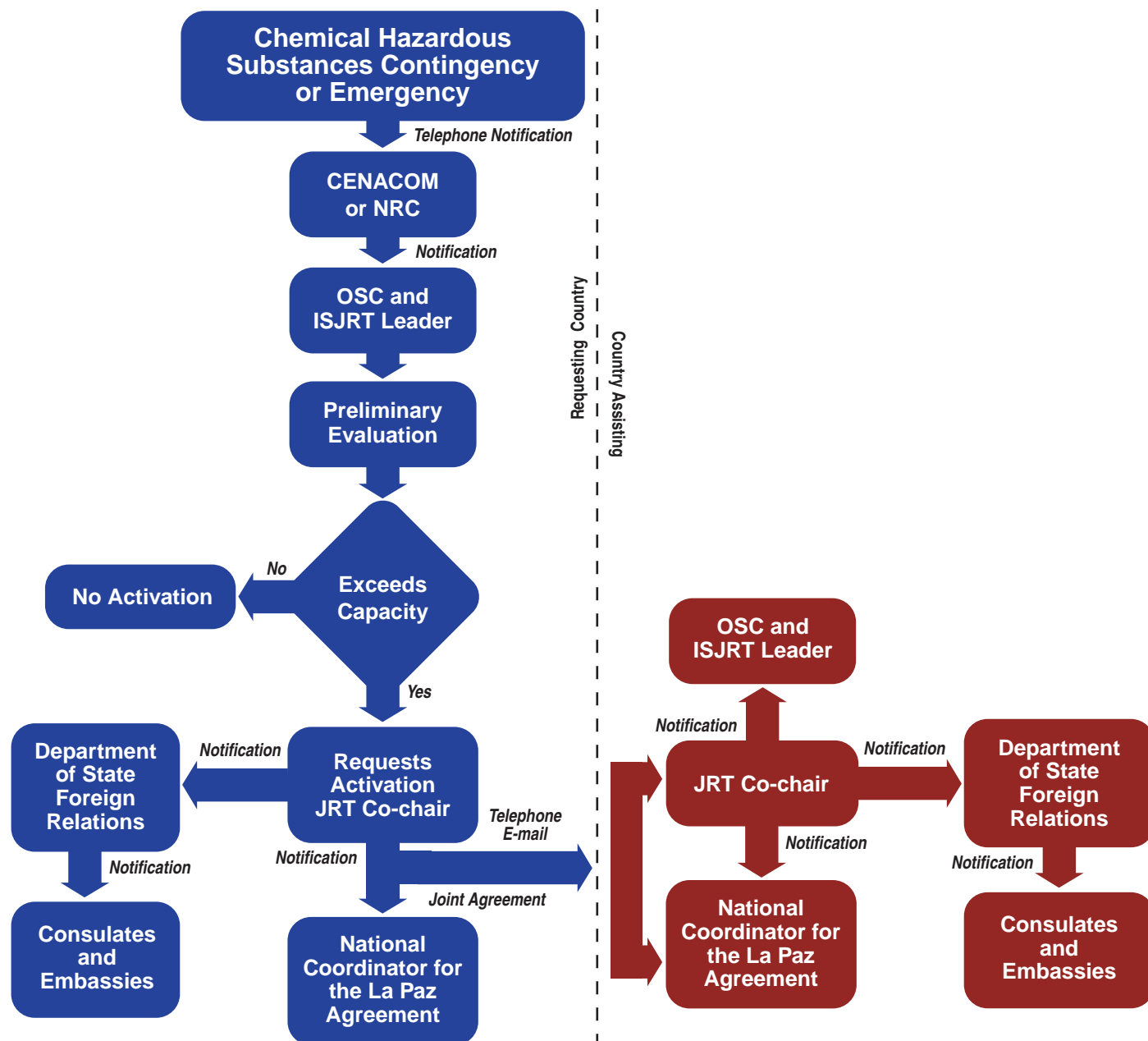
B Justification for joint response/Justificación para la respuesta conjunta:

C Date and time of joint response activation/Fecha y hora de la activación de la respuesta conjunta:

D Describe assistance required/Descripción del apoyo requerido:

APPENDIX C

Activation Diagram



ACRONYM KEY:

CENACOM – National Center for Communications and Operations for Civil Protection (Mexico)

ISJRT – Incident-Specific Joint Response Team

JRT – Joint Response Team

NRC – National Response Center (U.S.)

OSC – On-Scene Coordinator

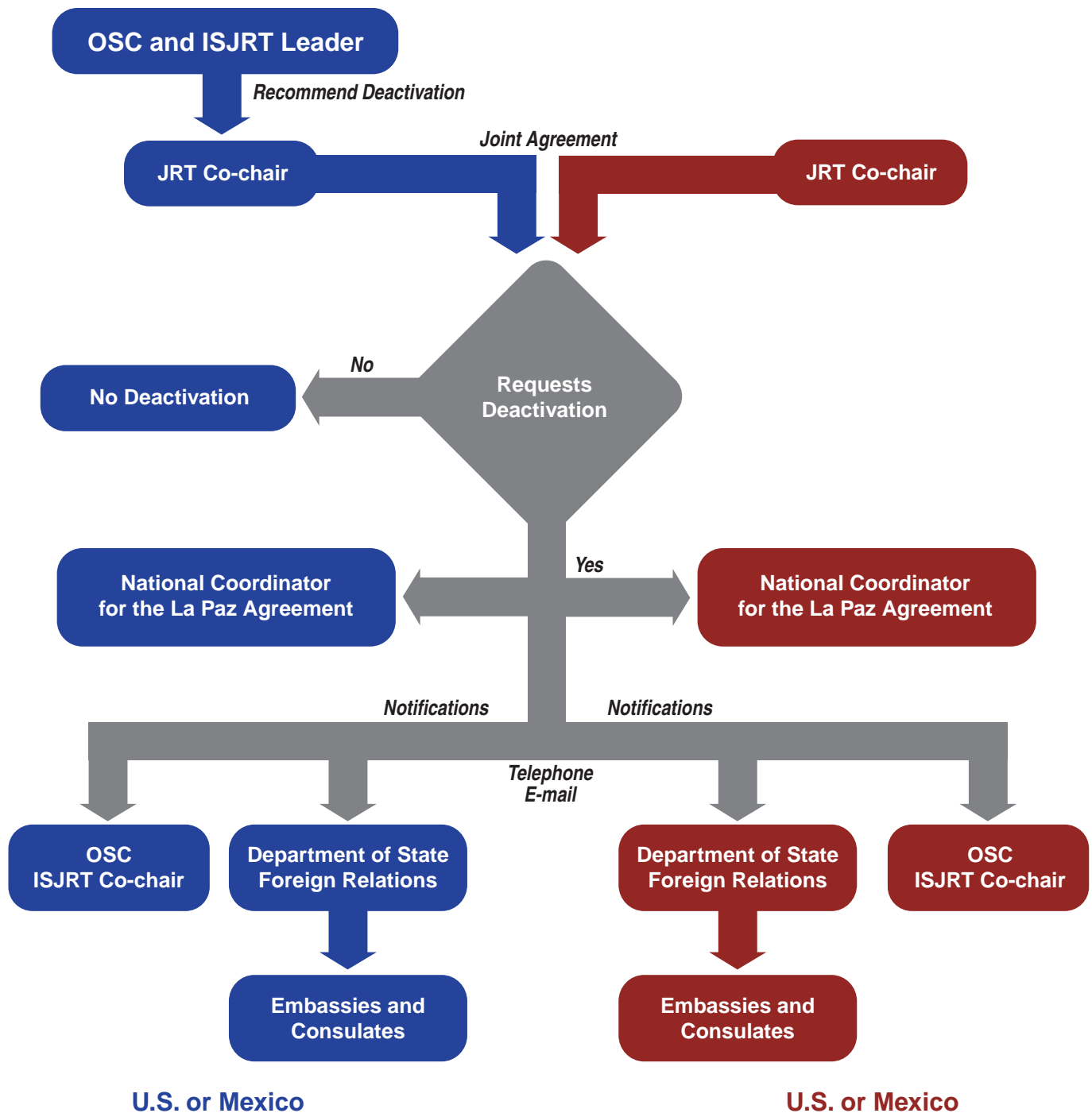
Deactivation Form

If the Inland Border Plan is deactivated, the following information is required in addition to the information provided in the Notification Form (see Appendix B):

-
- A Summary description of the contingency or emergency of chemical hazardous substances (a summary of the information provided in the Notification Form)/Resumen de la contingencia o emergencia de sustancias químicas peligrosas (un resumen de la información incluida en el Formulario de Notificación):
-
- B Justification for deactivation of joint response/Justificación para la desactivación de la respuesta conjunta:
-
- C Date and time of joint response deactivation/Fecha y hora de la desactivación de la respuesta conjunta:
-
- D Assistance requested/Asistencia requerida:
-

APPENDIX C

Deactivation Diagram



ACRONYM KEY:

ISJRT – Incident-Specific Joint Response Team

JRT – Joint Response Team

OSC – On-Scene Coordinator

Response Operations Diagram: Mexican Response



ACRONYM KEY:

CENACOM – National Center for Communications and Operations for Civil Protection (Civil Protection, SEGOB)

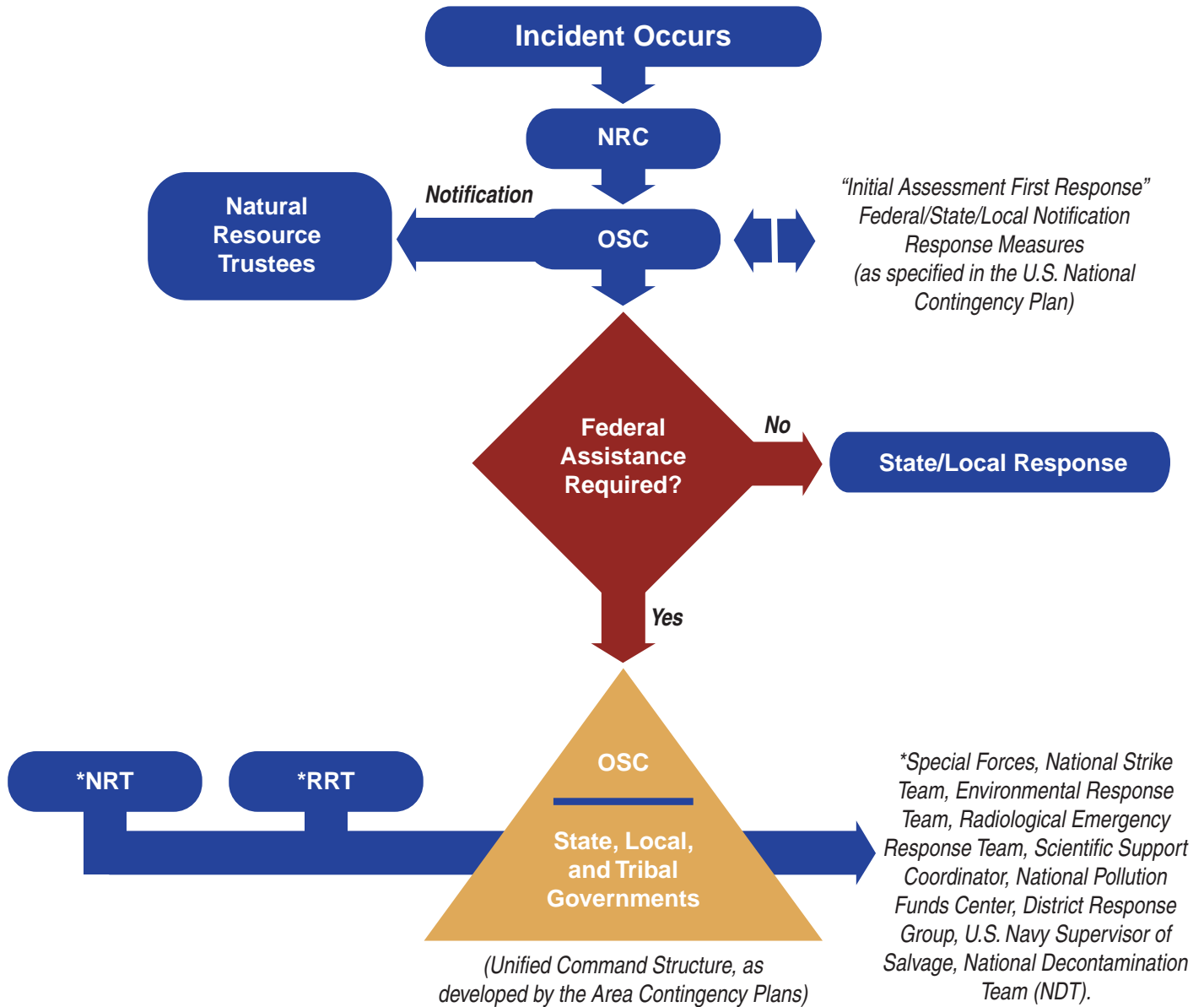
DAE – Emergency Response Agency

DGPC – Civil Protection Agency

CNPC – National Coordination for Civil Protection

SEGOB – Secretariat of the Governance

Response Operations Diagram: U.S. Response



**Resources available to support the OSC upon request.*

ACRONYM KEY:

CBRN CMAD – Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Consequence Management Advisory Division

NRC – National Response Center

NRT – National Response Team

OSC – On-Scene Coordinator

RRT – Regional Response Team

Reporting Information

1. *Preliminary Assessment*

- Date;
- Time;
- OSC name and phone number;
- Receiver name and address;
- SITREP number;
- Location of the incident;
- Status;
- Response actions;
- Recommendations; and
- Future plans.

2. *Situation Reports (SITREPs)*

Updated information about the chemical hazardous substances emergency and the response action(s) taken in accordance with this Inland Border Plan is to be provided by the OSCs to the leader of the ISJRT. The frequency is to be determined as needed or established by the Co-chairs using the situation report (SITREP), that is to describe the present situation, actions taken, future plans, recommendations, and all the requirements for assistance. The SITREP is to be sent to the Co-chairs and the members of the JRT by e-mail and by telephone. The SITREP is to contain the following information:

- Date;
- Time;
- Name and phone number of sender;
- Name and address of receiver;
- Number of this SITREP;
- Situation, name of chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, discharge, spill medium it was released to, and concentration (parts per million);
- Action(s) taken;
- Future plans; and
- Recommendations.

3. *Final Incident Report*

After a joint response is terminated, the ISJRT, in conjunction with the OSCs, is to prepare a Final Incident Report for transmittal to the Co-chairs. The Final Incident Report is to accurately describe the situation as it developed, the actions taken, the resources committed, the problems encountered, and the recommendations. For the United States, the format for the Final Incident Report may be uploaded to the EPA OSC website at <https://response.epa.gov>. The Final Incident Report is to contain the following information:

APPENDIX E

Summary of Events—a chronological narrative of all events and each of the developed phases, including:

- The cause of the chemical hazardous substances emergency;
- The initial situation;
- Efforts to obtain response action by those potentially responsible for the chemical hazardous substances emergency;
- The organization of the response, including participation by public and private sector organizations;
- The resources committed or used;
- The location of the chemical hazardous substances, released, spilled, or burned in a fire or explosion;
- Details of any action taken to reduce environmental and health impacts; and
- Public information and community relations activities.

Effectiveness of Removal Actions—A thorough analysis of the removal actions taken by:

- Those potentially responsible for the chemical hazardous substances emergency;
- State and local response personnel;
- Federal agencies; and
- Private groups, volunteers, and others.

Problems Encountered—A list of problems affecting response.

Recommendations—OSC's recommendations are a source for new procedures and policy and is to include:

- Means to prevent a recurrence of the incident;
- Improvement of response actions; and
- Any recommended changes to the Inland Border Plan.

4. *Final Preparation and Planning Report*

If an ISJRT is convened to address an issue of planning and preparation in the Inland Border Area as specified in Section 202.2 of this Inland Border Plan, a Final Preparation and Planning Report is to be prepared and transmitted to the Co-chair. The Final Preparation and Planning Report is to describe: the specific incident in detail; the specific geographic area; members of the ISJRT who worked on the incident and their roles; actions taken; ideas and options considered for resolving the incident; and if applicable, the pros and cons of each; and final recommendations. The Final Preparation and Planning Report is to include:

- Description of planning and preparedness issue;
- List of support agency members on the ISJRT and their specific roles;
- Specific steps taken to resolve the planning and preparedness issue;
- Ideas and options considered and pros and cons of each;
- Final resolution;
- Next steps; and
- Final recommendations.

Acronyms

APELL	Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at the Local Level (U.S.)
AGA	General Customs Administration (Mexico)
ASEA	National Agency for Industrial Safety and Environmental Protection for the Hydrocarbon Sector (Mexico)
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs (U.S.)
CBP	Customs and Border Protection (U.S.)
CBRN CMAD	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Consequence Management Advisory Division (U.S.)
CENACOM	National Center for Communications and Operations for Civil Protection (Mexico)
CENAPRED	National Center for Disaster Prevention (Mexico)
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (U.S.)
CLAM	Local Committees of Mutual Support (Mexico)
CNPC	National Coordination for Civil Protection (Mexico)
CNS	National Commission for Safety (Mexico)
CNSNS	National Commission of Nuclear Security and Safeguards (Mexico)
COATEA	Center for the Orientation of Emergencies (Mexico)
CONAGUA	National Water Commission (Mexico)
CWA	Clean Water Act (U.S.)
DHS	Department of Homeland Security (U.S.)
DOC	Department of Commerce (U.S.)
DOD	Department of Defense (U.S.)
DOE	Department of Energy (U.S.)
DOI	Department of the Interior (U.S.)
DOJ	Department of Justice (U.S.)
DOL	Department of Labor (U.S.)
DOS	Department of State (U.S.)
DOT	Department of Transportation (U.S.)
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency (U.S.)

APPENDIX F

ESF	Emergency Support Function (U.S.)
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency (U.S.)
GSA	General Services Administration (U.S.)
HHS	Department of Health and Human Services (U.S.)
HSA	Homeland Security Act (U.S.)
HSPD	Homeland Security Presidential Directive (U.S.)
IBWC	International Boundary and Water Commission (U.S.-Mexico)
INM	National Migration Institute (Mexico)
ISJRT	Incident-Specific Joint Response Team (U.S.-Mexico)
JCP	Joint Contingency Plan (U.S.-Mexico)
JRT	Joint Response Team (U.S.-Mexico)
LANSI	Law of the National Agency for Industrial Safety and Environmental Protection for the Hydrocarbon Sector (Mexico)
LGEEPA	General Law of Ecological Equilibrium and Environmental Protection (Mexico)
LGPC	General Law of Civil Protection (Mexico)
LGPGIR	General Law for Prevention and Integrated Waste Management (Mexico)
NCP	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (U.S.) (a.k.a. the National Contingency Plan)
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (U.S.)
NRC	National Response Center (U.S.)
NRF	National Response Framework (U.S.)
NRT	National Response Team (U.S.)
OEM	Office of Emergency Management (EPA) (U.S.)
OPA	Oil Pollution Act (U.S.)
OSC	On-Scene Coordinator (U.S.)
PAMI	Industrial Mutual Aid Program (U.S.-Mexico)
PEMEX	Mexican Petroleum Company (Mexico)
PF	Federal Police (Mexico)

PIAE	Hydraulic Infrastructure Protection and Emergency Attention (Mexico)
PKEMRA	Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (U.S.)
PROFEPA	Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (Mexico)
RRT	Regional Response Team (U.S.)
SAGARPA	Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishing and Food (Mexico)
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (U.S.)
SCT	Secretariat of Communications and Transport (Mexico)
SEDENA	Secretariat of National Defense (Mexico)
SEGOB	Secretariat of Governance (Mexico)
SEMAR	Secretariat of the Navy (Mexico)
SEMARNAT	Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (Mexico)
SENER	Secretariat of Energy (Mexico)
SHCP	Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit (Mexico)
SII	Under Attorney of Industrial Inspection (Mexico)
SINAPROC	National Civil Protection System (Mexico)
SITREP	Situation Report (U.S.-Mexico)
SRE	Secretariat of Foreign Relations (Mexico)
SS	Secretariat of Health (Mexico)
USCG	U.S. Coast Guard
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture

Definitions

Chemical Hazardous Substances (U.S.-Mexico)—For the purposes of this Inland Border Plan, the term covers oil and chemicals, including those that due to their high indexes of flammability, explosiveness, toxicity, corrosiveness, and/or reactivity, can cause significant effects to the environment, the population and/or property. Chemical hazardous substances as a result of terrorist acts are excluded.

Co-chair (U.S.-Mexico)—Co-chair for the Inland Border Plan and Joint Response Team.

For Mexico, the Co-chair for this Inland Border Plan is the Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) through the Office of the Under Attorney of Industrial Inspection of the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA) and the National Coordination for Civil Protection (CNPC) within the Secretariat of Governance (SEGOB).

For the United States, the Co-chair for this Inland Border Plan is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) within the Office of Land and Emergency Management.

Contingency (U.S.-Mexico)—Unplanned and unexpected risk situation, derived from human activities or natural phenomena that can endanger the environment, the population or its goods. For the purposes of this Inland Border Plan, only contingencies associated with chemical hazardous substances are to be considered.

Discharge (U.S.-Mexico)—The action of depositing, leaking, infiltrating, spilling (see also: Spill (Mexico)) or injecting a chemical hazardous substance into the environment.

Emergency (U.S.-Mexico)—Unplanned and unexpected situation, resulting from human activity or natural phenomenon that affects the environment, the population and/or property. For the purposes of this Inland Border Plan, only emergencies associated with chemical hazardous substances are to be considered.

Environment (U.S.-Mexico)—The atmosphere, land and surface and groundwater, including the natural resources therein, such as fish, wildlife, forests, crop and rangeland, rivers, streams, aquifers and all other components of the ecosystem.²

Event (U.S.-Mexico)—Contingency or Emergency as defined herein.

Facility (U.S.)—(a) Any building, structure, installation, equipment, pipe or pipeline (including any pipe into a sewer or publicly owned treatment work), well, pit, lagoon, impoundment, ditch, landfill, storage container, motor vehicle, rolling stock, or aircraft, or (b) any site or area where a chemical hazardous substance, oil spill or discharge has been deposited, disposed of, placed or come to be located, excluding any consumer product in consumer use or any vessel in navigable waters.

Hydrocarbons (Mexico)—petroleum/oil, natural gas, condensates, natural gas liquids and methane hydrates.

Hydrocarbons Sector (Mexico)—Includes the following activities: a) surface reconnaissance and exploration, and the exploration and extraction of hydrocarbons; b) the treatment, refining, transfer, marketing, transportation and storage of oil; c) processing, compression, liquefaction, decompression and regasification, as well as the transport, storage, distribution and sale to the public of natural gas; (d) the transportation, storage, distribution and sale to the public of liquefied petroleum gas; (e) transportation, storage, distribution and sale to the public of petroleum products; and (f) pipeline transportation and storage, which is linked to petrochemical pipelines resulting from the processing of natural gas and oil refining.

²Definition consistent with the La Paz Agreement of 1983.

Incident/Situation-Specific Joint Response Team (U.S.-Mexico)—The Incident/Situation-Specific Joint Response Team is responsible for effective implementation of the Inland Border Plan on a regional level in the United States and on a state and local level in Mexico in accordance with the policies of the Joint Response Team.

Inland Border Area (U.S.-Mexico)—Inland border that corresponds to the area situated 100 kilometers on either side of the inland international boundary as defined in Annex II of the 1983 La Paz Agreement between the United States of America and the United States of Mexico on Cooperation of the Protection and Improvement of the Environment in the Border Area (as illustrated in Appendix J).

Inland Border Plan (U.S.-Mexico)—The Mexico-United States Joint Contingency Plan for Preparedness and Response to Emergencies and Contingencies Associated with Chemical Hazardous Substances in the Inland Border Area, based on the principles of the Annex II of the 1983 La Paz Agreement.

Joint Response (U.S.-Mexico)—The assistance of one group of Participants to the other group of Participants in relation to an incident, including: (1) one group of Participants entering the territory of the other group of Participants and providing assistance at the request of the other group of Participants or with their prior consent; (2) coordination of federal response efforts, activities, and resources of both participating groups in response to an incident; or (3) the exchange of information between the two participating groups concerning response to an incident.

Joint Response Team (U.S.-Mexico)—The policy and decision-making body with overall responsibility for the maintenance and effective implementation of this Inland Border Plan.

Leak (Mexico)—Uncontrolled release of chemical hazardous substances in gaseous state.

National Coordinator (U.S.-Mexico)—The authorities designated in the La Paz Agreement.

National Response Framework (NRF) (U.S.)—The NRF is a guide to how the Nation conducts all-hazards response, issued by the DHS under the authority of the Homeland Security Act (HSA), Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (PKEMRA), Stafford Act, and Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5 (HSPD-5). The NRF documents the key response principles, roles and responsibilities, and coordinating structures that organize national response. It describes how communities, all levels of government, and private-sector and nongovernmental partners apply these principles for a coordinated, effective national response.

Natural Element (U.S.-Mexico)—The physical, chemical and biological elements that occur in a determined time and space without human interference.

Natural Resource (U.S.)—Natural element that may be used for the benefit of mankind. Also includes land, fish, wildlife, plants, air, water, groundwater, drinking water supplies, and other such resources.

For Mexico, it is the natural element that may be used for the benefit of mankind.

On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) (U.S.-Mexico)—The EPA, PROFEPA and CNPC officials authorized to coordinate and direct responses under this Inland Border Plan.

Operation/Management (Mexico)—Joint operations that include the storage, production, transportation, disposal and all activities related to the use of chemical hazardous substances.

Participants (U.S.-Mexico)—Signatories to this Inland Border Plan.

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Release (U.S.)—For the United States, it is any spilling, burning, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing into the environment of chemical hazardous substances. It includes the abandonment or discarding of barrels, containers, and other closed receptacles containing any chemical hazardous substances or oil. The term does not include: (a) any release which results in exposure to persons solely within a workplace, (b) emissions from the engine exhaust of a motor vehicle, rolling stock, aircraft, vessel, or pipeline pumping station engine, and (c) the normal application of fertilizer. For purposes of this Inland Border Plan, “release” also means a threat of release.

For Mexico, release is any leaking, spilling, explosion or fire by a chemical hazardous substance.

Response Action (U.S.-Mexico)—The removal of chemical hazardous substances that have been released, spilled, discharged or caught fire in the environment; actions taken to reduce the threat of spills, discharges or releases; actions taken to monitor, calculate, or evaluate the threat (or the spill/discharge itself) of chemical hazardous substances; disposal of removed materials; or other actions taken to prevent or mitigate damages to public health, well-being, or the environment.

Risk (U.S.-Mexico)—Combination of the probability of occurrence of a chemical hazardous substances emergency and its consequences.

Spill (Mexico)—Uncontrolled release of chemical hazardous substances.

State (U.S.-Mexico)—(a) The federal entities of Mexico that are part of the border with the United States of America: Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon, Coahuila, Chihuahua, Sonora and Baja California; and (b) the states from the United States of America that border with Mexico: Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California.

Unified Command (U.S.)—An incident command mechanism that may be used in managing complex responses. A Unified Command, as part of an Incident Command System, brings together the “incident commanders” from each organization involved in a response to allow key decision-makers to develop consensus, coordinate, and cooperate.

Joint Response Team (JRT) Institutions and Agencies

Primary Agencies

On the part of Mexico, SEMARNAT through PROFEPA, and CNPC within SEGOB, have the responsibility to give assistance and coordinate Mexican participation in this Inland Border Plan, in coordination with the Secretariat of Governance through the National Civil Protection System. For the United States, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has primary responsibility for providing assistance and coordinating the U.S. response under this Inland Border Plan. General responsibilities of these agencies include:

- Coordinating, integrating, and managing the overall joint effort to detect, identify, contain, clean up, dispose of, or minimize the danger of releases of chemical hazardous substances, or prevent, mitigate, or minimize threats of releases;
- Maintaining close coordination with the affected locality, ISJRT, OSCs, and other Participants; and
- Providing administrative assistance, means, communications, and personnel to support response efforts under this Inland Border Plan within that agency's jurisdiction.

Support Agencies

Assistance available from federal support agencies of the United States and Mexico is presented below. Each support agency is to provide assistance to preparedness and response efforts under this Inland Border Plan in its respective areas of expertise and consistent with its capabilities and legal authorities.

Bi-National Institutions

The **International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC)**—In the event of an incident in international rivers and waters the EPA Regional Offices and/or PROFEPA and CNPC, is to notify the IBWC corresponding sections, which are to respond to the extent that the IBWC's authority, responsibility, and resources permit. The U.S. section of the IBWC coordinates with the Bureau of Reclamation, the Army Corps of Engineers, and appropriate federal agencies or U.S. Border States, as well as notifies the NRC. The Mexican section of the IBWC may coordinate with the Mexican National Water Commission (CNA) in fulfilling its responsibilities regarding international waters of the United States and Mexico. The IBWC is also to notify CENACOM.

The IBWC functions as an international organization, consisting of a U.S. and a Mexican section. The two sections operate under the policy guidance of the U.S. Department of State (DOS) and the Mexican Secretariat of Foreign Relations, respectively. The IBWC is charged with implementing the provisions of existing treaties dealing with boundary and water matters affecting the U.S. Department of State (DOS) and the Mexican Secretariat of Foreign Relations, respectively. The IBWC is charged with implementing the provisions of existing treaties dealing with boundary and water matters affecting the United States and Mexico, including: preservation of the international boundary, distribution of waters of the boundary rivers between the two countries, control of floods on the boundary rivers, regulation of boundary rivers through joint storage works to enable division and utilization of the waters by the two countries, improvement of the water quality of boundary rivers, solution of border sanitation problems, and use of international waters of the Rio Grande to jointly develop hydroelectric power. In the event IBWC is unable to contain a spill or discharge, it would seek the assistance in the United States from EPA, and in Mexico from PROFEPA and Civil Protection to assure that responsible action is taken.

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The IBWC Mexican Section, which functions under the Mexican Secretariat for Foreign Relations (SRE) and in coordination with CONAGUA, is to evaluate the effects of the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency in international waters and implement emergency actions.

Agencies Supporting Mexico

The **Secretariat of Governance (Spanish acronym: SEGOB)** through the National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC) coordinates the activities of the agencies of the public sector – federal, state, and municipal – as well as private institutions in order to prevent and respond to incidents that affect the population in areas where an accident might occur. SEGOB also protects the population against risks and dangers associated with a natural or human disaster.

The **Secretariat of National Defense (Spanish acronym: SEDENA)** is the institution that within its respective jurisdiction and in accordance with its procedures, should be able to provide necessary support to assist the civil population, in collaboration with this Inland Border Plan.

The **Secretariat of the Navy (Spanish acronym: SEMAR)** exercises sovereignty over the territorial sea, its aerial space and coasts, conducts surveillance of Mexican marine zones, holds the authority to ensure compliance with judicial order in the marine zones, protects the fluvial and maritime traffic and human life at sea, within its jurisdiction; functions as the marine police to uphold the state of law in Mexican marine zones, participates in and develops corresponding actions within the framework of the national system of civil protection for prevention, assistance, recovery and support to the population in disaster situations, and provides assistance services to the Army, as well as support services to other federal agencies, federal entities and municipalities that request it or when it is dictated by the Federal Executive Titular.

The SEDENA and SEMAR, according with their respective jurisdictions, provide the necessary elements to help the civil population, adapting its organization for a response and adjusting its procedures with derived actions of this Inland Border Plan.

The **Secretariat of Health (Spanish acronym: SS)** acts in the event of an emergency caused by a sudden deterioration of the environment that places the population at risk. The agency adopts the prevention and control measures necessary to protect health.

Special actions in matters of general health are undertaken by the Secretariat of Health, which organizes special responders that act under its direction and responsibility and entrust the federal, state, and municipal authorities with the execution of activities these responders deem necessary.

The SS is to also coordinate the health institutions and other public, social and private centers that participate in the emergency. It provides medical assistance requested by the population, workers, and personnel that will assist during the chemical hazardous substance emergency and contingency. It plans to implement the necessary health protection actions within its jurisdiction.

The **Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources (Spanish acronym: SEMARNAT)** has the authority to determine the guidelines that serve to guarantee the conservation or restoration of ecosystems; it regulates high risk activities in coordination with other dependencies from the Federal Public Administration and provides support in the coordination of the Inland Border Plan through the federal and state representatives in the Border States.

The **Office of the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (Spanish acronym: PROFEPA)**, as a decentralized office of SEMARNAT, has the authority to verify compliance with environmental norms, carry out environmental audits of private or public firms under federal jurisdiction with respect to the activities that might be of potential risk to the environment, and provide specialized guidance for spills, explosions, fires, and releases of chemical hazardous substances.

The **National Commission of Water (Spanish acronym: CONAGUA)**, as a decentralized member of SEMARNAT, is the authority that promotes the efficient use of Mexico's water resources and its reutilization, and operates the services for its preservation, conservation and quality improvement in the phases of the hydrobiological cycle and promotes a water culture that considers this element as a vital and scarce resource. Additionally, it implements the mechanism of rapid, timely and efficient response for a hydroecological emergency or an environmental emergency that occurs in the water bodies or national goods under its charge.

The **National Agency for Industrial Safety and Environmental Protection for the Hydrocarbons Sector (Spanish acronym: ASEA)** is a decentralized administrative body of the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, with technical and management autonomy, in charge of regulating and supervising industrial safety, operational safety and environmental protection in the activities of the hydrocarbons sector. The purpose of the Agency is to regulate and supervise the installations and activities of the hydrocarbons sector in matters of industrial, operational and environmental protection.

The **Secretariat of Communications and Transport (Spanish acronym: SCT)** has the authority to formulate and direct the policies and programs for transport development and communications in accordance with the needs of the country; provide concessions and permits to establish and exploit systems and services of wireless communications via telecommunications and satellites; establish and operate aerial services in the national territory; exploit auto transport services on federal roads and for the surveillance of their functioning and operation; and establish and exploit services related to communications as well as the remaining rights laid out in the laws and regulations.

The SCT is to advise the concessionary or/and concessionaire of telecommunications, the services they should provide to the Mexican institutions involved in a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency.

The **Federal Police (Spanish acronym: PF)** is a decentralized body of the **National Security Commission (Spanish acronym: CNS)** charged with preventing and combating the commission of crimes, in compliance with the legal framework, with committed and qualified personnel, in coordination with the three orders of governance that allow citizen participation, in order to safeguard the integrity and rights of individuals and institutions, through programs and actions developed with state-of-the-art intelligence and technology schemes that give confidence and certainty to society. At the request of the competent authorities, it collaborates with the civil protection services in case of calamities, high risk situations or natural disasters and carry out surveillance and inspection on the entry and exit of goods and persons at airports, seaports authorized for international traffic, at customs, tax offices, customs sections, checkpoints and customs checkpoints. In addition, it coordinates the handling, transport or possession of aforementioned goods in any part of the national territory.

The **Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, and Rural Development (Spanish acronym: SAGARPA)** has authority to control the foods that can be affected during an emergency.

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The **National Center for Disaster Prevention (Spanish acronym: CENAPRED)** is an agency under the jurisdiction of the Secretariat of Governance that promotes the training of emergency response personnel in the participating institutions. CENAPRED develops research strategies, applies and coordinates technologies for the prevention and mitigation of disasters, promotes professional and technical training, and supports the dissemination of information regarding preparation and self-protective measures for the population before the risk of a disaster and, through these activities, supports and assists SINAPROC.

The **National Center for Communications and Operations for Civil Protection (Spanish acronym: CENACOM)** heads the operation of communication, alert, information, permanent support and liaison between the members of the National System, in the tasks of preparation, help and recovery. In addition, it is in charge of integrating systems, equipment, documents and other instruments that contribute to facilitating timely and appropriate decision-making by the members of the National System.

The **Secretariat of Foreign Affairs (Spanish acronym: SRE)** helps the immigration and customs authorities conduct bilateral negotiations to establish mechanisms to expedite the entrance of emergency response equipment and personnel into Mexico, which is to be accredited before SRE to guarantee the applicable regulations and non-tariff restrictions.

The **General Customs Administration (Spanish acronym: AGA)** authorized by the **Ministry of Finance and Public Credit (Spanish acronym: SHCP)** is to implement the legal procedures and mechanisms that facilitate the expedited border crossing for emergency response equipment.

The **National Immigration Institute (Spanish acronym: INM)**, a technical and decentralized agency of SEGOB, in accordance with the applicable regulations and dictated measures, is to facilitate the entry or exit to the national territory of the group of participants in relation to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency.

The **Secretariat of Energy (Spanish acronym: SENER)**, through the **National Commission of Nuclear Security and Safeguard (Spanish acronym: CNSNS)**, advises federal, state, and local entities concerning nuclear and radiation safety measures that would be required in the event of an incident or potential incident and the evaluation of the consequences of the radioactive emergency, as well as in the implementation of safety measures to protect the population and the environment/natural ecosystem. When technically prudent, the SENER is also responsible for containment equipment and securing ionizing radiation sources.

The **Mexican Petroleum Company (Spanish acronym: PEMEX)**, which is part of the federal government, promptly reports the existence of an emergency should a spill or release of hazardous substances to international waters occur at one of its plants in the border zone between the U.S. and Mexico. PEMEX implements the first response action measures until those legal authorities charged with the response arrive. Also, in the event of an emergency in the Border Zone, PEMEX provides aid with response personnel and equipment.

Agencies Supporting the United States

The **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** co-chairs the U.S.-Mexico Joint Response Team, chairs the National Response Team (NRT), Co-chairs the standing Regional Response Teams (RRTs), and the Incident-Specific Joint Response Team at the response level; provides pre-designated On-Scene Coordinators for the inland zone, and generally provides scientific support to coordinators for the inland zone. EPA provides expertise on environmental

effects of releases and on environmental pollution control techniques. In addition, EPA provides guidance, technical assistance, and training in hazardous materials preparedness and response. Furthermore, EPA is working with other federal partners to prevent accidents as well as to maintain superior response capabilities. One of EPA's roles is to provide information about response efforts, regulations, tools, and research to help the regulated community, government entities, and concerned citizens prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies.

The **U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)**, now part of the Department of Homeland Security, provides On-Scene Coordinators for the coastal zone, the NRT Vice-chair, and Co-chairs for the standing RRTs. The USCG staffs and administers the National Response Center; maintains the continuously manned facilities that may be used for command, control, and surveillance of releases in coastal waters; and serves as fund manager for the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund established under the Oil Pollution Act. The Coast Guard's National Strike Force is specially trained and equipped to respond to major pollution incidents. In water pollution incidents in which the USCG has financial responsibility jurisdiction, the USCG ensures that responsible parties, both from the United States and foreign countries, are able to compensate the United States and other damaged parties through the Certificate of Financial Responsibility program.

The **U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)** has scientific and technical capability to measure, evaluate, and monitor, either on the ground or by aircraft, situations where natural resources, including soil, water, wildlife, and vegetation, have been impacted by hazardous substances. Agencies within the USDA with relevant expertise are: the Forest Service, the Agricultural Research Service, the Soil Conservation Service, the Food Safety and Inspection Service, and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

The **Department of Commerce (DOC)**, through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), provides scientific support for responses and contingency planning in coastal and marine areas, including assessments of the hazards that may be involved, predictions of movement and dispersion of oil and hazardous substances through trajectory modeling, and information on the sensitivity of coastal environments to oil or hazardous substances. NOAA provides scientific expertise on the living marine resources it manages and protects. It also provides information on actual and predicted meteorological, hydrologic, ice, and oceanographic conditions for marine, coastal, and inland waters, as well as tide and circulation data.

The **Department of Defense (DOD)** takes all action necessary with regard to the releases of hazardous substances where the release is on, or the sole source of the release is from, a facility or vessel under jurisdiction, custody, or control of DOD.

The DOD may also, consistent with its operational requirements and at the request of the On-Scene Coordinator, provide locally deployed U.S. Navy oil spill equipment and provide assistance to other federal agencies upon request. The following two branches of the DOD have particularly relevant expertise:

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has specialized equipment and personnel for removing navigation obstructions and accomplishing structural repairs.
- The U.S. Navy has an extensive array of specialized equipment and personnel available for use in ship salvage, shipboard damage control, pollution abatement and diving.

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The **Department of Energy (DOE)**, except as otherwise established in Executive Order 12580³, provides designated On-Scene Coordinators that are responsible for executing all response actions with respect to the releases of hazardous substances where the release is either on, or the sole source of the release is from, any facility or vessel under its jurisdiction, custody, or control.

The **Department of Homeland Security (DHS)** is responsible for preventing and deterring terrorist attacks and protecting against and responding to threats and hazards to the nation. The DHS strives to ensure safe and secure borders, welcome lawful immigrants and visitors, and promote the free flow of commerce.

The **Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)** is responsible for providing assistance on matters related to the assessment of health hazards at a response site and the protection of both response workers and public health. Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, the HHS is the delegated authority when it is determined that illness, disease, or complaints may be attributable to exposure to a hazardous substance or pollutant. Agencies within the HHS that have relevant responsibilities, capabilities, and expertise include the U.S. Public Health Service, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), the National Institutes for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

The **Department of the Interior (DOI)** manages a wide variety of natural, cultural, historical, and mineral resources and has certain responsibilities for Tribal Governments and U.S. territories. The DOI manages almost 40 percent of the land base in the United States along the Mexican border. These areas consist of internationally and nationally significant parks and monuments, wildlife refuges, biosphere reserves, wilderness areas, public lands, wild and scenic rivers, and other waterways. The DOI has additional management responsibility for federally listed threatened and endangered animals and plant species, migratory birds, and certain marine mammals. The nine DOI bureaus with jurisdiction over and expertise in these resources may be contacted during hazardous material emergency incident response through DOI Regional Environmental Offices in Albuquerque (representing Texas and New Mexico) and San Francisco (representing Arizona and California). DOI's **Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)** is responsible for the administration and management of land held in trust by the United States for Native Americans Tribes. BIA's specific responsibilities include developing forestlands, leasing assets on these lands, directing agricultural programs, protecting water and land rights, developing and maintaining infrastructure and economic development, and providing education services to Native American students. The DOI's Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance is the designated DOI representative to the U.S. RRTs and the JRT.

The **Department of Justice (DOJ)** provides expert advice on legal questions arising from discharges or releases, and federal agency responses. In addition, the DOJ represents the federal government, including its agencies, in litigation relating to such discharges or releases.

The **Department of Labor (DOL)**, through the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the States' operating plans approved under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, has authority to conduct health and safety inspections of pollutant response operations and hazardous waste sites to assure that employees are being protected and to determine if the site is in compliance with health and safety standards and regulations. Upon request, OSHA is prepared to provide advice and assistance regarding hazards to persons engaged in response activities.

³Executive Order 12580 delegates to various Federal officials the responsibilities vested in the President for implementing the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA).

The **Department of State (DOS)** leads the negotiation of international agreements or arrangements that provide for international joint contingency plans. The DOS also helps to coordinate an international response when discharges or releases cross international boundaries or involve foreign flagged vessels. Additionally, the DOS coordinates requests for assistance from foreign governments and U.S. proposals for conducting research into incidents occurring in foreign waters. The DOS also works with U.S. immigration and customs authorities to conduct any needed bilateral negotiations to establish mechanisms to expedite the entrance of emergency personnel and equipment into the United States.

The **Department of Transportation (DOT)** provides response expertise pertaining to transportation of oil or hazardous substances by all modes of transportation. Through the Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA), DOT offers expertise in the requirements for packaging, handling, and transporting regulated hazardous materials. RSPA provides technical assistance in the form of Emergency Response Guidebooks and planning support in the development of protective action decision strategies and exercise scenarios.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) is the unified border agency within the Department of Homeland Security. CBP combines the inspectional workforces and broad border authorities of the United States Customs, United States Immigration, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, and the entire U.S. Border Patrol. CBP includes more than 41,000 employees who manage, control, and protect the borders of the United States, at and between the official ports of entry. As the nation's unified border agency, CBP is strategically positioned at and between the United States' ports of entry to prevent terrorist attacks on the United States. This includes carrying out traditional border-related responsibilities, such as stemming the tide of illegal drugs and illegal aliens, securing and facilitating legitimate global trade and travel, and protecting the food supply and agriculture industry from pests and diseases.

The **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**, as part of the DHS, provides guidance, policy, and program advice, and technical assistance in hazardous, biological and radiological emergency preparedness activities (planning, training, and exercising) to state and local governments. During a national response, FEMA provides advice and assistance to the lead agency on coordinating relocation assistance and mitigation efforts with other federal agencies, state and local governments, and the private sector.

The **General Services Administration (GSA)** provides logistical and resource support to federal response operations. Such assistance includes emergency relief supplies, office and other space, office equipment, office supplies, telecommunications, contracting services, transportation services, and personnel required to support immediate response activities.

Roles and Responsibilities

I.1 Duties and Responsibilities of the Joint Response Team (JRT)

The JRT Co-chair of each country is to identify its support agencies, designate its members on the JRT, and communicate these designations to the other country. When the JRT meets in Mexico, the Mexican Co-chairs are expected to preside. When the JRT meets in the United States, the U.S. Co-chair is expected to preside.

Listed below are the specific planning, preparedness, response, and activation duties and responsibilities of the JRT.

I.1.1 Specific Preparedness Duties and Responsibilities of the JRT

When the JRT is not activated, it is to:

- Develop and update procedures for carrying out a joint response to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, including procedures to promote the coordination of federal, Tribal, state, and local government as well as private industry responses to chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies;
- Foster the development and international cooperation of local action groups, such as the Local Committees of Mutual Support (Spanish acronym: CLAM) and units under the Industrial Mutual Aid Program (Spanish acronym: PAMI) program in Mexico, and the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) in the United States;
- Promote the preparation, maintenance, and execution of exercises of Sister City Plans to ensure emergency preparedness at the local level to respond to chemical hazardous substances emergencies;
- Review and/or revise the Inland Border Plan as necessary, incorporating any findings from:
 - Final Reports developed by the ISJRT after the termination of a joint response, especially the recommendations for improving the joint response;
 - All reports developed by the ISJRT;
 - Lessons learned from drills and exercises; and
 - Changes in the national policies and/or procedures in the United States and Mexico.
- Conduct regular meetings and conference calls, to discuss the issues of preparedness and activation issues related to the successful implementation of the Inland Border Plan with planning responsibilities rotating between the U.S. and Mexico;
- Maintain an updated contact list of names and telephone numbers of all support agencies of the JRT as well as appropriate persons to contact under this Inland Border Plan. This list is to be updated annually or as necessary;
- Develop recommendations for training of federal, Tribal, state, and local planners and responders;
- Develop recommendations (based on each country's requirements) for equipping and protecting response personnel; and
- Conduct periodic exercises of this Inland Border Plan.

I.1.2 Specific Activation Duties and Responsibilities of the JRT

When the United States and Mexico have determined to activate the Inland Border Plan, the JRT is to:

- Follow instructions in Section 303 of this Inland Border Plan;
- Notify the National Coordinators and keep them informed as designated by Annex II of the La Paz Agreement of 1983;
- Coordinate national-level activities of all involved federal departments and agencies;
- Develop a joint public information strategy in conjunction with the ISJRT and the OSCs;
- Facilitate information exchange between the countries;
- Provide assistance to the ISJRT, this assistance could include:
 - Facilitating the provision of emergency resources, support, and promote the activation of other related emergency plans, such as those involving customs and immigration during a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency;
 - Advising the ISJRT and the OSCs about possible measures to take in response to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency and about the resources available to carry out these measures;
 - Evaluating and making recommendations concerning the response activities and measures taken by the ISJRT and the OSCs;
- Address policy issues and procedures as they arise; and
- Request through the Co-chairs the deactivation of the Inland Border Plan as stipulated in Section 304.

I.2 Duties and Responsibilities of the Situation/Incident-Specific Joint Response Team (ISJRT)

The Situation/Incident-Specific JRT (ISJRT) is responsible for effective implementation of the Inland Border Plan on a state and local level in Mexico and on a regional level in the United States, in accordance with the policies of the JRT.

The duties and responsibilities of a Situation/Incident Specific JRT are listed below, in sections 1.2.1 and 1.2.2.

The Situation/Incident-Specific JRT is to address all the preparedness activities and the Incident-Specific JRT is to address all the response activities during activation.

I.2.1 Duties and Responsibilities of the Situation-Specific JRT

The Situation-Specific JRT is to:

- Conduct annual (or as necessary) meetings and conference calls to plan, review actions and activities in the border area, address emerging issues, resolve outstanding issues, and exchange information;
- Support the preparation, update, and exercise of Sister City Plans in order to ensure preparedness for and effective response to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency;

APPENDIX I

- Develop procedures (in coordination with the JRT) for a joint response to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency;
- Conduct exercises (as necessary) for this Inland Border Plan;
- Develop and present a Final Preparation and Planning Report to the Co-chair, as stipulated in Sections 306.3 and Appendix E; and
- Recommend to the JRT any changes and/or improvements needed to this Inland Border Plan.

I.2.2 Duties and Responsibilities of the Incident-Specific JRT

The Incident-Specific JRT is to:

- Monitor incoming reports, evaluate the possible impact of chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies reported, and be fully aware at all times of the actions and plans of the OSCs;
- Seek arrangements with appropriate agencies in having services, facilities, or equipment that may be useful in the response to a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency;
- Coordinate the actions of the various agencies and governmental institutions and the private organizations in supplying the human, material and financial resources required to the OSCs;
- Inform and advise the OSCs about the resources and assistance available to carry out the OSCs' response activities;
- Make recommendations and provide advice to the OSCs concerning the response activities, as requested;
- Coordinate all reports sent to the Co-chairs on the status of the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency;
- Ensure that the OSCs have adequate public information support and assist in the preparation of information releases in compliance with the joint public information strategy (see Section 307.2);
- Serve in an advisory capacity and function as the liaison between the JRT and the OSCs;
- Review post-incident reports from the OSCs on the handling of chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies for the purpose of developing the Final Incident Report as stipulated in Section 306.3;
- Develop, in conjunction with the OSCs, a Final Incident Report as stipulated in Section 306.3 and Appendix E; and
- Send the Final Incident Report to the Co-chairs.

I.3 On-Scene Coordinator

The functions and responsibilities of the OSC, as detailed under the framework of the laws, rules, and operating procedures of each country, are to:

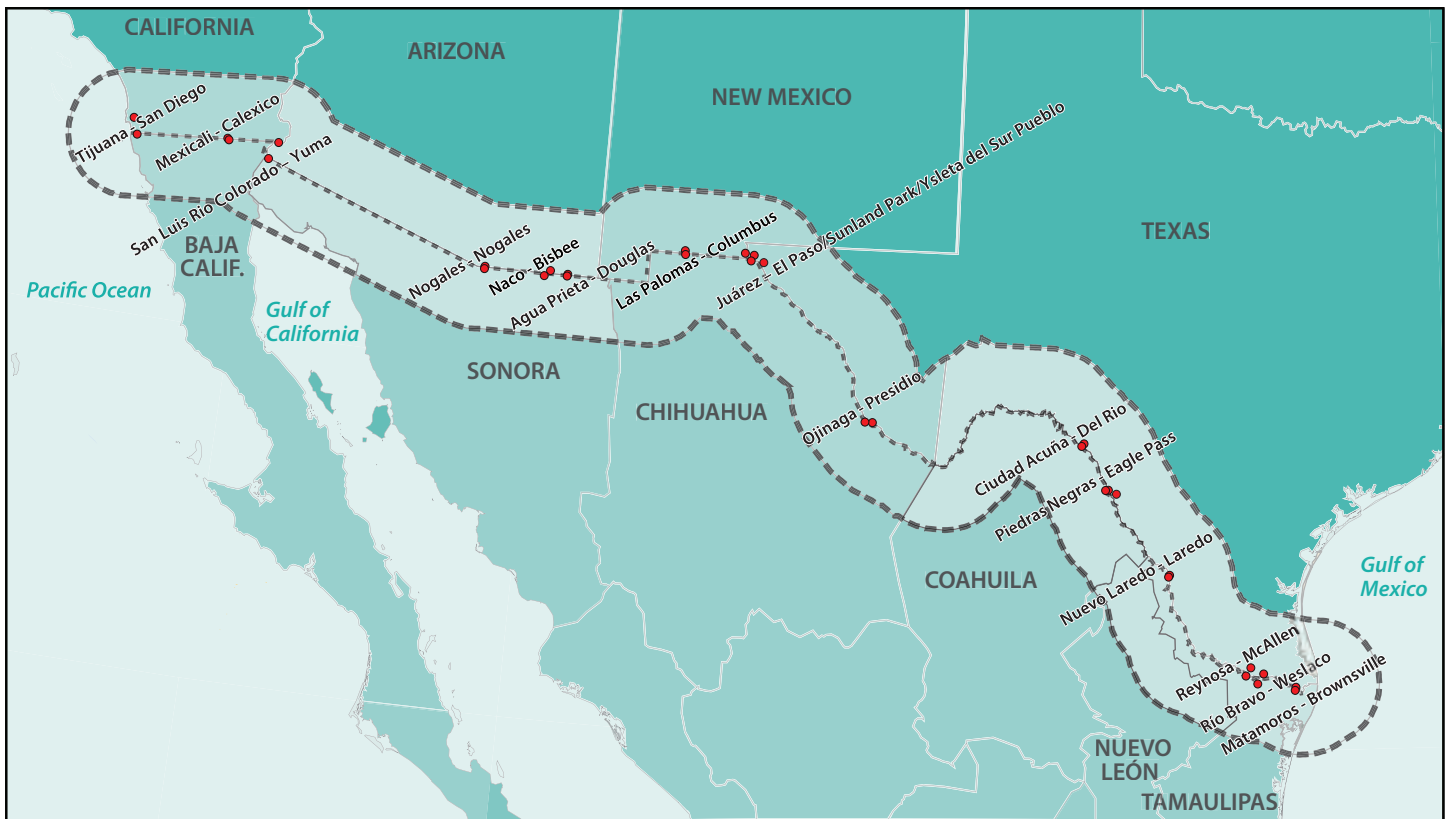
- Coordinate and direct measures related to the detection of chemical hazardous substances contingencies or emergencies;

- Determine the facts related to the chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency, including the nature, quantity, and location of the chemical hazardous substance; the direction and probable travel time of the chemical hazardous substance; the available resources and those resources required; and the potential impacts on public health and welfare, and on the environment;
- Develop a Preliminary Assessment based on his/her findings (as stipulated in Section 306.2 and Appendix E);
- Coordinate and direct all phases of the response action within his or her jurisdiction;
- Develop detailed situation reports (SITREPs) to the ISJRT as stipulated in Section 306.2 and Appendix E;
- In coordination with the ISJRT, recommend the deactivation of the Inland Border Plan to the JRT Co-chairs; and
- Prepare a Final Incident Report and/or a Final Preparation and Planning Report, in conjunction with the ISJRT and submit it to the Co-chair, as stipulated in Section 306.3 and Appendix E.

In cases where a chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency involves multiple jurisdictions, the OSCs are to coordinate their actions using a Unified Command (UC). The UC is an on-site tool to efficiently manage all chemical hazardous substances contingency or emergency responses. The UC provides a forum to develop a common set of emergency response objectives and strategies, share information, optimize the use of available resources and increase the efficiency of the individual response organizations.

APPENDIX J

Map of Inland Border Area and Sister Cities



● Plan Signed

Sister Cities

MEXICO	UNITED STATES
Tijuana, Baja California	San Diego, California
Mexicali, Baja California	Calexico, California
San Luis Rio Colorado, Sonora	Yuma, Arizona
Nogales, Sonora	Nogales, Arizona
Naco, Sonora	Bisbee, Arizona
Agua Prieta, Sonora	Douglas, Arizona
Las Palomas, Chihuahua	Columbus, New Mexico
Juárez, Chihuahua	El Paso, Sunland Park, Ysleta del Sur Pueblo, Texas
Ojinaga, Chihuahua	Presidio, Texas
Cuidad Acuña, Coahuila	Del Rio, Texas
Piedras Negra, Coahuila	Eagle Pass, Texas
Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas	Laredo, Texas
Reynosa, Tamaulipas	McAllen, Texas
Rio Bravo, Tamaulipas	Weslaco, Texas
Matamoros, Tamaulipas	Brownsville, Texas

List of Federal and State Plans

K.1.1 Bi-National Plans

Joint Contingency Plan between the Secretariat of the Navy of the United Mexican States and the United States Coast Guard Regarding Pollution of the Marine Environment by Discharges of Hydrocarbons or Other Hazardous Substances (MEXUS Plan), July 11, 2017.

United States-Mexico Agreement of October 23, 2008 on Cooperation in Cases of Natural Disasters.

K.1.2 Mexican Plans

National Plans

- Organization Guide and Operation of the National System of Civil Protection (Secretariat of Governance)
- Program of Specific Action and Attention for Epidemiological Emergencies and Disasters 2013-2018 (Ministry of Health)
- Marine Plan of Assistance to the Civilian Population in Emergency and Disaster Cases and Areas (Navy Secretariat)
- Plan DN-III-E for Assistance to Civilian Population in Disaster Cases (Secretariat of National Defense)
- National Response Plan MX of the Federal Public Administration (Secretariat of Governance)
- Manual for the Attention of Hydroecological Emergencies and Environmental Contingencies that are present in Bodies of Water or National Assets under the National Water Commission (CONAGUA)
- National Contingency Plan for Spills of Hydrocarbons and Potentially Dangerous Hazardous Substances in the Mexican Marine Zones (Navy Secretariat)

State Civil Protection Programs

- Baja California
- Sonora
- Chihuahua
- Coahuila
- Nuevo Leon
- Tamaulipas

K.1.3 United Status Plans

National Plans

- National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)
- National Response Framework (NRF)
- National Drinking Water Plan

Regional Plans

- Region 6 Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan
- Region 9 Mainland Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan

State Plans

- State of Arizona Emergency Response and Recovery Plan (SERRP)
- State of California Emergency Plan
- State of New Mexico All-Hazard Emergency Operations Plan
- State of Texas Emergency Management Plan: Annex Q – Hazardous Materials and Oil Spill Response