



United States
Environmental
Protection Agency

Office of Solid
Waste and
Emergency Response

EPA 550-R-99-006
June 1999

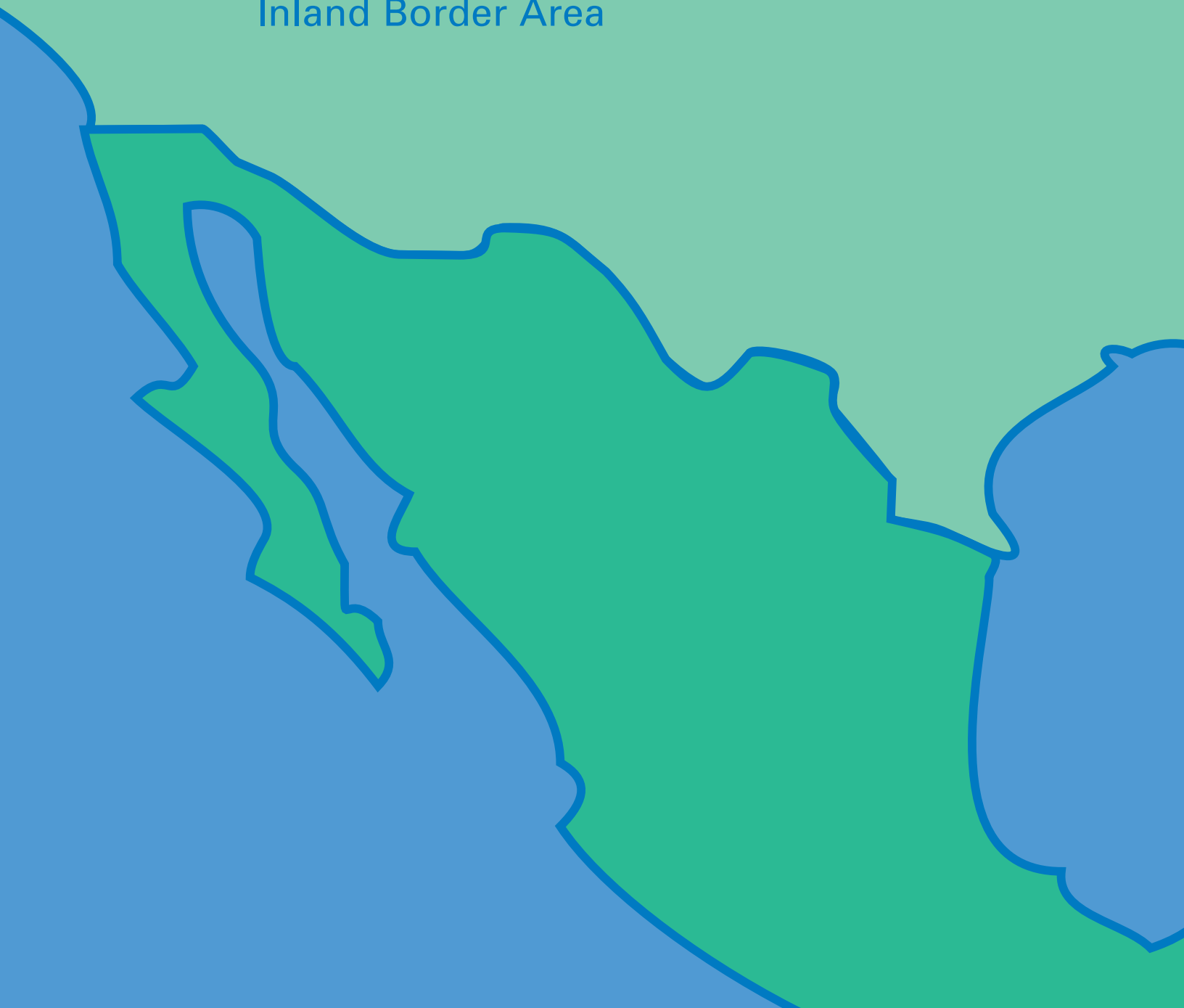


SEMARNAP

Secretariat of Environment,
Natural Resources, and
Fishing

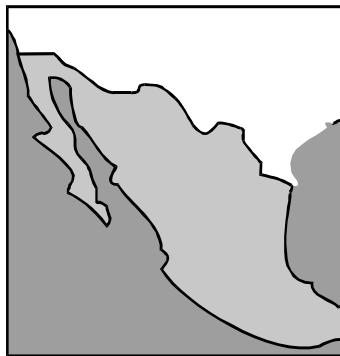
Joint United States-Mexico Contingency Plan

for Preparedness for and Response to
Environmental Emergencies Caused by
Releases, Spills, Fires, or Explosions of
Hazardous Substances in the
Inland Border Area



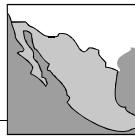
United States-Mexico Joint Contingency Plan

for Preparedness for and Response to Environmental Emergencies
Caused by Releases, Spills, Fires, or Explosions of
Hazardous Substances in the Inland Border Area



EPA 550-R-99-006





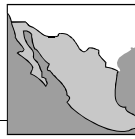
CONTENTS

100	INTRODUCTION	4
101	Purpose	4
102	Objectives	4
103	Scope.....	4
104	Authority.....	4
105	Joint Policies.....	5
200	ORGANIZATION.....	6
201	National Coordinators for the La Paz Agreement	6
202	Joint Response Team (JRT)	6
203	Issue/Incident-Specific Joint Response Team (ISJRT).....	6
204	On-Scene Coordinator (OSC).....	7
205	Coordination with State and Local Preparedness and Response.....	7
206	Technical Assistance	8
300	RESPONSE OPERATIONS.....	8
301	Notification	8
302	Preliminary Assessment	8
303	Joint Response Team Activation	8
304	Joint Response Team Deactivation	9
305	Joint Response Procedures.....	9
306	Documentation for a Joint Response.....	9
307	Public Information	10
308	Health and Safety	11
400	PREPAREDNESS	11
401	Inland Plan Review, Update and Revisions	11
402	Exercises	12
403	Educational Activities	12



APPENDIX A	Notification Procedures.....	13
APPENDIX B	Notification Form.....	15
APPENDIX C	Activation/Deactivation Information (Flowcharts and Forms)	16
APPENDIX D	Response Operations Flowcharts.....	21
APPENDIX E	Report Formats.....	24
APPENDIX F	Acronyms	26
APPENDIX G	Definitions	27
APPENDIX H	Joint Response Team (JRT) Agencies.....	29
APPENDIX I	Roles and Responsibilities.....	36
APPENDIX J	Map of Border Area and Sister Cities ¹	40
APPENDIX K	Plans.....	41

¹ For the purposes of this Joint Response Plan, the term “sister cities” in the English version will mean “ciudades fronterizas” in the Spanish version.



100 INTRODUCTION

This United States-Mexico 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 (the Inland Plan) provides a mechanism for cooperation between the United States (U.S.) and Mexico in response to a polluting incident that may pose a significant threat to both parties or that affects one party to such an extent as to justify warning the other party or asking for assistance.

101 Purpose

101.1 Based on Article II of Annex II of the La Paz Agreement, the purpose of this Inland Plan is to protect human health and safety and the environment by providing for coordinated joint responses to polluting incidents affecting the inland border area of the U.S. and Mexico.

102 Objectives

102.1 The objectives of this Inland Plan are:

- To provide a bi-national coordination mechanism to assure appropriate and effective cooperative preparedness and response measures between the United States and Mexico for polluting incidents; and
- To develop systems for notification of a polluting incident within the area covered by the Inland Plan.

103 Scope

103.1 This Inland Plan applies to all polluting incidents, as defined by Annex II of the La Paz Agreement, that have the potential to affect the inland border area [see Appendix J for map]. Polluting incidents affecting the marine environment are covered in the United States-Mexico Joint Contingency Plan Regarding Pollution of the Marine Environment signed on July 24, 1980.

103.2 This Inland Plan does not provide for response to radiological incidents.

103.3 Nothing in the Inland Plan shall prejudice existing or future agreements concluded between the United States and Mexico, or affect the rights and obligations of the parties under international agreements or arrangements to which they are or may become party.

103.4 The Inland Plan will be fully coordinated with the "United States - Mexico Joint Contingency Plan Regarding Pollution of the Marine Environment" (Marine Plan) should both plans be activated for the same incident.

104 Authority

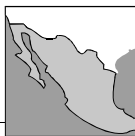
104.1 This Inland Plan is governed by the Agreement Between the United States of America and the United Mexican States on Cooperation for the Protection and Improvement of the Environment in the Border Area, signed August 14, 1983 (known as the La Paz Agreement) and is authorized by and established in accordance with Annex II to the Agreement dated July 18, 1985.



- 104.2 The Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office (CEPPO) of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the coordinating authority for the United States for this Inland Plan. For Mexico, the coordinating authority for this Inland Plan is the Secretariat of Environment, Natural Resources, and Fisheries (SEMARNAP) through the Office of the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA). A Joint Response Team (JRT) composed of representatives of EPA and SEMARNAP and appropriate support agencies, shall coordinate responses to polluting incidents as outlined in Section 300 and Appendix I of this Inland Plan. The coordinating authorities shall be responsible for securing the involvement of agencies of their respective countries. These efforts are conducted with the cooperation of the Department of State in the United States and the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs in Mexico.
- 104.3 EPA and SEMARNAP may jointly revise and/or modify this Inland Plan provided such revisions and/or modifications are in keeping with the Agreement described in 104.1 and Annex II thereof.
- 104.4 Responsibilities of specified U.S. agencies are set out in the United States' National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) (and its supplementary guidance) which is the implementing regulation for the U.S. Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) (as amended); and responsibilities for specified agencies in Mexico by the General Law of Ecological Equilibrium and Environmental Protection and the National System of Civil Protection.
- 104.5 In the event of a spill or release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant into international rivers and waters along the inland border area, the Mexican and U.S. Commissioners of the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC) would respond to such incidents to the extent that their authority, responsibility and resources would permit. The Commissioners will notify the Co-Chairs of the Joint Response Team and local and state authorities in their respective countries of such responses. The notification would follow the procedures established in this Inland Plan (Appendix A). The Commissioners also are responsible for informing the Co-Chairs of any actions to be taken under the authority and responsibility of the Commission under terms of existing treaties and agreements. If an incident exceeds the Commission's response capacity, the IBWC commissioners are responsible for contacting the NRC and the CENACOM respectively, using the procedures set forth in Appendix A, to assure that a response will take place.

105 Joint Policies

- 105.1 When a joint response is necessary to mitigate the effects of a polluting incident, the National Coordinators will provide assistance to the other party. Such assistance may include officials of one country entering the territory of the other country and providing assistance, at the request of the other or with the other's prior consent; coordination of federal response efforts, activities, and resources of both countries; and/or the exchange of information between the two Parties.
- 105.2 The National Coordinators encourage the development of Joint Sister City Contingency Plans which are coordinated with State and Tribal officials.
- 105.3 Effective communication between the U.S. and Mexico is vital to the successful implementation of this Inland Plan. The Coordinating Authorities will develop and maintain the necessary notification systems to allow for effective communication with respect to polluting incidents. Any polluting incident that presents a potential threat to the other country shall be reported promptly through the procedures outlined in Appendix A.
- 105.4 Actions taken to implement this Inland Plan shall be consistent with the laws, operational requirements, and other obligations of each country.
- 105.5 In a response situation that falls within the scope of this Inland Plan, the National Coordinators shall make every effort to obtain resources that could be used for joint response operations, subject to the availability of appropriated funds and



resources. In addition, each party shall have in place procedures to facilitate obtaining necessary resources from the public and private sectors that may be brought to bear to achieve a successful outcome to a joint response operation.

- 105.6 In accordance with national legislation, each National Coordinator will encourage appropriate officials in their country to ensure the timely implementation of customs, immigration, and other necessary authorization mechanisms to facilitate the free entry and exit of persons and equipment to ensure an efficient joint response.
- 105.7 Each country shall follow its own decision-making process to determine whether chemical/biological additives (e.g., dispersants) will be used to mitigate a polluting incident within its territory.

200 ORGANIZATION

The federal response structure that will provide the nucleus for coordinating a joint response to a polluting incident under this Inland Plan is summarized below. A detailed list of duties and responsibilities of federal entities can be found in Appendix I.

201 National Coordinators for the La Paz Agreement

- 201.1 The national coordinators for the 1983 La Paz Agreement, to coordinate and monitor implementation of the La Paz Agreement are:
- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the United States; and
 - The Secretariat of Environment, Natural Resources, and Fisheries (SEMARNAP) for Mexico.
- 201.2 The national coordinators will be kept informed by their respective coordinating authorities for this Inland Plan of all key activities and emergency activations conducted under the Inland Plan.

202 Joint Response Team (JRT)

- 202.1 The JRT is the policy and decision making body with overall responsibility for the maintenance and effective implementation of the Inland Plan.
- 202.2 The Co-chairs of the JRT are EPA and SEMARNAP who also serve as the coordinating authorities for implementation of this Inland Plan. For the United States, the Co-chair will be a representative from EPA Headquarters CEPPPO. For Mexico, the Co-chair will be a representative from PROFEPA.
- 202.3 Membership on the JRT is comprised of relevant supporting agencies from each country.
- 202.4 The JRT co-chairs will assure coordination with the JRT support agencies.

203 Issue/Incident-Specific Joint Response Team (ISJRT)

- 203.1 The Issue/Incident-Specific Joint Response Team (ISJRT) is responsible for effective implementation of the Inland Plan on a regional level in the U.S. and on a state and local level in Mexico in accordance with the policies of the JRT.



203.2 The general function of the Issue-Specific Joint Response Team includes planning and preparedness prior to a polluting incident. This Issue-Specific Joint Response Team may be convened to resolve a preparedness issue which requires localized geographic action. The Issue-Specific Joint Response Team will be led by a representative from the U.S. and/or Mexico as designated by the JRT Co-chairs.

203.3 The general function of the Incident-Specific Joint Response Team includes monitoring and support of response operations during a polluting incident. This Incident-Specific Joint Response Team may be convened when a polluting incident has occurred and coordination of response and follow-up is required or when there is a threat to a specific geographic area which requires coordination of appropriate personnel. The Incident-Specific Joint Response Team will be led by:

- For the United States, the United States Regional Response Team (RRT) co-chairs of the appropriate EPA Regional area; and,
- For Mexico, the State Civil Protection representative and the respective PROFEPA delegate.

203.4 The Issue/Incident-Specific Joint Response Team may be composed of Regional, State, and local agencies of each country.

204 On-Scene Coordinator (OSC)

204.1 The On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) is the official designated by each country to exercise the functions and responsibilities for coordinating joint response action at the site of a polluting incident in the inland border area of that country and providing information on the polluting incident to the ISJRT.

204.2 The OSC may:

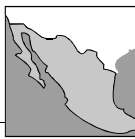
- Provide advice, assistance, and support to the local or state incident commander and as coordinator direct the federal government activities at the scene of a polluting incident; or,
- Direct the response to the polluting incident when it is under federal jurisdiction or in accordance with federal or state agreements, or when the polluting incident is beyond the capabilities of the local and state incident commander.

204.3 For the U.S., the On-Scene Coordinator shall be provided by the Regional EPA Office having jurisdiction over the incident location. For Mexico, the On-Scene Coordinator will be designated by the PROFEPA delegate within the zone of the incident.

204.4 For the U.S., the State and local participation will be coordinated through a Unified Command system, as identified in Appendix G.

205 Coordination with State and Local Preparedness and Response

205.1 Initial responsibility for responding to incidents rests with local authorities unless otherwise identified as being under federal jurisdiction. Therefore, the Inland Plan anticipates that each country will encourage Sister Cities to have up-to-date contingency plans and information about potential hazards as well as adequate equipment and trained personnel for responding to potential incidents within the Sister City's jurisdiction.



- 205.2 Whenever an incident exceeds local capabilities, local officials should seek the assistance of state agencies and should coordinate with nongovernmental organizations when appropriate.
- 205.3 To ensure that authorities do not overlap during a polluting incident, the Inland Plan and its Annexes should be coordinated with the comprehensive emergency plans prepared for U.S. local emergency planning districts on the international border in compliance with the 1986 Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) Title III (the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986) as well as the Area Contingency Plans developed under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, and equally with existing Mexican plans and arrangements.
- 205.4 Nothing in this Inland Plan imposes formal obligations on state or local authorities.

206 Technical Assistance

- 206.1 Specialty teams and expertise are available through the ISJRT to assist the OSCs in conducting response actions under this Plan. Those resources include experts with backgrounds in clean-up techniques, chemistry, engineering, biology, hydrology, health effects, toxicology, and communications as well as historical, archaeological, cultural, and natural resource expertise.

300 RESPONSE OPERATIONS

This Section sets forth the general procedures for an integrated and coordinated joint response at the federal level to supplement state and local emergency response actions following a polluting incident in the inland border area. The specific details of these procedures for a joint response are outlined in Appendices D and I.

301 Notification

- 301.1 Any local, state or federal officials of one country who are aware of any polluting incident affecting or having the potential to affect the other country should immediately report the polluting incident to the appropriate national communication center of the other country using the notification procedures described in Appendix A of this document.
- 301.2 The OSCs shall ensure that all appropriate internal notifications in their respective country have been made as described in Appendix D.

302 Preliminary Assessment

- 302.1 Upon notification of a polluting incident to the inland border area, the OSC in consultation with the ISJRT shall conduct a preliminary assessment to assess the need to activate the Inland Plan and shall relay this information via fax to the JRT Co-chair from its country in accordance with Appendix C.

303 Joint Response Team Activation

- 303.1 If the ISJRT determines, after completion of the preliminary evaluation by the OSC, that a response action would exceed their capabilities and resources, then they can request the JRT be activated. The ISJRT will make that recommendation to the Co-Chair of the JRT. The Co-Chair of the JRT will contact and consult with his/her counterpart from the other



country to determine if the Joint Response Team should be activated. If they determine that an activation is necessary, the JRT Co-Chairs will fax the activation form to their National Coordinators and the ISJRT, and the Joint Response Team will be activated and will function as described in Appendix I.

303.2 Upon receipt of an activation form, the National Coordinators will notify their respective foreign relations departments that an environmental emergency has occurred (or has the potential to occur). For the United States such officials are located in the Department of State; and in Mexico, the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs.

304 Joint Response Team Deactivation

304.1 If the JRT co-chairs determine that a JRT activation is no longer necessary, then they will de-activate the JRT by faxing the deactivation form in Appendix C to the National Coordinators and the ISJRT.

305 Joint Response Procedures

305.1 In the event of a JRT activation or a joint response, the OSCs, in conjunction with the ISJRT, will confer with each other regarding coordination of the joint response efforts including:

- Joint response actions to be undertaken;
- Status of response efforts in each country;
- Personnel, equipment, and financial resources available;
- Information to be provided to the public;
- Health and safety issues; and
- Ecological/natural, historical, archaeological, and cultural considerations.

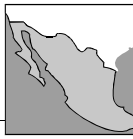
305.2 Any issues that cannot be settled by the OSCs, will be brought to the ISJRT for resolution. If need be, the JRT will be consulted.

306 Documentation for a Joint Response

306.1 The OSC, ISJRT, and the JRT under this Inland Plan are required to prepare appropriate documentation as summarized below.

306.2 The OSC(s) are responsible for providing:

- Preliminary Assessment describing the nature and effects of the polluting incident (see Appendix E) which may include, but is not limited to identification of the source and nature of the polluting incident including quantity and location of the hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant; evaluation of threat to human health or the environment; evaluation of the magnitude of the release or threat of release; and, determination if a potentially responsible party is undertaking a proper response.



- Situation Reports (SITREPs) which provide up-to-date information on the emergency incident and response action conducted under this Inland Plan. The SITREPS should describe the current status, the actions taken, future plans, recommendations, and requests for assistance and forwarded to the ISJRT co-chairs and JRT co-chairs as frequently as necessary (frequency to be determined in consultation with the co-chairs).

306.3 The ISJRT is responsible for providing:

- Final Incident Report. After a joint response has been terminated, a final incident report shall be prepared in conjunction with the OSCs and transmitted to the JRT. The Final Incident Report shall accurately describe the situation as it developed, the actions taken, the resources committed, the problems encountered, and recommendations.
- Final Issue Report. If an ISJRT is convened to address a preparedness issue in the inland border area as specified in §203.3, a Final Issue Report shall be prepared and transmitted to the JRT. The Final Issue Report shall describe the specific issue in detail, the specific geographic area, members of the ISJRT who worked on the issue and their roles, actions taken, ideas and options considered for resolving the issue and, if applicable, the pros and cons of each, and final recommendations.

306.4 The JRT is responsible for providing:

- Activation Statement which formally activates the JRT, provides a brief description of the polluting incident, and discusses initial responsibilities.
- De-activation Statement which formally de-activates the JRT.

307 Public Information

- 307.1 When an incident occurs, the public should be provided with timely and accurate information on the nature of the incident, the steps that are being taken to cope with the problem, and what individuals should do to protect themselves. This information is intended to protect human lives, to encourage understanding among the public, to ensure cooperation from all interested parties, and to reduce the possibility of the spread of concern or alarm through misinformation.
- 307.2 When activated, the JRT is responsible for developing a public information strategy (in conjunction with the ISJRT and the OSC(s)) incorporating the guidelines in Section 307.1.
- 307.3 Each co-chair of the JRT shall assign from the resources of their respective country an on-scene public information specialist who will maintain liaison with the interested parties in their respective country, including but not limited to the local and state authorities, news media, government press offices, the public, special interest groups, and concerned industries. These specialists shall support the ISJRT and the OSC(s) by advising them on public relations.
- 307.4 The public information specialist of each country, in conjunction with the OSCs, will jointly issue news releases and other public information relative to the joint response established in Section 307.2. The news released will contain operational information. Policy issues will be discussed by the JRT Co-chairs and other representatives (as co-chairs deem necessary) before release. The OSC will notify state and local authorities and the ISJRT of all public relations and news release activities.



308 Health and Safety

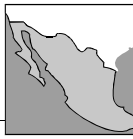
- 308.1 Medical. Each coordinating authority is responsible for notifying appropriate agencies of the need for coordinating medical services related to polluting incidents.
- 308.2 Worker Health and Safety. All government agencies and private organizations are directly responsible for the health and safety of their own employees. Each agency and organization should assure that a program for occupational safety and health is made available for the protection of its workers at the response site, and that its workers entering the response site are informed of the response site hazards and provisions of the health and safety program. The provisions of the health and safety program include: (1) standard operating procedures for entering and leaving the response site, using equipment, and decontamination; (2) accountability for personnel entering and leaving the response site; (3) recommended safety and health equipment; (4) personal safety precautions; and (5) other measures as warranted.
- 308.3 Evacuation and Relocation. In the event of evacuation, local and state authorities' procedures will be followed to identify evacuation zones and notification, transportation, and location of private citizens.

400 PREPAREDNESS

This section discusses the planning and preparedness activities which will take place prior to a polluting incident. The specific roles and responsibilities of the JRT, ISJRT, and OSC(s) prior to a polluting incident are outlined in Appendices H and I.

401 Inland Plan Review, Update and Revisions

- 401.1 Revisions to the Inland Plan may be recommended by the coordinating authorities, in consultation with the JRT and approved by the National Coordinators for the La Paz Agreement and shall take effect in accordance with Article V of Annex II of the La Paz Agreement.
- 401.2 The coordinating authorities for the Inland Plan are responsible for developing implementing guidance for their respective countries.
- 401.3 The JRT may establish any subcommittees or workgroups deemed necessary to address preparedness, response, and other issues related to the successful implementation of the Inland Plan.
- 401.4 The coordinating authorities, in consultation with the JRT are responsible for keeping the Inland Plan up to date. The coordinating authorities shall review the Inland Plan annually in consultation with the JRT's and recommend any necessary changes to the National Coordinator.
- 401.5 When considering revisions to the Inland Plan, the coordinating authorities, in consultation with the JRT, shall review, among others, the following:
- Final reports developed by an ISJRT after the termination of a joint response, especially the recommendations for improving the joint response;
 - Lessons learned from simulations and exercises;
 - Final Issue Reports developed by the ISJRT; and,



- Changes in the national policies and/or procedures in the U.S. and Mexico.

402 Exercises

- 402.1 There will be periodic exercises of this Inland Plan, as necessary.
- 402.2 To promote greater efficiency, JRT or ISJRT meetings could be held to coincide with exercises and could include more than one Region or State.

403 Educational Activities

The parties will participate in an exchange of other educational activities including academic courses, seminars, workshops, and conferences to contribute to implementing this inland plan.

Activities under the Joint Response Plan will commence on the date in which it is signed and approved by the Governments and will continue until the Governments decide to terminate it, communicating their intention in writing ninety days prior to termination.

Done at Mexico City, in duplicate, this fourth day of June, 1999 in the English and Spanish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Peter D. Robertson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Peter D. Robertson
Acting Deputy Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Antonio Azuela". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Antonio Azuela
Attorney General for the Environment
Ministry of the Environment, Natural
Resources and Fisheries



APPENDIX A Notification Procedures

Any spill, release, fire, or explosion or the threatened spill, release, fire or explosion of a hazardous substance or pollutant which has the potential to affect the other country shall be reported by any local, state, or federal official in the following manner:

United States

In the United States, the National Response Center can be reached at:

1-800-424-8802

For callers from Mexico, the National Response Center can be reached in two ways:

- (1) By dialing 001-880-424-8802 (not a free call), or
- (2) By dialing the AT&T access number at 001-800-462-4240 and then 800-424-8802 (both of these calls are free).

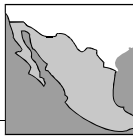
(NOTE: The U.S. National Response Center has the ability to receive notification in Spanish.)

When providing notification of a polluting incident to the U.S. National Response Center, the caller shall provide as much of the information listed in Appendix B as possible.

Once the U.S. National Response Center has been notified of a polluting incident, they will provide notification (via fax) to both countries in the following manner:

- ❖ To CENACOM in Mexico;
- ❖ To the federal level representative in SEMARNAP;
- ❖ To the ISJRT (in Mexico, the appropriate region/state PROFEPA delegate; in the U. S., the U.S. EPA Region delegate); and
- ❖ To the U.S. State representative in the appropriate geographic area(s)

The notification will include all the information provided by the caller and will be provided in the format laid out in Appendix B.



Mexico

From within Mexico, the National Communications Center (CENACOM) can be reached at any of the following numbers:

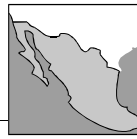
01-800-00-403
01 (5) 616-55-58
01 (5) 616-55-60
01 (5) 616-55-61
01 (5) 550-48-85
01 (5) 550-14-85
01 (5) 550-14-96

To reach CENACOM from the U. S., call any of the following numbers:

011 (525) 616-55-58
011 (525) 616-55-60
011 (525) 616-55-61
011 (525) 550-48-85
011 (525) 550-14-85
011 (525) 550-14-96

Once CENACOM has been notified of a polluting incident, they will provide notification (by fax) to both countries in the following manner:

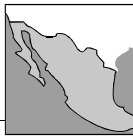
- ❖ To the U.S. National Response Center;
- ❖ To the JRT Co-chairs;
- ❖ To the leaders of the ISJRT; and
- ❖ To the Mexican State Civil Protection representative in the appropriate geographic area(s).



APPENDIX B Notification Form

When any party is notified of an actual or threat of spill, release, fire or explosion of a hazardous substance conforming to this Inland Plan, the following information should be provided:

a Reporting party (name of functionary or responder, telephone number, and address)/informante (nombre del funcionario o de él que responde, número de teléfono y dirección):	b Suspected responsible party (name, telephone number, and address)/probable entidad responsable (nombre, número de teléfono y dirección):
c Description of incident (how the release, spill, fire, or explosion occurred)/descripción del incidente (cómo ocurrió la fuga, el derrame, el fuego o la explosión):	
d Date and time of incident/fecha y hora del incidente:	
e Vehicle identification number/número de identificación del vehículo:	
f Location/lugar:	
g Type of container and capacity/tipo de contenedor y capacidad:	
h Specific identifiers (e.g., cross road, railroad milepost)/identificadores específicos (e.g., intersección, kilómetro de la vía del ferrocarril):	
i Hazardous substances involved/sustancias peligrosas involucradas:	j Quantity/cantidad:
k Spill or release to air, soil, or water: Where is it going? How much to water?/derrame o escape al aire, suelo o agua: ¿hacia dónde va? ¿qué cantidad va al agua?:	
l Corrective actions taken/acciones de corrección tomadas:	
m Roads closed/caminos cerrados:	
n Number of deaths, injuries, or evacuations/número de muertos, heridos o evacuaciones:	
o Other notifications made/otras notificaciones hechas:	
p Additional comments/comentarios adicionales:	



APPENDIX C
Activation/Deactivation Information (Flowcharts and Forms)

Activation Flowchart

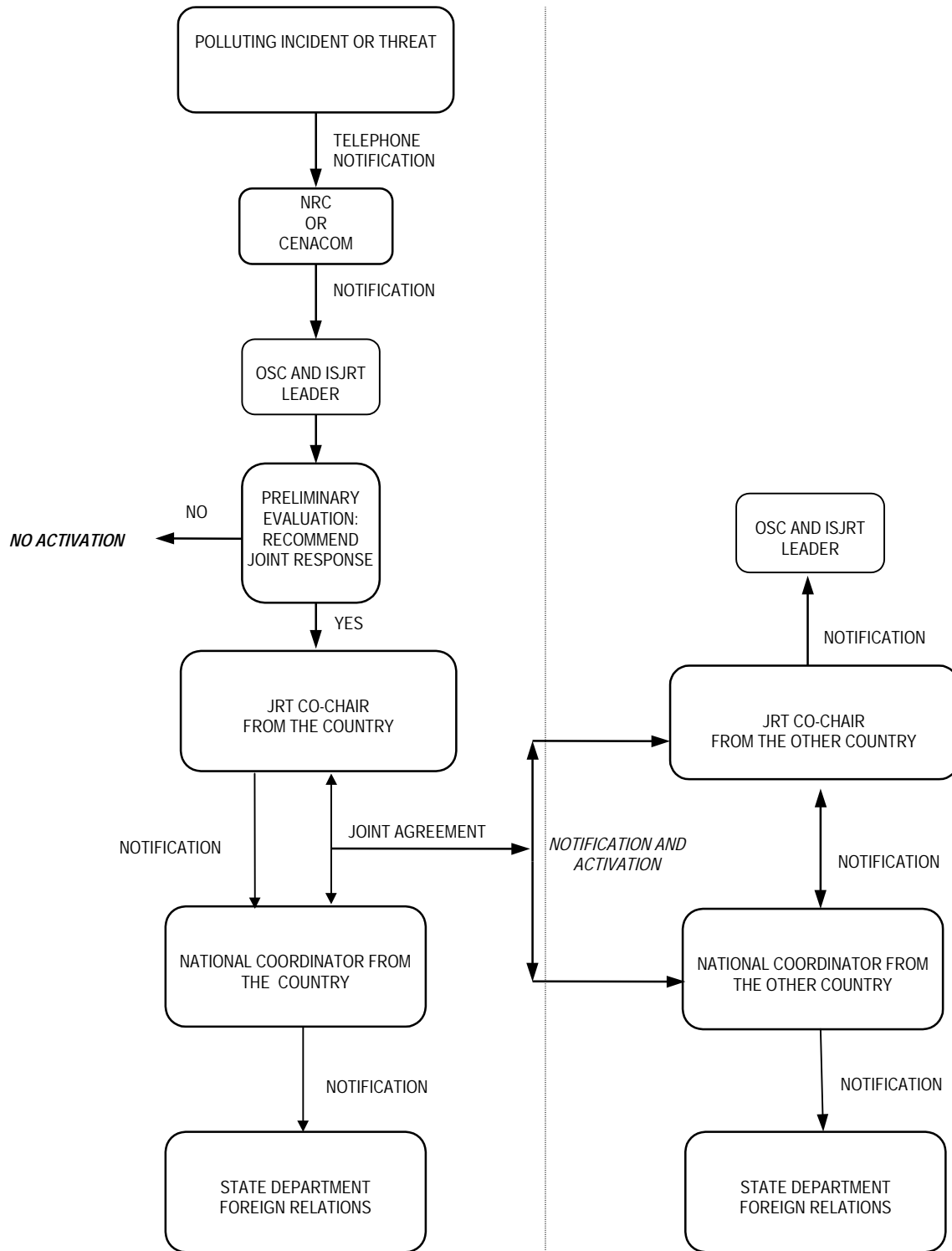
Activation Form

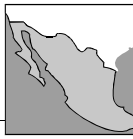
Deactivation Flowchart

Deactivation Form



Activation Flow Chart





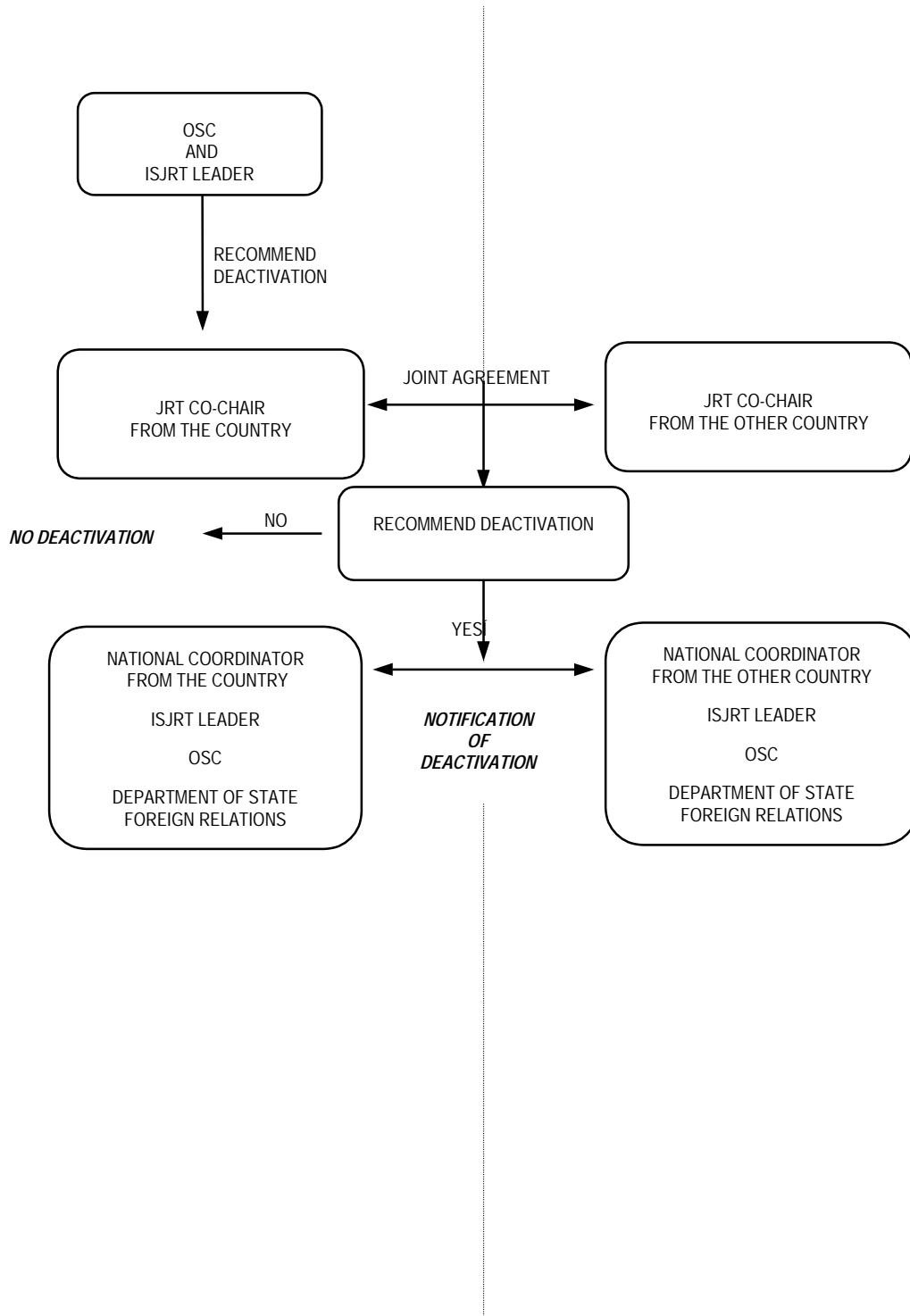
Activation Form

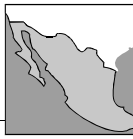
If the Joint Response Team is activated, the following information is required in addition to the information provided in the Notification Form (see Appendix B):

a Summary description of incident (a summary of the information provided in the Notification Form)/descripción resumida del incidente (un resumen de la información incluida 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 Assistance required/asistencia requerida:



Deactivation Flow Chart





Deactivation Form

If the Joint Response Team is deactivated, the following information is required in addition to the information provided in the Notification Form (see Appendix B):

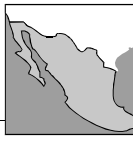
a Summary description of incident (a summary of the information provided in the Notification Form)/descripción resumida del incidente (un resumen de la información incluida en el Formulario de Notificación):
b Justification for deactivation of joint response/justificación para la desactivación de la respuesta conjunta:
c Date and time of joint response deactivation/fecha y hora de la desactivación de la respuesta conjunta:
d Assistance required/asistencia requerida:



APPENDIX D
Response Operations Flowcharts

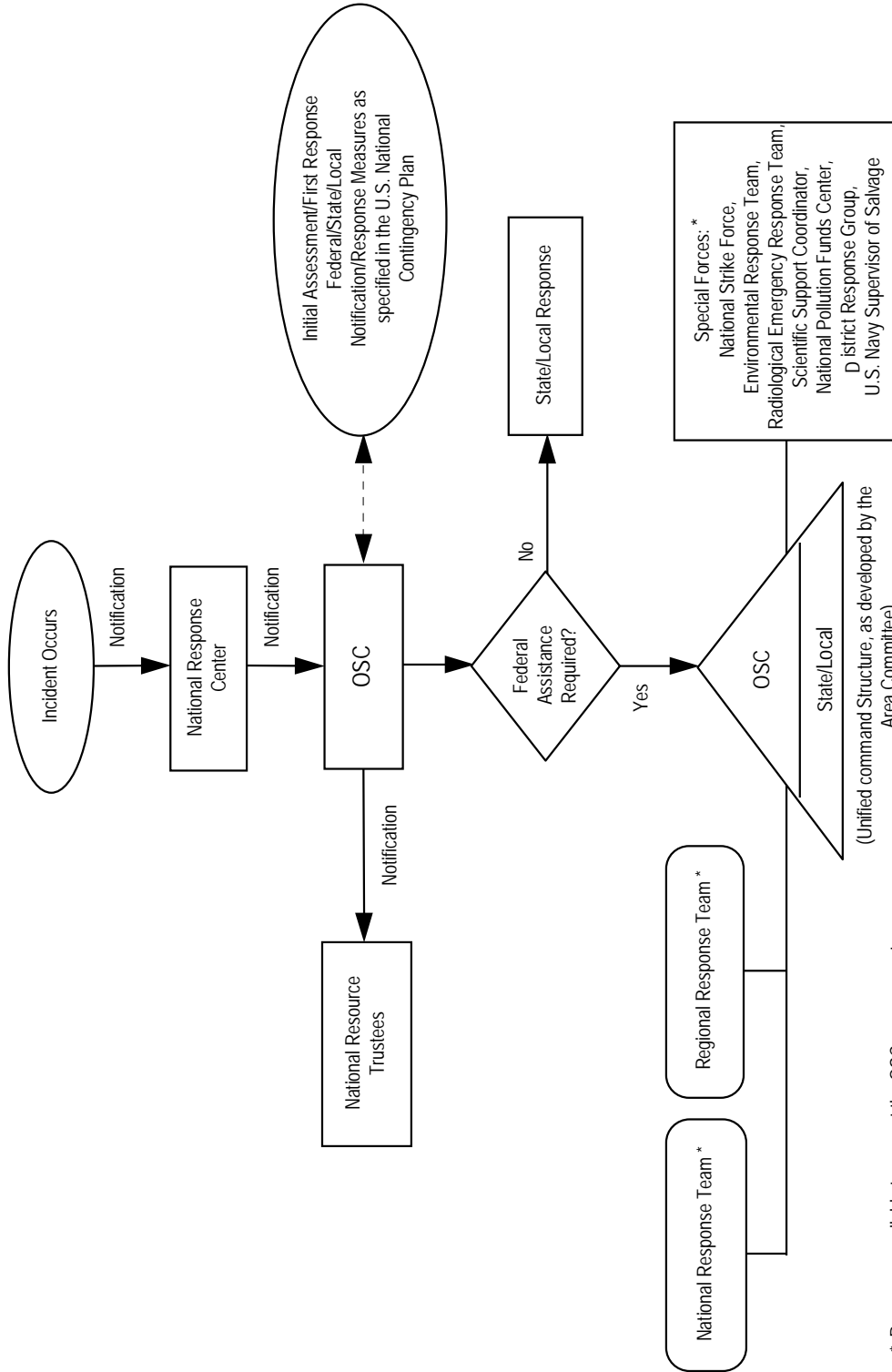
Response Operations Flowchart: U.S. Response

Response Operations Flowchart: Mexico Response

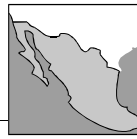


Response Operations Flowchart: U.S. Response

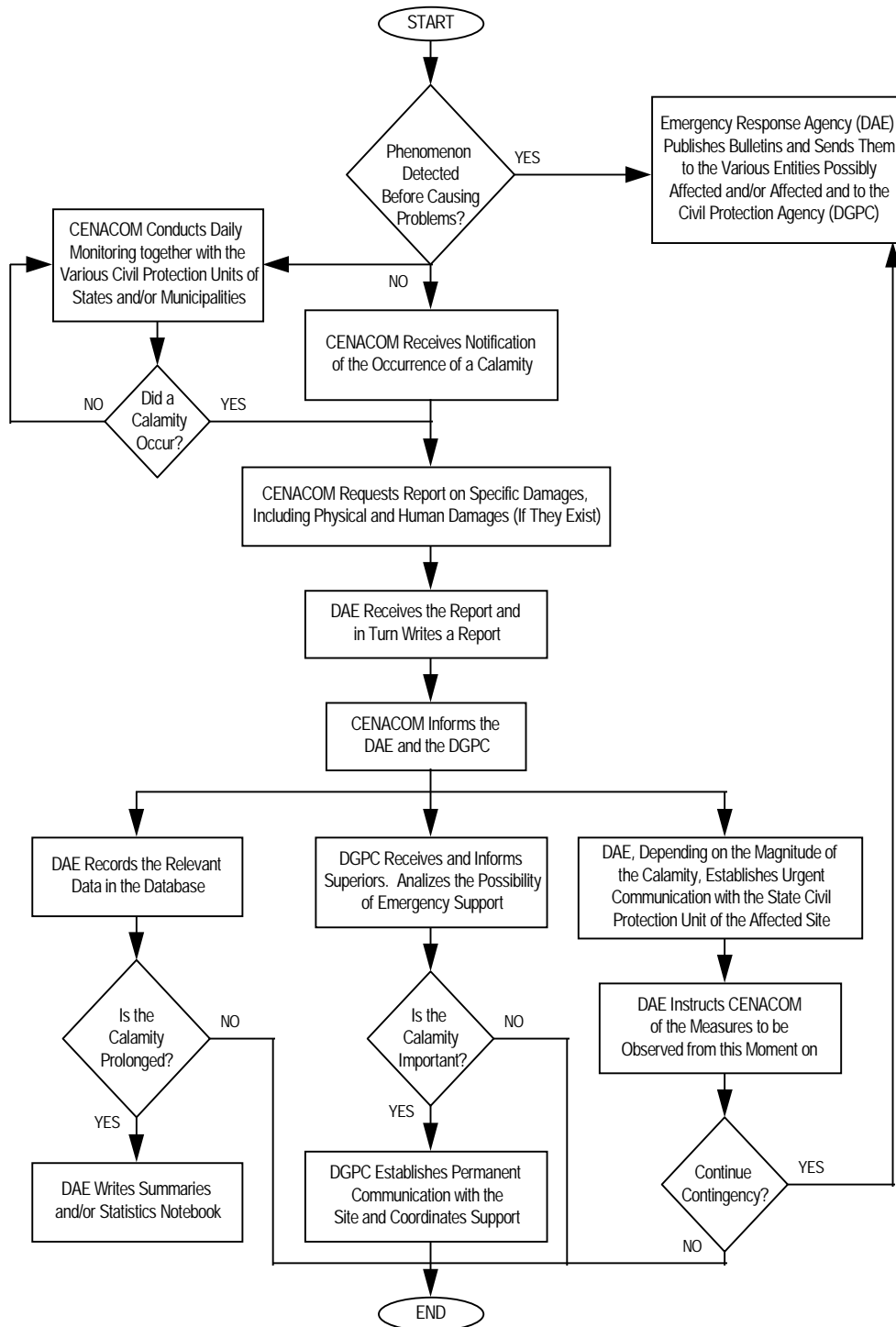
Response Operations Flowchart: U.S. Response

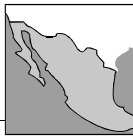


* Resources available to support the OSC upon request.



Response Operations Flowchart: Mexico Response





APPENDIX E Report Formats

1. Preliminary Assessment

- Date
- Time
- OSC name and phone number
- Receptor name and address
- SITREP number
- Location of the incident
- Status
- Response actions
- Recommendations
- Future Plans

2. Situation Reports (SITREPs)

The updated information about the emergency situation and the response action(s) taken in accordance with this Plan will be provided by the OSC to the leader of the ISJRT (frequency to be determined) using the situation reports (SITREP) which will describe: the present situation, actions taken, future plans, recommendations, and all the requirements for assistance. The SITREP should be prepared according to the following format and transmitted by fax or similar means to the leaders of ISJRT and JRT.

- Date
- Time
- Name and Phone Number of Sender
- Name and Address of Receiver
- Number of this SITREP
- Situation
- Action(s) Taken
- Recommendations
- Future Plans

3. Final Incident Report

After a joint response has terminated, the ISJRT, in conjunction with the OSCs, shall prepare a Final Incident Report for transmittal to the JRT. The Final Incident Report shall accurately describe the situation as it developed, the actions taken, the resources committed, the problems encountered, and recommendations. The format for the Final Incident Report shall be as follows:



- Summary of Events -- a chronological narrative of all events, including:
 - * The cause of the spill, release, fire, or explosion;
 - * The initial situation;
 - * Efforts to obtain response action by those responsible for the spill, release, fire, or explosion;
 - * The organization of the response, including participation by public and private sector organizations;
 - * The resources committed;
 - * The location of the hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant released, spilled, or burned in a fire or explosion;
 - * Details of any threat abatement action taken; and
 - * Public information and community relations activities.

- Effectiveness of Removal Actions -- A thorough analysis of the removal actions taken by:
 - * Those responsible for the spill, release, fire, or explosion;
 - * State and local response personnel;
 - * Federal agencies; and
 - * Private groups, volunteers, and others.

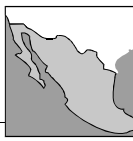
- Problems Encountered -- A list of problems affecting response.

- Recommendations -- OSC recommendations are a source for new procedures and policy and should include:
 - * Means to prevent a recurrence of the spill, release, fire, or explosion;
 - * Improvement of response actions; and
 - * Any recommended changes in the Joint Contingency Plan.

4. Final Issue Report

If an ISJRT is convened to address a preparedness issue in the inland border area as specified in Section 203.3, a Final Issue Report shall be prepared and transmitted to the JRT. The Final Issue Report shall describe the specific issue in detail, the specific geographic area, members of the ISJRT who worked on the issue and their roles, actions taken, ideas and options considered for resolving the issue and, if applicable, the pros and cons of each, and final recommendations. The format for the Final Issue Report should be as follows:

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



APPENDIX F Acronyms

ENGLISH		SPANISH	
CENACOM	National Communications Center (Mexico)	CENACOM	Centro Nacional de Comunicaciones (México)
CENAPRED	National Disaster Prevention Center (Mexico)	CENAPRED	Centro Nacional de Prevención de Desastres (México)
CEPPO	Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office (U.S.)	CEPPO	Oficina de Preparación y Prevención de Emergencias Químicas (E.U.)
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (U.S.)	CERCLA	Ley General de Respuesta, Compensación y Responsabilidad (E.U.)
CNA	National Water Commission (Mexico)	CNA	Comisión Nacional del Agua (México)
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency (U.S.)	EPA	Agencia de Protección Ambiental (E.U.)
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency (U.S.)	FEMA	Agencia Federal para el Manejo de Emergencias (E.U.)
IBWC	International Boundary and Water Commission	CILA	Comisión Internacional de Límites y Aguas
ISJRT	Issue/Incident Specific Joint Response Team	ERCIE	Equipo de Respuesta Conjunta de Asunto / Incidente Específico
JCP	Joint Contingency Plan	PCC	Plan Conjunto de Contingencias
JRT	Joint Response Team	ERC	Equipo de Respuesta Conjunta
NCP	National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (U.S.)	NCP	Plan Nacional de Contingencias por Contaminación de Petróleo y Sustancias Peligrosas (E.U.)
NRC	National Response Center (U.S.)	NRC	Centro Nacional de Respuestas (E.U.)
NRT	National Response Team (U.S.)	NRT	Equipo Nacional de Respuesta (E.U.)
OSC	On-Scene Coordinator	CEE	Coordinador en Escena
PROFEPA	Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (Mexico)	PROFEPA	Procuraduría Federal de Protección al Ambiente (México)
RRT	Regional Response Team (U.S.)	RRT	Equipo de Respuesta Regional (E.U.)
SARA Title III	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act Title III (the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986) (U.S.)	SARA Título III	Ley de Planeación de Emergencia y del Derecho-de-Estar-Informados de la Comunidad de 1986 de la Ley de Enmiendas y Reautorización del Superfondo (E.U.)
SEMARNAP	Secretariat of Environment, Natural Resources, and Fishing (Mexico)	SEMARNAP	Secretaría de Medio Ambiente, Recursos Naturales y Pesca (México)
SINAPROC	National Civil Protection System (Mexico)	SINAPROC	Sistema Nacional de Protección Civil (México)
SITREP	Situation Report	REPSIT	Reporte de Situación
USCG	U.S. Coast Guard (U.S.)	USCG	Guardia Costera de los E.U. (E.U.)



APPENDIX G Definitions

Agreement of 1983 (also known as the La Paz Agreement) - The Agreement between the United States and Mexico on Cooperation for the Protection and Improvement of the Environment in the Border Area (August 1983).

Bi-National - Involving two countries.

Coordinating Authorities - The Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Office (CEPPO) of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the coordinating authority for the United States for this Inland Plan. For Mexico, the coordinating authority for this Inland Plan is the Secretariat of Environment, Natural Resources, and Fisheries (SEMARNAP) through the Office of the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA).

Drinking Water Supply - Any water source created or treated for use by a public water system or for human consumption.

Environment - The atmosphere, land surface or subsurface strata, and surface and ground waters, including the natural resources contained therein, such as fish, wildlife, forests, farm and pasture lands, rivers, streams, aquifers, and all other components of the ecosystem.

Facility - (a) Any building, structure, installation, equipment, pipe or pipeline (including any pipe into a sewer or publicly owned treatment works), well, pit, lagoon, impoundment, ditch, landfill, storage container, motor vehicle, rolling stock, or aircraft, or (b) any site or area where a hazardous substance has been deposited, stored, disposed of, placed, or otherwise come to be located; but does not include any consumer product in consumer use or any vessel in marine waters.

Groundwater - Water in a saturated zone or stratum beneath the land surface.

Hazardous Substances - Elements and compounds which if discharged present or may present an imminent and substantial danger to the public health, welfare, or environment, in accordance with the laws of each of the parties and the determination by the Joint Response Team (JRT).

Inland Border Area - Means the area on both sides of the inland international boundary as defined in Annex II of the La Paz Agreement, i.e., the area situated 100 kilometers on either side of the inland international boundary.

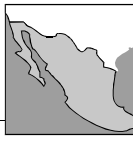
Inland Plan - The Joint United States/Mexico Joint Contingency Plan for Preparedness for and Response to Environmental Emergencies Caused by Releases, Spills, Fires, or Explosions of Hazardous Substances in the Inland Border Area published pursuant to Annex II of the Agreement of 1983.

Joint Response - The assistance of one Party to the other Party in relation to a polluting incident, including: (1) one Party entering the territory of the other Party and providing assistance, at the request of the other Party or with the other Party's prior consent; (2) coordination of federal response efforts, activities, and resources of both Parties in response to a polluting incident; (3) the exchange of information between the two Parties concerning response to a polluting incident.

Natural Resources - Land, fish, wildlife, plants, air, water, groundwater, drinking water supplies, and other such resources.

On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) - Those persons designated by the EPA and PROFEPA to coordinate and direct responses under this Plan.

Party - A signatory of the Agreement of 1983, i.e., the United States or Mexico.



Pollutant or Contaminant - Includes but is not limited to any element, substance, compound, or mixture, including disease-causing agents, which after release into the environment and upon exposure, ingestion, inhalation, or assimilation into any organism, either directly from the environment or indirectly by ingestion through food chains, will or may reasonably be anticipated to cause death, disease, behavioral abnormalities, cancer, genetic mutation or physiological malfunctions, or physical or reproductive deformations in such organisms or their offspring.

Polluting Incident - A release or threat of release of any hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant on either side of the Inland International Boundary of a magnitude that causes or threatens to cause imminent and substantial adverse effects on the public health, welfare, or the environment.

Release - Any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants into the environment including the abandonment or discarding of barrels, containers and other closed receptacles containing any hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. It excludes: (a) any release which results in exposure to persons solely within a work place, (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 the purpose of this Inland Plan, release also means substantial threat of release.

Response Action - The removal of hazardous substances, or pollutants released, spilled, or burned from the environment; actions to abate a threat of release, actions to monitor, assess, and evaluate the threat (or actual release) of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant, the disposal of removed material, or other actions intended to prevent or mitigate damage to human health, welfare or the environment.

State - a) Those States of the United States of America bordering Mexico: Texas, New Mexico, Arizona and California; and, b) the Mexican States bordering the United States of America: Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon, Coahuila, Chihuahua, Sonora, and Baja California.

Unified Command - An incident command mechanism that can 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, coordination, and cooperation. Under the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP), the Unified Command typically consists of the Federal On-Scene Coordinator (OSC), the State on-scene coordinator, and the incident commander of the responsible party (RP).



APPENDIX H

Joint Response Team (JRT) Agencies

Primary Agencies

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 Plan. On the part of Mexico, the Secretariat of Environment, Natural Resources and Fisheries (SEMARNAP) has the primary responsibility to give assistance and to coordinate the Mexican participation in this Plan, in accordance with the Secretariat of Government through the National Civil Protection System. 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 hazardous substances, or prevent, mitigate, or minimize the threats of releases;
- Maintaining close coordination with the affected locality, the ISJRT, the OSC, and the other party; and
- Providing administrative assistance, facilities, communications, and personnel to support response efforts under this Plan within that Agency's jurisdiction.

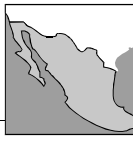
Support Agencies

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

Bi-National Agencies

The **International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC)** may respond to incidents in international rivers and waters to the extent that its authority, responsibility and resources permit. The IBWC Commissioners would notify the JRT Co-chairs and respective state and local authorities of such responses. The U.S. section of the IBWC would coordinate with the appropriate federal, state and local authorities, and the Mexican section of the IBWC would coordinate with the Mexican National Water Commission (CNA) in fulfilling their responsibilities regarding international waters of the United States and Mexico.

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 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 the boundary rivers, solution of border sanitation problems, and, use of international waters of the Rio Grande to jointly develop hydroelectric power. During a transboundary response to a pollution emergency, the IBWC Commissioners would inform the Co-Chairs of the Joint Response Team (JRT) of incidents related to this Inland Joint Contingency Plan that come to their attention, such as a spill or release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant into international rivers or waters. Also the Commissioners would: inform the Co-Chairs of appropriate actions being taken under the authority and responsibility of the Commission pursuant to bilateral agreements and treaties in force. In the event IBWC is unable to contain a spill, it would seek the assistance of the NRC and the CENACOM to assure that responsible action is taken.



For the United States

The **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** co-chairs the U.S./Mexico Joint Response Team, chairs the National Response Team, co-chairs the standing RRTs, and the Issue/Incident Specific Joint Response Team (ISJRT) at the response level, provides predesignated On-Scene Coordinators for the inland zone, and generally provides scientific support coordinators for the inland zone. EPA provides expertise on environmental effects of releases and on environmental pollution control techniques. EPA provides guidance, technical assistance, and training in hazardous materials preparedness and response and also provides legal expertise on the interpretation of environmental statutes.

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

The **Department of Agriculture (USDA)** has scientific and technical capability to measure, evaluate, and monitor, either on the ground or by use of aircraft, situations where natural resources including soil, water, wildlife, and vegetation have been impacted by hazardous substances. Agencies within USDA with relevant expertise are: the Forest Service, the Agriculture 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 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 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 the DOD. 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 on request. The following two branches of 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 (USN) has an extensive array of specialized equipment and personnel available for use in ship salvage, shipboard damage control, and diving.

The **Department of Energy (DOE)**, except as otherwise provided in Executive Order 12580, provides designated On-Scene Coordinators that are responsible for taking all response actions with respect to releases of hazardous substances where either the release is on, or the sole source of the release is from, any facility or vessel under its jurisdiction, custody or control. In addition, under the Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan (FRERP), DOE provides advice and assistance to other On-Scene Coordinators for emergency actions essential for the control of immediate radiological hazards.

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 and protection of both response workers and the public's health. HHS is delegated



authorities under CERCLA relating to a determination that illness, disease, or complaints may be attributable to exposure to a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. Agencies within HHS that have relevant responsibilities, capabilities, and expertise include the U.S. Public Health Service, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and the National Institutes for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS).

The **Department of the Interior (DOI)** manages a wide variety of natural, cultural, historical and mineral resources and has certain responsibilities for native Americans and U.S. territories. DOI manages almost 40 percent of the land base in the U.S. along the Mexico border. These areas consist of Internationally and Nationally significant parks and monuments, wildlife refuges, biosphere reserves, wilderness areas, public lands, a wild and scenic river and other waterways. 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 with expertise on 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 Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance is the designated DOI representative to the U.S. RRTs and the JRTs.

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.

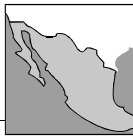
The **Department of Labor (DOL)**, through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the States' operating plans approved under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, has authority to conduct safety and health inspections of hazardous waste sites to assure that employees are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

The **Department of State (DOS)** leads the negotiation of international agreements that provide for international joint contingency plans. It also helps to coordinate an international response when discharges or releases cross international boundaries or involve foreign flag vessels. Additionally, DOS coordinates requests for assistance from foreign governments and U.S. proposals for conducting research at incidents that occur in waters of other countries. DOS also will work 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 U.S. The U.S. section of the **International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC)** coordinates with the Bureau of Reclamation, the Corps of Engineers, and appropriate agencies or U.S. border 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.

The **Department of the Treasury/U.S. Customs Service**, as the principal border enforcement agency, enforces customs and related laws and collects revenue from imports. Specific responsibilities of Customs include: processing persons, carriers, cargo, and mail into and out of the United States; assessing and collecting customs duties, excise taxes, fees, and penalties on imported merchandise; interdicting and seizing contraband; administering certain navigation laws; detecting and apprehending persons engaged in fraudulent practices designed to circumvent customs laws, copyright, patents, trademarks, or quotas; and enforcing over 400 provisions of law on behalf of more than 40 government agencies.

The **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** provides guidance, policy, and program advice, and technical assistance in hazardous materials and radiological emergency preparedness activities (planning, training, and exercising) to state and local governments. When the Federal Response Plan is activated, 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. FEMA may enter into an agreement with the appropriate political entity to implement relocation assistance in a response.

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.

The **Nuclear Regulatory Commission** responds, as appropriate, to releases of radioactive materials by its licensees. In addition, the NRC will provide advice to the On-Scene Coordinator when assistance is required in identifying the source and character of other hazardous substance releases where the Commission has licensing authority for activities utilizing radioactive materials.

For Mexico

The **Secretariat of Government (SEGOB)** through the **National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC)** has the authority to coordinate the activities of the agencies of the public sector – federal, state and municipal – as well as private institutions in order to help the population in the areas where an accident might occur.

The **Secretariat for National Defense (SEDENA)** is the institution that has the function to guarantee the national security, aid the civil population and cooperate in case of public need as well as to collaborate in social work. These missions will be executed jointly with the army when they are ordered to do so or when circumstances make it necessary.

The **Secretariat of the Navy (SM)** protects the fluvial and maritime traffic in the federal jurisdiction; develops rescue operations on the ocean and in national waters; and helps to protect the civil population in disaster zones or emergencies, acting by itself or jointly with the army and air force according to the Plan.

The **Secretariat of Health (SS)**. This agency enters into action in case of an emergency caused by a sudden deterioration of the environment that would put the population in risk. The agency will adopt the prevention and control measures necessary to protect the health without interfering with the Secretariat of Environment, Natural Resources, and Fisheries.

Special actions in matters of general health will be taken by the Secretariat of Health, which will organize special brigades that will act under its direction and responsibility and will entrust the federal, state and municipal authorities the execution of activities these brigades deem necessary.

The **Secretariat of Environment, Natural Resources, and Fisheries (SEMARNAP)**, and the **National Ecology Institute (INE)** as decentralized members of the Secretariat, have the authority to determine the norms that will assure the conservation or restoration of the fundamental ecosystem for the development of the community, especially in emergency situations or environmental risk, as well as highly dangerous activities, with such participation as appropriate by other dependencies of the Federal Public Administration and the State and Municipal governments.

The **Office of the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA)**, as a decentralized office of the SEMARNAP, has the authority to verify compliance with environmental norms, as well as to 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 to verify the measures and ability of the public or private firms or organizations to prevent and act in case of environmental contingencies and emergencies, and provide specialized guidance for spills, explosions, fires, and releases of chemical products, creating plans for immediate response to emergencies and contingencies that may occur with hazardous chemical substances, that may affect the community or the environment.



The **National Commission of Water (CNA)**, as a decentralized member of SEMARNAP, is the authority for control of the country's water bodies.

The **Secretariat of Communications and Transport (SCT)** has the authority to regulate the traffic through the **Federal Road Police (PFC)**, as well as maritime and air transport; to freely use all the transport equipment that belong to the state, no matter what legal regime they belong to; to freely use and prioritize the telecommunication services in general, as well as the radio and TV transmissions; and to command and control the communications, operations and maintenance of the communication networks.

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

The **National Center for Disaster Prevention (CENAPRED)** has the authority to develop research strategies, apply and coordinate technologies for the prevention and mitigation of disasters, promote professional and technical training, as well as support the dissemination of preparation and self-protection measures for the population before the contingency of a disaster and, by this means, support and assist the National Civil Protection System (SINAPROC).

The **Secretariat of Foreign Affairs (SRE)** will help the immigration and customs authorities to conduct bilateral negotiations to establish mechanisms to expedite the entrance of emergency response equipment and personnel into Mexico. The Mexican section of the **International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC)** coordinates with the CNA regarding domestic aspects of U.S./Mexican management of international waters in fulfillment of bilateral treaties and agreements.

The **Secretariat of Housing and Public Credit (SHCP)** through the General Customs Administration has the authority for establishing mechanisms in order to facilitate and expedite rapid crossing of vehicles, equipment, and general cargo needed for the emergency.

The **National Immigration Institute (INM)**, in conformance with the Decree under which it was created as a decentralized technical agency, and as part of the Secretariat of Government, has as its objective the planning, execution, control, supervision, and evaluation of immigration services and implements the necessary coordinating mechanisms in order to facilitate the entry and exit of persons into and out of the country, thus assuring an efficient joint response in the case of polluting incidents that affect the inland border area between Mexico and the U.S.

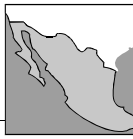
The INM will carry out these activities in accordance with the immigration related authority vested in the Secretariat of Government under Articles 7(II), 10 to 13, 15 to 18, and 20 of the General Immigration Law and its implementing regulations.

The **Secretariat of Energy (SE)**, through the **National Commission of Nuclear Security and Safeguard (CNSNS)**, advises federal, state, and local entities concerning nuclear and radiation safety measures that would be required in the case of an incident or accident. The SE also is responsible for, when technically prudent, the containment equipment and the securing of ionizing radiation sources.

Responsibilities

According to the legal bases, the SEMARNAP, through the Office of the Federal Attorney General for Environmental Protection, will coordinate this Plan through its state representatives and the representations of the federal sector in the Border States.

At the State level, the governments of the Border States will provide security to the community; will protect lives as well as public and private property; will maintain communication channels between the Border States; and will coordinate the activities of the Fire Department, specialized personnel, brigades, etc.



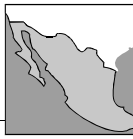
The representation of the federal sector in the Border State, will intervene at the appropriate level and will provide human and material resources in order to respond to the emergency.

The representations of the federal sector are:

- The **Secretariat of National Defense (SEDENA)** and the **Secretariat of the Navy (SM)**, according to their respective jurisdiction areas, are in charge of providing the elements to help the civil population, adapting their organizations of response and adjusting their procedures according to the actions resulting from this Plan.
- The **Secretariat of Health (SS)** will coordinate the institutions and dependencies of the health sector and other public, social and private medical service centers, that will participate in the emergency. The Secretariat will provide the medical attention required by the population, the workers, and the aid personnel, during the entire emergency.
- The Mexican section of the **International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC)**, which functions under the Mexican Secretariat for Foreign Relations and in coordination with the **National Water Commission (CNA)**, will evaluate the consequences of spills or releases of hazardous substances into international waters and will implement emergency actions.
- The **Mexican Petroleum Company (PEMEX)**, which is part of the Federal Government, will promptly report the existence of an emergency should a spill or release of hazardous substances to international waters occur in one of its plants in the Border Zone. It will implement the first response action measures until the authorities legally in charge for the response arrive. Also, in case of an emergency in the Border Zone, PEMEX will help with response personnel and equipment.
- The **Secretariat of Communication and Transport (SCT)** will facilitate the communication (via telephone and radio) with other dependencies and institutions during the emergency.
- The **Federal Road Police (PFC)**, which is under the jurisdiction of the **SCT**, will isolate the accident area and will turn away the traffic during the emergency in order to protect the population. In case an evacuation is necessary, the PFC will be in charge of completing this operation as quickly as possible.
- The **National Commission of Nuclear Security and Safeguard (CNSNS)** will collaborate jointly with other dependencies in the evaluation of the consequences of a radiological emergency, as well as the implementation of the security measures to protect the population and the natural environment (ecosystem).
- The **Secretariat of Environment, Natural Resources, and Fisheries (SEMARNAP)** through the **PROFEPA** and the **National Ecology Institute (INE)** will evaluate the consequences of the spill or release of hazardous substances, and will apply corrective measures that are necessary.
- The **National Center of Disaster Prevention (CENAPRED)**, which is an agency under the jurisdiction of the **Secretariat of Government**, will promote the training of emergency response personnel in the different institutions participating.
- The **Mexican General Customs Administration** member under the jurisdiction of the Secretariat of Housing and Public Credit (SHCP), will implement policies and facilitate legal formalities for border crossing of the emergency response team.



- The **National Immigration Institute (INM)**, as part of the Secretariat of Government, will implement the necessary coordination mechanisms in order to facilitate the entry and exit of persons into and from the country, thus assuring an efficient joint response for the population in case of polluting incidents that affect the inland border area between Mexico and the U.S.



APPENDIX I Roles and Responsibilities

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

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

Listed below are the specific preparedness 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 shall:

- Develop and update procedures for carrying out a joint response to a polluting incident including procedures to promote the coordination of federal, state, and local government and private response to polluting incidents;
- Foster the development and international cooperation of local action groups such as the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) on the U.S. side, and Local Mutual Help Committees (CLAMs) and units under the Awareness and Preparation for Emergencies at the Local Level (APELL) program on the Mexican side;
- Promote the preparation, maintenance, and exercises of joint sister city contingency plans that will ensure emergency preparedness at the local level;
- Review and/or revise the Inland Plan annually incorporating as necessary any findings from:
 - * Final Issue 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 simulations and exercises; and,
 - * Changes in the national policies and/or procedures in the United States and Mexico;
- Conduct annual meetings to discuss preparedness and activation issues related to the successful implementation of the Inland Plan. The JRT co-chairs may meet more frequently;
- Maintain a contact list of names and telephone numbers of all support agencies, of the JRT as well as appropriate persons to contact under this Inland Plan. This list shall be updated annually;
- Develop recommendations for training of federal, 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 Plan.

I.1.2 Specific Activation Duties and Responsibilities of the JRT

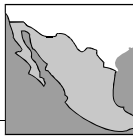
When the United States and Mexico have agreed to activate the JRT, the JRT shall:

- Activate the JRT as stipulated in Section 303;
- Notify the national coordinators designated under the 1983 La Paz Agreement and keep them informed;
- Notify each country's embassy (in Washington, DC and Mexico City) as well as consulates close to the incident;
- Coordinate national-level activities of all involved federal departments and agencies;
- Develop a joint public information strategy (in conjunction with the ISJRT and the OSC(s));
- Facilitate information exchange between the countries;
- Provide assistance to the Incident-Specific JRT. This assistance could include:
 - * Facilitating the provision of emergency resources, support, and invocation of other related emergency plans such as those involving customs and immigration;
 - * Advising the ISJRT and the On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) about possible measures to take in response to the polluting incident and about the resources available to carry out these measures; and
 - * 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,
- De-activate the JRT as stipulated in Section 304.

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

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

Listed below are the duties and responsibilities of the Issue-Specific JRT and the Incident-Specific JRT. The Issue-Specific JRT will address all preparedness activities and the Incident-Specific JRT will address all response activities during an activation.



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

The Issue-Specific JRT shall:

- Conduct annual (or more frequent) meetings to plan, review actions and activities in the border area, address emerging issues, resolve outstanding issues, and exchange information;
- Assist in the preparation, maintenance, and exercises of joint sister city contingency plans that will ensure emergency preparedness at the local level;
- Develop procedures (in coordination with the JRT) for a joint response to a polluting incident;
- Conduct exercises of this Inland Plan;
- Develop and forward to the JRT a Final Issue Report as stipulated in Section 306.2 and Appendix E; and,
- Recommend to the JRT any changes and/or improvements needed to this Inland Plan.

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

The Incident-Specific JRT shall:

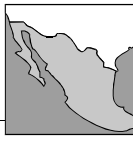
- Monitor incoming reports, evaluate the possible impact of reported polluting incidents and be fully aware at all times the actions and plans of the OSC;
- Seek arrangements with appropriate agencies having services, facilities, or equipment that may be useful to response to the polluting incidents;
- Coordinate the actions of the various agencies in supplying the necessary resources and assistance to the OSC;
- Advise the OSC about the resources and assistance available to carry out the OSC response activities;
- Make recommendations and provide advice to the OSC concerning the response activities, as requested;
- Coordinate all reporting to the JRT on the status of the polluting incident;
- Ensure that the OSC has adequate public information support and assist in the preparation of information releases in compliance with the joint public information strategy (see Section 307.3);
- Provide the liaison and advisory role between the JRT and the OSC(s);
- Review post-incident reports from the OSC(s) on the handling of pollution incidents for the purpose of developing the Final Incident Report as stipulated in Section 306.2;
- Develop, in conjunction with the OSC(s), a Final Incident Report as stipulated in Section 306.2 and Appendix E; and,
- Provide the Final Incident Report to the JRT.



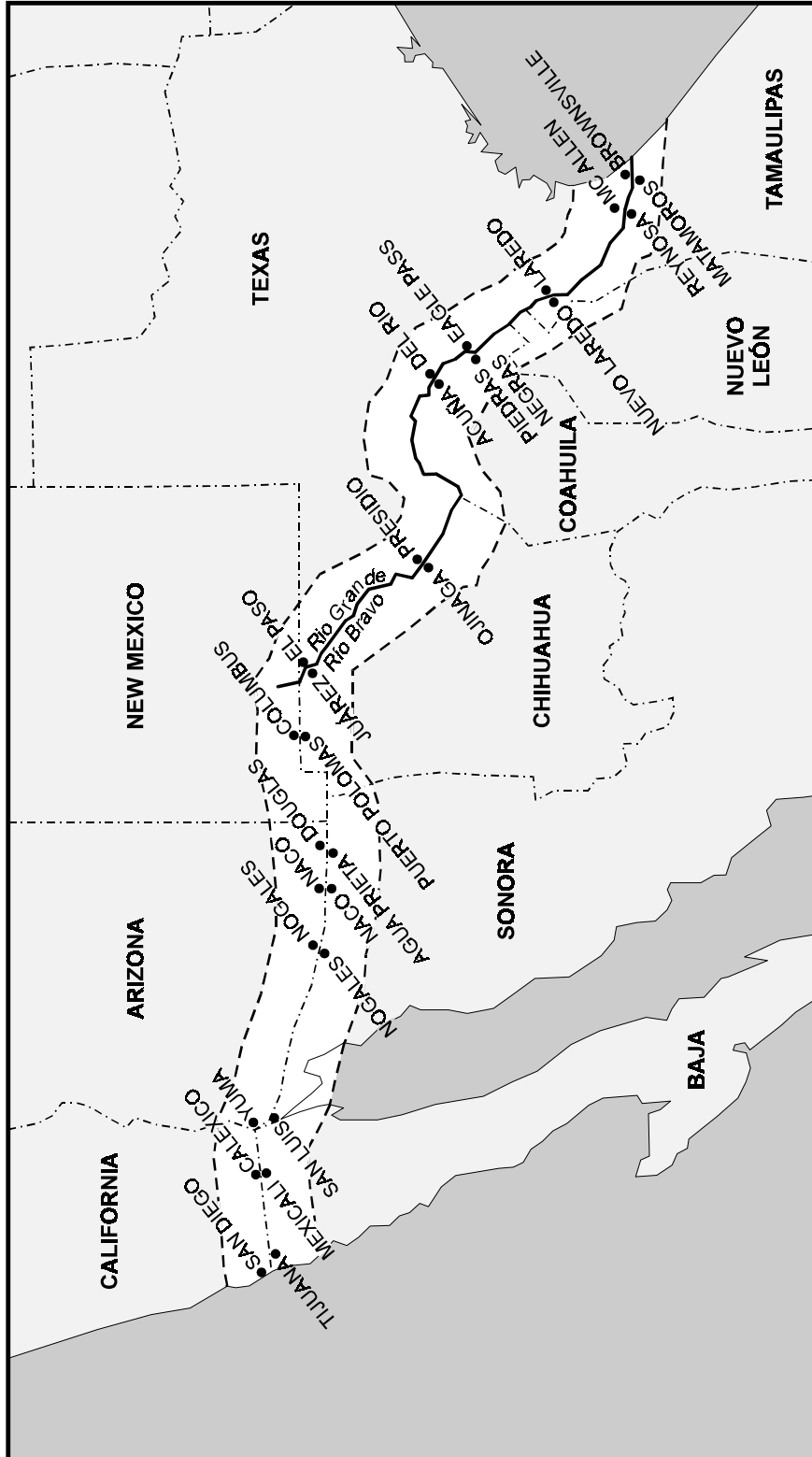
I.3 On-Scene Coordinator

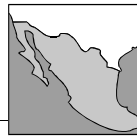
The functions and responsibilities of the OSC, as detailed under the framework of the laws, rules, and operating procedures of each country, are:

- Coordinate and direct measures related to the detection of polluting incidents;
- Determine the facts concerning the polluting incident, including: the nature, quantity, and location of the hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant; the direction and probable time of travel of the hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant; 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 their findings (as stipulated in Section 302.1 and Appendix E);
- Coordinate and direct all phases of the response action within his or her jurisdiction;
- Make detailed situation reports (SITREPs) to the ISJRT about all aspects of the polluting incident and the progress of the response operation (see Appendix E);
- Recommend to the ISJRT the termination of a joint response action; and
- Prepare and submit (in conjunction with the ISJRT) to the JRT a Final Incident Report on each polluting incident as stipulated in Section 306.3.



APPENDIX J
Map of Border Area and Sister Cities





APPENDIX K Plans

K.1 LIST OF FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL PLANS

K.1.1 Bi-National Plans

United States/Mexico Joint Contingency Plan Regarding Pollution of the Marine Environment, September 1983.

United States/Mexico Agreement of May 3, 1968 on Cooperation in Cases of Natural Disasters:

- * Plan for Geological Phenomena (San Diego-Tijuana).
- * Plan for Hydrometeorological Phenomena (Brownsville-Matamoros).
- * Brownsville/Matamoros Sister City Contingency Plan (May 1997).

K.1.2 For the United States

National Plans

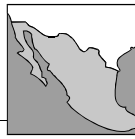
- National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP)
- Federal Response Plan
- Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan
- National Drinking Water Plan

Regional Plans

- Region VI Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan
- Region IX Mainland Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan

State Plans

- Arizona
- California
- New Mexico
- Texas



K.1.3 For Mexico

National Plans

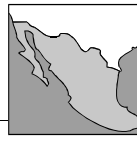
- National Civil Protection Program
- National Program for Medical Attention During Disasters (Secretariat of Health)
- Operations Manual for CONASUPO and Affiliates During Disasters
- Plan SM-A-87: Citizen Assistance During Disasters (Secretariat of Navy)
- Plan DN-III-E: Civilian Population Assistance (Secretariat of National Defense)
- Manual of Emergency Attention for Hydroecological Emergencies Related to Continental National Waters (CNA)

State Civil Protection Programs

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

Local Plans

- Plan for Management of Toxic Substances and Frequently Used Chemicals (Federal Electricity Commission)
- Plan for Solid Waste Management
- Plan for the Preventive Management of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) (Civil Protection Units)
- Emergency Control Systems



K.2 LIST OF SISTER CITIES

United States

Mexico

San Diego, California	Tijuana, Ensenada, Tecate, and Playas de Rosarito, Baja California
Calexico, California (including Imperial County)	Mexicali, Baja California
Yuma, Arizona.....	San Luis, Sonora
Nogales, Arizona.....	Nogales, Sonora
Naco, Arizona.....	Naco, Sonora
Douglas, Arizona.....	Agua Prieta, Sonora
Columbus, New Mexico.....	Puerto Palomas, Chihuahua
El Paso, Texas	Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua
Presidio, Texas	Ojinaga, Chihuahua
Del Rio, Texas.....	Ciudad Acuña, Coahuila
Eagle Pass, Texas	Piedras Negras, Coahuila
Laredo, Texas	Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas
McAllen, Texas.....	Reynosa, Tamaulipas
Brownsville, Texas	Matamoros, Tamaulipas