

# WORKING GROUP ON ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT

**Fifteenth session  
Geneva, 6-7 November 2014**

## **Item 4 (a) of the provisional agenda**

Submitted by [MONTENEGRO]<sup>1</sup>

*Members of the Working Group, experts from national statistical agencies and other central and subnational authorities, as well as representatives of major groups, are invited to briefly report on improvements and changes in support of Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS) development related to recently accomplished or ongoing actions initiated in their countries, agencies and organizations, as follows:*

### **A. Modernization and upgrading of national monitoring networks**

1. Please report on your country's major modernization or upgrade actions of national monitoring networks since October 2013 for:

(a) Air:

- Expansion or upgrade of the monitoring network (e.g.: new automated monitoring stations added to the network, new software launched at the stations, etc.);

*No.*

- New parameters added for measurement (e.g. PM<sub>2,5</sub>, As, Cd, Ni, PAHs, etc.);

*No.*

- Implementation of internationally recognized reference sampling and measurement methods, if not done before;

*No.*

- Other relevant issues;

*The Air Quality Plan for city Nikšić has been adopted – in accordance with national legislation (and EU directive 2008/50 EC), because exceedances of PM<sub>10</sub> concentrations, Ministry of Sustainable Development and Tourism and Environmental*

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<sup>1</sup> Prepared by Vesna Novakovic (Environmental Protection Agency).

*Protection Agency with local administration of city Nikšić brought this document together with Action Plan.*

(b) Water:

- Introduction of advanced monitoring techniques (automatic gauging stations, automated stations for warning of accidental pollution, etc.);

*No.*

- New parameters added for measurement;

*No.*

- Implementation of internationally recognized reference sampling and measurement (chemical analysis) methods, if not done before;

*No.*

- Other relevant issues;

*Revision of Law on waters and Water Monitoring Program is in the process (conducted by Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - responsible for segment of waters).*

(c) Soil:

- Introduction of a policy-determined definition of ‘contaminated sites’ that present unacceptable risks under local soil contamination monitoring, if not done before;

*National legal frame in this area still does not provide definition of ‘contaminated sites’.*

- New sites under monitoring of local soil contamination in accordance with the applied policy-determined definition;

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- New parameters added for measurement under diffuse soil contamination monitoring;

*No.*

- Implementation of internationally recognized reference sampling and measurement methods for diffuse soil contamination monitoring, if not done before;

*No.*

- Other relevant issues;

## **B. Development of monitoring of biodiversity**

2. Please report on new developments in your country system for monitoring of biodiversity since October 2013:

- New biodiversity targets and related indicators (based on sound science and methodological best practice) for measuring the progress on achieving the targets added to the system;

*No.*

- Other relevant issues;

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## **C. Development or improvement of inventories**

3. Please report on new, major developments or improvements in your country's national inventories since October 2013:

- Developments in collection and computerized storage of data (application of new software);

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- Development of on-line databases for public access to processed data, especially through interactive map-based visualizations;

*From 20th February 2014 Environmental Protection Agency of Montenegro (EPA) started with online reporting on air quality in real time. Data from automatic stationary stations are available for public and other stakeholders on EPA's website: <http://www.epa.org.me/vazduh/index.php/>*

- Other relevant issues;

## **D. Improvements to data quality assurance and control, as well as databases management**

(a) Developments in data quality assurance and control:

4. Please report on major developments in in the field of data quality assurance and control since October 2013:

- Introduction of new procedures, if any, for collection of data that were assessed as insufficient;

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- Introduction of new procedures, if any, for using data sets if more than one data set exists or for identifying inconsistencies for considerable changes in time series data;

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- Application of software for logical control of data;

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- Changes, if any, in procedures for data validation;

*ARGUS (Statistical Consulting House from Berlin) had undertaken a validation of the Waste Statistics regulation (WStatR) data of Montenegro (on industrial waste data) for reference year 2012.*

#### **E. Improvements in institutional and regulatory mechanisms and technical solutions for data exchange and on-line sharing**

5. Please report on changes since October 2013 to legal and regulatory basis, (elaboration of new laws, by-laws, other regulations) for improving data collection, processing and sharing mechanisms

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6. Please report on changes since October 2013 to institutional arrangements adopted in your country for data exchange and sharing, indicating the designated institutions for coordination of the different monitoring networks, data collection, processing and sharing. Please inform how these changes contributed to establishing a more integrated system of monitoring and to establishing a regular data flow.

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*Please provide concise answers to the questions; submit in English and, if possible, Russian, using font 12, Times New Roman, single line-spacing.  
Please submit to the UNECE secretariat ([WGEMASec@unece.org](mailto:WGEMASec@unece.org)) by 6 October 2014 at the latest.*