



# I. National Environmental Emergency Response Plan

## National Environmental Emergency Response Plan

Promulgated by the State Council on January 24, 2006,  
and implemented as of the same date

### 1. General Provisions

#### 1.1 Purpose

The preparation of the National Environmental Emergency Response Plan (hereinafter referred to as “the Plan”) is intended for improving China’s environmental emergency response mechanism and enhancing governments’ capacity to handle such accidents, thereby maintaining social stability, securing life and property and protecting the environment, as well as promoting the comprehensive, coordinated and sustainable development of China.

#### 1.2 Basis

The Plan has been formulated in accordance with the Environmental Protection Law of the People’s Republic of China, Marine Environment Protection Law of the People’s Republic of China, Production Safety Law of the People’s Republic of China and National General Emergency Response Plan for Calamities, as well as related laws and administrative regulations.





### 1.3 Emergency Levels

Depending on the degree of gravity and urgency, environmental emergencies can be divided into extremely serious environmental emergency (Level I), serious environmental emergency (Level II), relatively serious environmental emergency (Level III) and general environmental emergency (Level IV).

#### 1.3.1 Extremely serious environmental emergency (Level I)

An accident meeting one of the following conditions will be listed as an extremely-serious environmental emergency:

(1) An environmental accident leading to 30 deaths or more, or 100 victims or more poisoned or severely injured as a result of such an environmental accident;

(2) An environmental accident causing 50,000 people or more to be evacuated or relocated, or causing direct economic losses up to RMB 10 million or more;

(3) Regional ecological functions suffering great loss or the living environment of endangered species being severely polluted;

(4) Local regular economic and social activities suffering a severe impact from environmental pollution;

(5) Extensive and severe radioactive contamination caused by uncontrollable Category 1 or 2 Radioactive Sources;

(6) Water supply cut-off of major water resources in major cities due to environmental pollution;

(7) Pollution accidents involving leakage of hazardous chemicals (highly toxic substances included) in production, storage or transportation, exerting a great impact on people's living and production.



### 1.3.2 Serious Environmental Emergency (Level II)

An accident meeting one of the following conditions will be listed as a serious environmental emergency:

- (1) An environmental accident leading to 10-29 deaths, or 50-99 victims poisoned or severely injured due to such an environmental accident;
- (2) Regional ecological functions destroyed or the living environment of endangered species polluted;
- (3) Local economic and social activities suffering a fairly large impact of environmental pollution, causing the evacuation of 10,000-50,000 victims;
- (4) Category 1 or 2 Radioactive Sources lost, stolen or out of control;
- (5) Widespread environmental pollution in important rivers, lakes, reservoirs or coastal waters, or pollution accident causing water supply cut-off in county-level or higher administrative regions.

### 1.3.3 Relatively Serious Environmental Emergency (Level III)

An accident meeting one of the following conditions will be listed as a relatively serious environmental emergency:

- (1) An environmental accident leading to 3-9 deaths or not more than 50 cases of poisoning or severe injuries;
- (2) Cross-prefecture dispute incurring due to environmental pollution affecting local economic and social activities;
- (3) Category 3 Radioactive Sources lost, stolen or out of control.

### 1.3.4 General Environmental Emergency (Level IV)

An accident meeting one of the following conditions will be listed as a General Environmental Event:



- (1) An environmental accident leading to the deaths of not more than 3 people;
- (2) Cross-county dispute incurring due to environmental pollution, causing mass disturbances;
- (3) Category 4 or 5 Radioactive Sources lost, stolen or out of control.

#### **1.4 Scope of Application**

The Plan is applicable to the emergencies stated below. The emergency response to nuclear accidents shall be carried out in accordance with the relevant regulations of the National Nuclear Emergency Coordination Committee.

1.4.1 Environmental emergencies going beyond the emergency response capability of the people’s government of the province/ region/ municipality;

1.4.2 Cross-provincial/regional/municipal environmental emergencies requiring emergency response;

1.4.3 Environmental emergencies requiring the coordination and instruction of the State Council or the national Inter-ministerial Joint Conference on Environmental Protection; or secondary or derivative environmental accidents caused by other emergencies.

#### **1.5 Working Principle**

Guided by Deng Xiaoping Theory, the important thought of the “Three Represents” and the Scientific Outlook on Development featuring people-oriented, all-round, coordinated and sustainable development, the Plan has been developed for the purpose of enhancing governmental administration and the capability of local governments to handle emergencies.

(1) People-oriented and prevention first. The government shall enhance the monitoring and control of environmental hazards, and car-





ry out corresponding supervision and management; an environmental risk prevention system shall be established to remove hidden perils with proactive prevention and real-time control; the prevention and handling capacity for environmental accidents shall be improved, thus avoiding or reducing environmental emergencies and eliminating or minimizing the medium- and long-term effects of environmental accidents as much as possible, to ensure the health of the people and secure their lives and property to the maximum extent.

(2) Unified leadership and category-based management, mainly handled by local governments and responded to as per emergency level. The Plan shall be implemented under the unified leadership of the State Council to promote inter-organizational coordination and cooperation, and enhance the quick-response capability of local governments. According to the features of environmental pollution, ecological pollution and radioactive contamination caused by different pollution sources, category-based management shall be implemented so as to give full play to each organization's professional advantage and ensure the measures taken are adapted to the environmental emergency, hazard scope and social impact. The local people's governments shall take chief responsibility for environmental emergency response, and their functions shall be brought into full play according to different emergency levels.

(3) Sufficient professional and part-time manpower, making the best of available resources. All relevant departments shall have the mental, material and technical preparations for environmental emergencies on a proactive basis; adequate drilling and training for the relevant personnel shall be arranged, and available professional emergency rescue forces for environmental accidents shall be given full play; the environmental monitoring network shall be integrated; professional personnel shall be encouraged and instructed to gain more skills in emergency responses,





and professional emergency rescue forces shall be provided with special training, thus performing their duty with high efficiency.

## 2. Organization, Command and Responsibility

### 2.1 Organizational Framework

The national emergency organization system for environmental emergencies shall consist of the emergency governing bodies, comprehensive coordinating bodies, specialized command organizations for a related type of environmental emergency, emergency support departments and expert consultancy institutions, as well as emergency governing bodies and emergency rescue teams for environmental emergencies under local people’s governments at all levels.

Under the unified leadership of the State Council, the national Inter-ministerial Joint Conference on Environmental Protection shall be responsible for the coordination work in response to environmental emergencies, while professional departments shall cope with environmental emergencies in their specific fields, and emergency support departments shall carry out corresponding emergency guarantee work in accordance with their own duties. The expert consultancy institutions shall serve as the expert teams for environmental emergencies.

The emergency organizations of local people’s governments at all levels shall be determined by the local people’s governments themselves.

The national emergency rescue teams for environmental emergencies shall be made up of relevant professional emergency rescue teams. The Emergency Rescue Team of the State Environmental Protection Administration shall be made up of the Environmental Emergency and Accident Investigation Center, China National Environmental Monitoring Center and Nuclear and Radiation Safety Center.



## 2.2 Comprehensive Coordinating Body

The national Inter-ministerial Joint Conference on Environmental Protection shall be responsible for coordinating the response work concerning environmental emergencies. They shall carry out the relevant guidelines and policies of the CPC Central Committee and the State Council on emergency work, fully implement the relevant instructions and requirements for environmental emergency work issued by the State Council, establish and perfect the pre-warning mechanism for environmental emergencies, and stipulate or revise the National Environmental Emergency Response Plan. They shall coordinate the emergency rescue efforts for serious and extremely serious environmental accidents in a unified manner, and guide the relevant departments of local governments to fulfill their rescue duties. They shall also deploy the publicity, education and training work for national environmental emergency work, release emergency information on environmental pollution in a unified manner and accomplish other emergency rescue missions assigned by the State Council.

Each department concerned shall be responsible for the coordination and support work of emergencies in their own professional fields.

## 2.3 Specialized command organizations

The member organizations of the national Inter-ministerial Joint Conference on Environmental Protection shall establish an effective communication mechanism to ensure prompt access to information and information sharing. They shall develop, according to their own responsibilities and functions, emergency response plans for environmental emergency rescue and support, and assume the responsibility for the relevant management and implementation. If they need assistance, they shall propose such need to the national Inter-ministerial Joint Conference on Environmental Protection. The State Council can, if necessary, organize and coordinate emergency response work against extremely serious envi-



ronmental accidents.

## **2.4 Duties of governing bodies of local people’s governments in environmental emergencies**

In principle, the responsibility for environmental emergency rescue shall be mainly assumed by local governments. For extremely serious environmental accidents, the people’s government of the province/region/municipality shall set up on-site emergency rescue headquarters to serve as the command center. All emergency rescue teams and personnel must follow the instructions of the on-site emergency rescue headquarters, which shall provide the desired working conditions for the rescue teams and related personnel.

## **2.5 Experts Team**

The national Inter-ministerial Joint Conference for Environmental Protection shall set up an experts team for environmental emergencies, employing research institutions and relevant experts from the armed forces to serve as team members.

The experts shall assume the following duties: participating in the response work to environmental emergencies, instructing the handling of environmental emergencies and providing a scientific basis for the State Council and the national Inter-ministerial Joint Conference on Environmental Protection to develop applicable policies.

# **3. Prevention and Pre-warning**

## **3.1 Information Monitoring**

3.1.1 By the principle of “Early Detection, Early Reporting and Early Treatment,” the relevant member organizations of the national Inter-ministerial Joint Conference on Environmental Protection shall carry





out comprehensive analysis and risk assessment of domestic and foreign environmental information, natural disaster pre-warning information, regular environmental monitoring data and radiation environment monitoring data.

3.1.2 The relevant departments of the State Council and local people's governments at all levels as well as their relevant departments shall be responsible for the information pick-up, reporting, processing and statistical analysis, as well as pre-warning information monitoring of environmental emergencies.

(1) The information pick-up, reporting, processing, and statistical analysis of environmental pollution accidents, species safety and radiation accidents shall be in the charge of the environmental protection departments;

(2) The information pick-up, reporting, processing and statistical analysis of oil spills occurring in the course of offshore oil exploration and development shall be in the charge of the maritime departments;

(3) The information pick-up, reporting, processing and statistical analysis of offshore-vessel or harbor pollution shall be in the charge of the traffic departments.

3.1.3 Pre-warning information monitoring of environmental pollution accidents and species safety shall be in the charge of the State Environmental Protection Administration; pre-warning information monitoring of offshore oil spills shall be in the charge of the State Oceanic Administration; pre-warning information monitoring of offshore-vessel or harbor pollution shall be in the charge of the Ministry of Communications and that of radiation pollution in the charge of the State Environmental Protection Administration (National Nuclear Security Administration). Pre-warning information of extremely serious environmental accidents





shall be, upon verification, reported to the State Council immediately.

### 3.2 Prevention

(1) Surveys of pollution, radioactive and species resources shall be carried out. A general survey of chemical production, storage, transportation and treatment of waste chemicals, as well as of radioactive sources shall be carried out, thus mastering information of pollution sources and categories nationwide and their geographical distribution. Domestic and foreign technical information, progress and new developments shall be grasped, thus providing a scientific basis for developing policies and proposing effective countermeasures.

(2) Hypothesis, analysis and risk assessment shall be carried out against environmental emergencies to optimize the emergency response plans for each type of environmental emergency.

(3) Environment emergency research and software development work shall be enhanced. Digital models for environmental pollution dispersal and system software for environment emergency management shall be studied and developed.

### 3.3 Pre-warning and Measures

Depending on the gravity, degree and possible impact of an emergency, the pre-warning of environmental emergencies is divided into four levels by color, i.e., blue, yellow, orange and red—from low to high. According to the development of accidents and the effectiveness of countermeasures, pre-warning can be upgraded, degraded or lifted.

Should the collected information indicate an impending environmental accident, the corresponding emergency response plan shall be implemented.

Once a pre-warning is confirmed, the local people’s governments at





county-level or above and the relevant departments shall take the following measures:

(1) The corresponding emergency response plan shall be activated immediately.

(2) A pre-warning notice shall be released—Blue Alert by people's governments at county level, Yellow Alert by municipal (prefecture) governments, Orange Alert by provincial governments and Red Alert by, upon the authorization of the State Council, the local provincial government where the accident took place.

(3) The potential victims shall be relocated, withdrawn or evacuated, and properly resettled.

(4) Each environmental emergency rescue team shall be instructed to be prepared for the emergency, and environmental monitoring departments shall carry out emergency monitoring on a real-time basis, to keep abreast of and report the situation as it develops.

(5) In view of potential damage, affected venues shall be accordingly shut down, isolated or limited in use, to prevent behavior and activities leading to more hazards.

(6) The required supplies and facilities for environmental emergency response shall be assembled and deployed so as to ensure the effectiveness of the emergency support efforts.

### 3.4 Pre-warning Support System

3.4.1 Establishing an environmental safety pre-warning system. A real-time information system monitoring pollutant discharge by key pollution sources, emergency pre-warning system, scientific pre-warning system for evaluating regional environmental safety and radiation pre-warning system shall be set up. An emergency device stockpile against major





pollution from ships and a quick-response system using sea and air rescue forces shall be established. In addition, a marine environment monitoring system shall be established.

3.4.2 Establishing an environmental emergency pre-warning database. An environmental emergency response database system, ecological safety database system, expert decision-making support system for emergencies, and an environment recovery cycle detection, feedback & evaluating system, as well as a radiation event database system shall be established.

3.4.3 Establishing an emergency command technical platform. According to actual conditions and requirements, a specialized category-based coordination and command center for specific environmental accidents as well as a communications & technical support system shall be established.

## 4. Emergency Response

### 4.1 Classified Response Mechanism

Environmental emergency response shall be mainly handled by the local government where the emergency occurs. Local people’s governments at all levels shall take full responsibility for environmental emergency handling work in accordance with related provisions, and the State Environmental Protection Administration and relevant departments under the State Council shall provide coordination and support.

The environmental emergency response is divided into four levels, namely, extremely serious environmental emergency response (Level I response), serious environmental emergency response (Level II response), relatively serious environmental emergency response (Level III response) and general environmental emergency response (Level IV response) according to the controllability, severity and impact of environmental emergencies. If the emergency handling capability of a certain level is insufficient, the





next-higher-level emergency rescue command organization shall be requested promptly to initiate a higher-level emergency response plan. The Level I emergency response shall be implemented under the organization of the State Environmental Protection Administration and the State Council.

## 4.2 Emergency Response Procedures

4.2.1 In the case of Level I response, the State Environmental Protection Administration shall respond according to the following procedures and provisions:

(1) Open a communication channel for contacting the provincial environmental emergency command organization of the place where an environmental emergency occurs, the on-site emergency command center and professional emergency command organizations concerned, so as to keep abreast of the development of the emergency at all times;

(2) Immediately report the emergency to leaders of the State Environmental Protection Administration, and establish an environmental emergency command center if necessary;

(3) Promptly report the basic information of the environmental emergency and the progress of the emergency rescue to the State Council;

(4) Instruct related experts to establish an expert team for analyzing the situation. Instruct related emergency rescue forces to be on standby to provide technical support for local professional emergency command organizations or the emergency command organizations concerned;

(5) Send related emergency rescue forces and experts to the scene to participate in and provide guidance for on-site emergency rescue, and, if necessary, call upon professional emergency rescue forces of the areas around the emergency scene to provide support.

4.2.2 Upon receipt of information of an extremely serious environ-





mental emergency, the professional command organization for a related type of environmental emergency shall promptly take the following actions:

- (1) Initiate and implement the emergency response plan of the department, and report the emergency to the State Council and the State Environmental Protection Administration promptly;
- (2) Initiate an emergency command organization;
- (3) Coordinate and organize the emergency rescue forces to carry out emergency rescue work; and
- (4) Request the State Council to appoint other emergency rescue forces to provide support if necessary.

4.2.3 Local people’s governments at the provincial level shall determine the emergency actions at their own discretion in combination with the actual situation in reference to the Level I response procedures and promptly request the State Environmental Protection Administration and the relevant authorities under the State Council to appoint related emergency response forces to provide support, if necessary.

### **4.3 Information Reporting and Processing**

#### **4.3.1 Reporting Time Limit and Procedures of Environmental Emergencies**

Upon discovery of an environmental emergency, the environmental emergency responsible unit and responsible person, as well as entities with supervision responsibility, shall report the emergency to the county-level or higher-level people’s government of the place where the emergency occurs within one hour, report it also to the next higher-level competent authority concerned and immediately organize an on-site investigation. In an emergency, it is allowed to bypass the immediate leadership and report directly to a higher level.



The unit responsible for recognizing the environmental emergency shall report it to the professional competent authority concerned at the provincial level within one hour after the emergency is recognized as a serious (Level II) environmental emergency, and report it to the professional competent department concerned under the State Council immediately after it is recognized as an extremely serious (Level I) environmental emergency, and release the information to other relevant departments.

The local people's governments at all levels shall report the emergency to their next-higher-level people's governments within one hour upon receipt of the report. The people's government at the provincial level shall report the emergency to the State Council and its relevant departments within one hour upon receipt of the report.

In the case of a serious (Level II) or extremely serious (Level I) environmental emergency, the relevant departments under the State Council shall report it to the State Council immediately.

#### 4.3.2 Reporting Mode and Contents of Environmental Emergencies

The reporting of environmental emergencies is classified into preliminary reporting, subsequent reporting and handling result reporting. The preliminary reporting shall be conducted within one hour after an emergency is discovered; the subsequent reporting shall be conducted at any time after the related basic information is ascertained; the handling result reporting shall be conducted immediately after the emergency has been disposed of.

The preliminary reporting may be conducted directly by telephone. It mainly covers the type of the environmental emergency, occurrence time, location, pollution source, main pollutants, victims, names and quantities of the killed or destroyed wildlife under special state protection, the damaged area and degree of damage of any nature reserves involved, potential hazard level, conversion mode & tendency, and other



preliminary information.

The subsequent reporting may be conducted through the network or in writing, and it covers the related data, emergency cause, process, progress and emergency measures, and other basic information on the basis of preliminary reporting.

The handling result reporting shall be conducted in writing, and it covers the emergency handling measures, process and result, potential or consequential hazards, social influences, left-over problems after handling, relevant departments that have participated in the handling and their work, issuance of certificates of related hazards and losses, and other specific information.

#### **4.4 Command and Coordination**

##### **4.4.1 Command and Coordination Mechanism**

An environmental emergency command center shall be established by relevant departments under the State Council and the national Inter-ministerial Joint Conference on Environmental Protection as appropriate, and shall be responsible for directing and coordinating the response to the environmental emergency.

The environmental emergency command center shall notify the relevant departments and its emergency response organizations, rescue teams and emergency rescue command organizations of the people’s government of the province (region or municipality) of the place where the emergency occurs, according to the situation of the environmental emergency. All emergency response organizations shall send related personnel and teams to the scene upon receipt of the notice of the emergency information, to jointly take environmental emergency response and emergency handling actions through mutual coordination and close cooperation according to their respective plans and handling procedures





under the uniform command of the on-site emergency rescue command center. Before the on-site emergency rescue command center is established, all specialized emergency rescue teams must resolutely and rapidly implement early handling procedures, decisively control or cut off pollution sources, make every effort to control the emergency so as to prevent secondary pollution and secondary and derivative incidents under the coordination and command of the local government and relevant units.

In the course of a state of emergency, the experts team shall organize related experts to rapidly analyze and assess the emergency information and propose an emergency handling plan and suggestions, based on which the leader of the command center will make decisions. It shall also put forward corresponding countermeasures and comments according to the progress and situation of the emergency, and make scientific predictions about the scope of hazards of the environmental emergency and its development tendency so as to provide a scientific basis for the decision-making and command of the environmental emergency response governing body, participate in the judgment of the degree of pollution, scope of hazards and emergency level to provide a technical basis for making decisions about the isolation and disposal of the polluted areas, personnel evacuation and return, and other major protective measures, and provide each emergency response team with guidance on emergency response and handling and evaluation of the environmental emergency response work, and assess the medium- and long-term impacts of the emergency.

Relevant departments and units shall promptly and actively submit the basic information on the emergency rescue to the environmental emergency command center, and the environmental protection, marine, transportation, water resources and other relevant departments shall submit pertinent supervision, management and inspection information obtained before the emergency to the environmental emergency command





center so that it can study the rescue and handling plan.

#### 4.4.2 Main Items of Command and Coordination

Main coordination items of the environmental emergency command center include:

- (1) Defining the principles and requirements for on-site emergency actions;
- (2) Appointing related experts and personnel to participate in the emergency command work of the on-site emergency rescue command center;
- (3) Coordinating the specialized emergency response forces at all levels in implementing the emergency response support actions;
- (4) Coordinating the monitoring on the sources of hazard of the surrounding endangered areas;
- (5) Coordinating and establishing the on-site guard zone and traffic control area, and determining the key protection areas;
- (6) Determining the return time of the removed or evacuated people according to the on-site monitoring results; and
- (7) Reporting the progress of the emergency actions to the State Council promptly.

#### 4.5 Emergency Monitoring

The environmental emergency monitoring team of the State Environmental Protection Administration is responsible for organizing and coordinating the environmental emergency monitoring work for the area where an environmental emergency occurs, and responsible for providing the marine environmental monitoring organization and local environmental monitoring organization with guidance on how to carry out emergency monitoring. It shall:



(1) Determine the pollutant dispersion scope based on the dispersion rate of pollutants generated by the environmental emergency and the meteorological and geographical characteristics of the area where the emergency occurs.

(2) Carry out a comprehensive analysis of pollution tendency of the environmental emergency according to the monitoring results, and predict and report the evolution of the environmental emergency and any change of its pollutant impact by way of expert consultation and discussion, thus providing a basis for making decisions on handling the environmental emergency.

#### **4.6 Information Release**

The national Inter-ministerial Joint Conference on Environmental Protection is responsible for releasing to the public information about environmental emergencies uniformly. Upon the occurrence of an environmental emergency, accurate and authoritative information shall be released in good time so as to correctly guide public opinion.

#### **4.7 Protection**

##### **4.7.1 Safety Protection for Emergency Response Personnel**

On-site emergency handling personnel shall be equipped with corresponding professional personal protective equipment (PPE), take safety protection measures and strictly execute the procedures for emergency response personnel entering and leaving an emergency scene.

##### **4.7.2 Protection for Victims**

The on-site emergency rescue command center is responsible for organizing victims' protection work, which mainly includes the following:

(1) Notifying the victims of ways to take safety protection measures according to the nature and features of the environmental emergency;



(2) Determining victim evacuation modes and specifying relevant departments for organizing the safe evacuation of the victims in accordance with local meteorological and geographical conditions, population density, and so, on when an emergency occurs; and

(3) Setting up emergency shelters outside the boundary of the emergency scene.

## 4.8 Termination of State of Emergency

### 4.8.1 Conditions for Termination of State of Emergency

The state of emergency may be terminated if one of the following conditions is satisfied:

(1) The emergency scene has been put under control and the conditions leading to the emergency have been removed;

(2) Pollution has been reduced to a safe level;

(3) The hazards stemming from the emergency have been completely eliminated, with no possibility of reoccurrence;

(4) Specialized emergency handling actions on the emergency scene are not required anymore; and

(5) Required protective measures have been taken to protect the public from suffering from any recurrence of the emergency and the possible medium- and long-term influences of the emergency have been reduced to levels that are as low as being rationally practicable.

### 4.8.2 Procedures for Termination of State of Emergency

(1) The time of termination shall be confirmed by the on-site rescue command center or proposed by the responsible unit of the emergency and approved by the on-site rescue command center;

(2) The on-site rescue command center shall issue the order of





termination of state of emergency to all specialized emergency rescue teams under its leadership;

(3) After the state of emergency is terminated, a specialized emergency command center for a related type of environmental emergency shall continue the environmental monitoring and evaluation work according to related instructions from the State Council and the actual situation until other remedies are not required anymore.

#### 4.8.3 Actions after Termination of State of Emergency

(1) The environmental emergency command center shall provide relevant departments and the environmental emergency unit with guidance on how to identify the causes of the emergency to prevent the occurrence of similar incidents.

(2) The specialized department for related types of environmental emergency shall be responsible for preparing a summary report for an extremely serious environmental emergency or serious environmental emergency, and submit it to higher levels after the state of emergency is terminated.

(3) Emergency process evaluation shall be carried out by related experts organized by the State Environmental Protection Administration, together with the people's government at the provincial level of the emergency scene.

(4) Based on practical experience, the specialized competent department for a related type of environmental emergency shall be responsible for organizing the assessment of the emergency response plan and revising the environmental emergency response plan.

(5) The department participating in the emergency actions shall be responsible for organizing and instructing environmental emergency response teams to maintain and service the emergency instruments to make sure they are always functional.





## 5. Emergency Support

### 5.1 Fund Support

All members of the national Inter-ministerial Joint Conference on Environmental Protection shall submit their program expenditure budgets to the Ministry of Finance for approval according to the environmental emergency response requirements. Specific implementation shall be in accordance with the Financial Emergency Support Plan.

### 5.2 Equipment Support

Professional environmental emergency response departments and units concerned at all levels shall fully perform their functions and improve the construction of the testing, identification and monitoring equipment for hazardous chemicals according to their job requirements and duties on the basis of full utilization of existing testing, identification and monitoring forces, increase the reserves of equipment and supplies for emergency handling, rapid mobility and self-protection, and constantly improve the emergency monitoring capability to ensure that environmental pollution and its possible dispersion can be prevented effectively when an environmental emergency occurs.

### 5.3 Communication Support

Professional environmental emergency response departments and units concerned at all levels shall establish and improve the environmental safety emergency command system, national integrated environmental emergency handling system and environmental safety scientific pre-warning system. Required wired and wireless communication apparatus shall be provided to ensure that contact between the environmental emergency command center and relevant departments and all on-site specialized emergency teams is clear when the Plan is kick-started.





#### 5.4 Human Resources Support

The professional competent departments for related types of environmental emergency response shall establish environmental emergency rescue teams. All provinces (regions and municipalities) shall improve the building of environmental emergency response teams at all levels, and improve their quality and capability of responding to emergencies. The municipalities listed in the plan, major cities and key environmental protection cities shall cultivate emergency reserve forces that are always on the alert and familiar with the knowledge of environmental emergency response and have fully mastered all environmental emergency handling measures. In addition, fire brigades, chemical emergency response teams and other emergency response teams of such enterprises as medium- and large-sized chemical enterprises in various areas shall be organized and trained so that an environmental emergency response network is formed by the state, provinces, cities and related enterprises. Such forces can rapidly participate in and complete the rescue, danger elimination, disinfection, monitoring and other on-site handling work once an emergency occurs.

#### 5.5 Technical Support

We shall establish an environmental safety pre-warning system and organize an experts team to ensure that related environmental experts can be in place rapidly before pre-warning is initiated and after an emergency occurs, so as to provide services for decision making. We shall establish an environmental emergency response database, establish and improve all specialized environmental emergency response teams, local nuclear safety regulatory inspection stations and local specialized technical institutions to provide subsequent support and technical support for emergency response at any time.





## 5.6 Publicity, Training and Drills

5.6.1 Environmental protection departments at all levels shall enhance publicity and education in environmental protection, popularize knowledge on the prevention of environmental pollution accidents, and prepare, print and distribute “Instruction Cards” for public protection against toxic and hazardous substance pollution, and enhance prevention awareness and related psychological preparation of the public, and raise the prevention capability of the public.

5.6.2 Environmental protection departments at all levels and professional departments for a related type of environmental emergency shall boost routine training for professional technicians specializing in environmental emergencies, and training and management for key target work personnel to cultivate a group of well-trained environmental emergency handling, testing, monitoring and other specialists.

5.6.3 Environmental protection departments at all levels and professional departments for a related type of environmental emergency shall regularly organize various types of environmental emergency drills according to the environmental emergency response plan and related individual plan, to improve ability to prevent and handle environmental emergencies.

## 5.7 Emergency Response Capability Evaluation

The setting-up of environmental emergency response organizations at all levels, establishment and implementation of systems and working procedures, team building and personnel training & assessment, management and use of emergency response equipment and funds, etc., shall be subject to a top-down supervision, inspection and assessment working mechanism in the evaluation system of environmental emergency response capability in order to guarantee that the environmental emergency response system is always in a state of readi-





ness and achieves continuous improvement.

## 6. Subsequent handling

### 6.1 Aftermath handling

Local people's governments at all levels shall complete the resettlement of the victims properly and organize related experts to carry out scientific assessment on the hazard scope, and give suggestions on the compensation for and recovery of the polluted ecological environment.

### 6.2 Insurance

Social insurance mechanisms for environmental emergencies shall be established. Accidental injury insurance shall be taken out for environmental emergency response personnel. Enterprises and institutions that may bring about environmental pollution shall take out the related liability insurance or other types of insurance according to law.

## 7. Supplementary Provisions

### 7.1 Definitions

*Environmental accidents* are defined as sudden-onset accidents resulting from economic and social activities and behavior in violation of environmental protection laws and regulations, as well as unforeseeable factors or natural disasters and any other force majeure leading to environmental pollution, harm to human health, economic and property losses, and resulting in adverse social impacts.

*Environmental Emergencies* are defined as sudden-onset environmental incidents that cause or may cause heavy casualties and loss of property, posing major threats and serious harm to the economic, social and political stability of the country or a certain area, resulting in significant social





impacts and endangering public safety.

*Environmental Emergency Response* is defined as a state in which certain actions beyond the routine working procedures are taken immediately in case of possible environmental emergencies or upon the occurrence of such emergencies, so as to avoid the occurrence of an emergency or mitigate the emergency consequences. It is also called a state of emergency, referring generally to actions taken immediately beyond the routine working procedures.

*Classification in the Plan:* Environmental emergencies are mainly classified into three types according to their occurrence process, nature and mechanism: Unexpected environmental pollution incidents, biological species safety environmental incidents and environmental radioactive contamination incidents. Unexpected environmental pollution incidents include water environmental pollution incidents in key drainage areas and sensitive water areas, photochemical smog pollution incidents in key cities, pollution incidents from hazardous chemicals and chemical wastes, oil spills from offshore oil exploration and exploitation, and ship pollution incidents. Biological species safety environmental incidents mainly refer to the accidents that result in biodiversity losses, and pose threats to the ecological environment owing to improper collection, hunting, smuggling, illegal border crossings or exchanges of biological species, project construction hazards and invasive alien species; environmental radioactive contamination incidents include radioactive contamination incidents resulting from radioisotopes, radioactive sources, radiation equipment and radioactive wastes.

*Leakage handling* is defined as emergency handling measures taken in the case of leakage of hazardous chemicals, wastes, radioactive materials, toxic gases and other pollution sources owing to accidents. Leakage handling shall be carried out in time and properly to avoid the occurrence of serious accidents. It generally includes leakage source control and leakage handling.



*Emergency Monitoring* is defined as environmental monitoring conducted for the purpose of discovering and identifying environmental pollution and pollution scope in case of environmental emergency, including stationary monitoring and dynamic monitoring.

*Emergency Drill* is defined as a practical activity that simulates emergency response in order to check the effectiveness of the emergency response plan, level of emergency preparedness, suitability of emergency response capability and the level of cooperation of the emergency personnel. Such activities can be classified into individual drills (exercises), comprehensive drills and joint drills conducted by the command center and on-site emergency response organization according to their different content and scope.

In the statements about the quantities in the Plan, “above” means including the figure itself and “less than” excluding the figure.

## **7.2 Plan Management and Updating**

With the enacting, amendment and improvement of the laws and regulations concerning emergency rescue, the change of departmental responsibilities or emergency resources, or the discovery of any problem or emergence of new circumstances during emergency response, the Plan shall be revised and improved promptly.

## **7.3 International Communication and Cooperation**

We shall communicate with international environmental emergency response organizations, organize and participate in international rescue activities, and carry out international exchanges and cooperation.

## **7.4 Reward and Accountability**

### **7.4.1 Reward**

In environmental emergency rescue work, units and individuals who



achieve one or more of the following deeds shall be rewarded according to related provisions:

- (1) Those who complete environmental emergency handling tasks excellently and make remarkable achievements;
- (2) Those who provide meritorious services in the process of preventing or putting right environmental emergencies, thus protecting the property of the state and collectives and the lives and property of the people against any losses or reducing such losses;
- (3) Those who make significant constructive suggestions on emergency preparedness and response to accidents with significant implementation effects; and
- (4) Those who make other special contributions.

#### 7.4.2 Accountability

In the process of environmental emergency response work, the persons who are responsible for any of the following shall be subject to administrative discipline by their units or higher-level organs depending on the circumstances and consequences of such actions or delinquencies according to related laws and regulations. Government officials and other persons appointed by the state administrative organs shall be subject to administrative discipline by their respective organs in charge of appointment and dismissal or supervisory organs, respectively, and persons who commit crimes shall be prosecuted for criminal liability by judicial organs according to law.

- (1) Those who fail to comply with the environmental laws and regulations conscientiously, resulting in environmental emergencies;
- (2) Those who fail to develop environmental emergency response plans in accordance with the related provisions and refuse to undertake





the obligations of environmental emergency preparedness;

(3) Those who fail to report and release the real situation of environmental emergencies;

(4) Those who refuse to implement environmental emergency response plans and fail to observe instructions and commands or fail to comply with emergency response;

(5) Those who steal, embezzle or misappropriate funds, equipment or supplies for environmental emergency response work;

(6) Those who hinder environmental emergency response personnel from performing their duties according to law or sabotage such performance;

(7) Those who spread rumors to disturb the social order; and

(8) Those who do any other act that poses harm to environmental emergency response work.

### **7.5 Effective Date of the Plan**

The Plan shall take effect as of the date of issuance.

