

The model of reaction against CWA threat posed by caught or shored chemical munitions dumped in the Baltic Sea after WW-II

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Abstract

The Baltic states, acting in accordance with HELCOM CHEMU Report of 1985, have prepared instructions of conduct in case of catching by fishermen a post-war Chemical Munitions. However, these instructions have not been unified among Baltic states and nowadays are often too general or already outdated. Such a situation results in difficulties with defining unified code of conduct that ships' captains may use in case of CWA catch. Moreover, lack of regulations concerning responsibilities of national authorities in the area of decontamination procedures or in the area of compensation schemes for lost catch results usually in throwing the dangerous chemicals back to the sea, without reporting it to the appropriate authorities.

One of the main goals of the CHEMSEA project was to develop a unified model of conduct in case of catching the Chemical Munitions at sea or shoring it to the beach that could be implemented in all the Baltic states. The developed model introduces a unified procedures of conduct that include not only reaction schemes to direct CWA threats, but also define methods of decontamination and utilization of chemical warfare agents and guidelines for decontamination units and harbors' masters in case of necessity of reception, transportation and utilization of dangerous chemical warfare agents.

The paper presents developed model of reaction against CWA threat posed by caught or shored chemical munitions.