

izations was held in Geneva on 1 February to enable Ethiopia's Chief Commissioner for Relief and Rehabilitation, Mr. Dawit Wolde-Giorgis, to report on the evolution of the situation in his country

■ An UNDR0 official participated in a Seminar on Media and the World's Children, jointly organized by UNICEF and the Research Center for New International Economic Order (NIEO) at St. Catherine's College, Oxford, United Kingdom from 20-24 January 1985. Ways and means of arousing early

public awareness of silent emergencies i.e., drought/famine were considered.

■ **New York Liaison Office.** A computer terminal to provide immediate two-way communication of data and documents between UNDR0 Headquarters in Geneva and the New York Liaison Office has been installed.

■ **UNDP Resident Co-ordinators/Representatives** from Algeria and Samoa visited Geneva over the past few months and were briefed on UNDR0's Mandate and activities ■

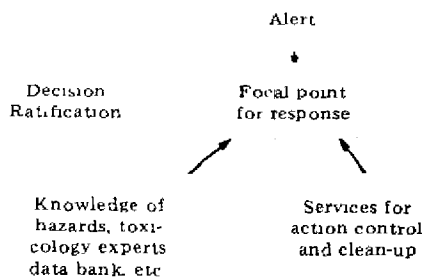
Chemical Disasters

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tation of, required protective and remedial measures;

- Continuous monitoring of the post-accident situation, adoption of relevant decisions and measures,
- Maintenance of communication links,
- Preparation of plans for rehabilitation;
- Post-accident analysis and evaluation of response activities;
- Preparation of the final report on the accident.

Generic Management model for emergency response



Guidelines on Rehabilitation

Because accidents involving toxic chemicals can still occur despite good methods of prevention, a comprehensive set of guidelines for procedures for rehabilitating affected areas and their inhabitants is necessary. The World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe is developing guidelines that include public health, scientific, technical, administrative and socio-economic facets. The document, to be finaliz-

ed and made available in 1985, covers the following topics: assessment of post-emergency situation and rehabilitation needs, planning and implementation, monitoring, feedback and adjustment, information and experience transfer, and international co-operation.

Accident Prevention

The WHO Regional Office for Europe, jointly with the Istituto Superiore di Sanita in Rome, in co-operation with other international organizations and national institutions, is launching a retrospective study of chemical accidents to serve as a basis for prevention.

It is planned that a guideline document on principles of prevention of chemical accidents will be produced in 1987, including the following aspects.

- land-use planning;
- principles of design of plants, processes, facilities and equipment;
- safety features and redundancy;

- training of personnel;
- maintenance of equipment,
- monitoring, testing of processes and equipment and feedback;
- management responsibilities, and
- responsibilities of governmental agencies at various levels.

To increase the awareness and strengthen the expertise necessary for effective accident prevention, a series of training seminars is planned on this subject. This activity will culminate in an international conference covering contingency planning, emergency response, prevention, and rehabilitation, to be held in Rome in 1986.

The above article is condensed from a paper on Response to Chemical Accidents by Alexander Gilad, former Manager of WHO's European Regional Programme on Chemical Safety, Philip Jones of the Institute for Environmental Studies, University of Toronto and Vittorio Silano, Director of the Department of Comparative Toxicology and Ecotoxicology, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome.

