THESE GUIDELINES PROVIDE GENERIC ADVICE ON THE PROCEDURES REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT AN EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO A CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL OR NUCLEAR INCIDENT.

ABOUT INTERPOL
INTERPOL’s role is to enable police in our 190 member countries to work together to fight transnational crime and make the world a safer place. We maintain global databases containing police information on criminals and crime, and we provide operational and forensic support, analysis services and training. These policing capabilities are delivered worldwide and support three global programmes: counter-terrorism, cybercrime, and organized and emerging crime.

INTERPOL FIRST RESPONDERS AWARENESS CARD

CBRN POLICE

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THEY FOCUS ON DEVELOPING AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE ACTIONS REQUIRED BY POLICE DURING THE INITIAL RESPONSE.
CBRN RELEASE INDICATORS
• Dead or distressed people, birds and animals
• Withered plant life and vegetation.
• Multiple individuals showing unexplained signs of skin, eye or airway irritation; nausea, vomiting, twitching; sweating; pin-point pupils; runny nose; disorientation; breathing difficulties; and convulsions
• The presence of hazardous or unusual materials/equipment;
• Unexplained vapour or mist clouds;
• Unexplained oily droplets or films on surfaces or water;

SITUATION REPORTING
• Location of incident and the nominated rendezvous point(s);
• Access / egress routes to incident / rendezvous point(s);
• Estimate number of casualties/victims;
• Estimate resource requirements;
• Hazards present or suspected;
• Emergency services already on scene, and those that may be required;
• Consider critical infrastructure in vicinity.

COMMUNICATION
• Establish continuous communication with multi-agency colleagues at the scene;
• Provide situation reports to emergency control rooms;
• Communicate with casualties: provide advice and clear instructions, reassure them that help is on the way;
• Advise casualties not to eat, drink, smoke or touch their face and to remove outer layer of clothing to try and eliminate 90% of contamination;
• Providing advice to casualties will help them ‘help themselves’, promote trust and compliance with emergency interventions.

HAZARD ASSESSMENT
• Identify CBRN release indicators on-site;
• Estimate number of casualties (walking & non-walking);
• Assess signs and symptoms of casualties;
• Evaluate weather conditions;
• Conduct a risk assessment;
• Consider the location – is it likely to be a target of an attack?
• Evaluate the environment - buildings, open space, underground.

APPROACH AND ARRIVAL AT THE SCENE
• Approach scene with caution and upwind (the wind at your back and blowing towards the incident);
• Do not approach or touch suspect objects/packages;
• Carry out scene assessment;
• Consider the signs and indicators of CBRN;
• Consider secondary devices/targets.

EVACUATION TO PLACE OF RELATIVE SAFETY
• Advise people to move away from area of gross contamination, upwind and uphill if possible;
• Direct walking casualties to this area immediately.

Recognising that a CBRN incident has occurred, or may occur, is critical.

Remember, information may be received and disseminated via a number of routes, including:
• Intelligence agencies;
• The public;
• Emergency service control rooms;
• Labelling of hazardous substances and transportation containers;
• First responder observations of signs and symptoms.