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**ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

COMMITTEE FOR TRADE, INDUSTRY AND  
ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Working Party on Technical Harmonization and  
Standardization Policies

Tenth session, 6-8 November 2000

Item 8(d) of the provisional agenda

**Questionnaire on the Experience of Using ISO 14000 Standards  
in the Chemical Industry in the ECE Member States**

Summary of responses

The paper contains summary of responses to the UN/ECE questionnaire (document: TRADE/WP.6/1999/14) which was disseminated among UN/ECE delegations

This paper was submitted for information to the delegates of the Workshop in March 2000, Budapest.

QUESTION	ISRAEL	ROMANIA	SLOVAKIA	BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	SLOVENIA	BULGARIA
<p><b>A. Awareness</b></p> <p>1. Would you consider that in your country your Government, standardization bodies and the chemical industry and its federations and the technical press are aware of the existence of the ISO 14000 Environmental Management System Series of Standards ?</p>	<p><u>Highly aware</u> Standardisation Bodies Chemical associations Large Chemical enterprises <u>Know about</u> Government officials Small Chemical Enterprises <u>Don't know</u> Technical press</p>	<p><u>Highly aware</u> Government officials Standardisation Bodies Chemical associations Large Chemical enterprises Technical press <u>Know about</u> Small Chemical Enterprises <u>Don't know</u> none</p>	<p><u>Highly aware</u> Standardisation Bodies Large Chemical enterprises <u>Know about</u> Government officials Chemical associations Small Chemical Enterprises Technical press <u>Don't know</u> none</p>	<p><u>Highly aware</u> Standardisation Bodies Large Chemical enterprises <u>Know about</u> Government officials Chemical associations <u>Don't know</u> Small Chemical Enterprises Technical press</p>	<p><u>Highly aware</u> Standardisation Bodies Chemical associations Large Chemical enterprises Technical press <u>Know about</u> Government officials Small Chemical Enterprises <u>Don't know</u> none</p>	<p><u>Highly aware</u> Government officials Standardisation Bodies <u>Know about</u> Chemical associations Large Chemical enterprises Small Chemical Enterprises Technical press <u>Don't know</u> none</p>
<p>2. Would you consider that in your country the <u>general public</u> is realistically aware of the environmental effects of the chemical industry? Does it play a role in exerting environmental pressures on the industry? Is it aware of the efforts (or lack thereof) being made by the industry in managing environmental performance?</p>	<p>Realistic awareness of chemical industry effects <b>MEDIUM</b> Influence on industry in general <b>MEDIUM</b> Influence on chemical industry <b>MEDIUM</b> Awareness of industrial efforts in environmental management <b>MEDIUM</b></p>	<p>Realistic awareness of chemical industry effects <b>HIGH</b> Influence on industry in general <b>MEDIUM</b> Influence on chemical industry <b>MEDIUM</b> Awareness of industrial efforts in environmental management <b>MEDIUM</b></p>	<p>Realistic awareness of chemical industry effects <b>MEDIUM</b> Influence on industry in general <b>LOW</b> Influence on chemical industry <b>MEDIUM</b> Awareness of industrial efforts in environmental management <b>MEDIUM</b></p>	<p>Realistic awareness of chemical industry effects <b>LOW</b> Influence on industry in general <b>MEDIUM</b> Influence on chemical industry <b>MEDIUM</b> Awareness of industrial efforts in environmental management <b>LOW</b></p>	<p>Realistic awareness of chemical industry effects <b>MEDIUM</b> Influence on industry in general <b>LOW</b> Influence on chemical industry <b>MEDIUM</b> Awareness of industrial efforts in environmental management <b>LOW</b></p>	<p>Realistic awareness of chemical industry effects: <b>MEDIUM</b> Influence on industry in general: <b>HIGH</b> Influence on chemical industry <b>MEDIUM</b> Awareness of industrial efforts in environmental management <b>MEDIUM</b></p>

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<p><b>B. <u>Environmental Legislation</u></b></p> <p>3. Is environmental performance evaluation of enterprises regulated in your country?</p> <p>(If yes, please specify the regulations, the titles and provide if possible a brief description)</p>	<p><b>NO</b></p> <p>ISO 14001 is not mandatory. There are many laws dealing with the Environment requirement. There is a monitoring of results</p>	<p><b>YES</b></p> <p>(137/1995 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION LAW)</p>	<p><b>NO</b></p>	<p><b>YES</b></p> <p>The Ministry of Urban Planning and Environment passed the law on Environmental Protection. The law is based upon the principles of Environmental Protection under European Union Laws and is part of the process of EU harmonisation by Bosnia and Herzegovina</p>	<p><b>NO</b></p>	<p><b>YES</b></p> <p>1)Environmental Protection Act /91+ Amendments</p> <p>2)Ordinance 4/98 on Environmental Impact Assessment</p> <p>3)Order on Past Damages Evaluation/1998</p>
<p>4. Is there any regulation on environmental labelling (eco-labelling)? If so, please specify</p>	<p>“Green Labelling” exists but is not regulated</p>	<p>There is one to expect in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2000, for eco-labelling, in view of harmonisation with 880 EEC/1992; it is included in the National Program for Accession of Romania to the EU</p>	<p>National Programme on environmental labelling, approved by Slovak government</p>	<p><b><u>NO</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>NO</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>NO</u></b></p>

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<p><b>C. Implementation of ISO 14000 Standards</b></p> <p>5. Please specify which, if any, ISO 14000 standards have been adopted in your country as national standards</p>	ISO 14001 and the other parts on their way to adoption	SR ISO 14004:1998 SR EN ISO 14001:1997 SR EN ISO 14010:1997 SR EN ISO 14011:1997 SR EN ISO 14012:1997 SR ISO 14050:1999	EN ISO 14001 ISO 14004 EN ISO 14010 EN ISO 14011 EN ISO 14012 EN ISO 14040	ISO 14001, ISO 14004, ISO 14010, ISO 14011, ISO 14012 and ISO 14040 are translated into Bosnian language and are in process of being adopted according to BAS Guide 4, Bas Guide 5 nad ISO/IEC Directives	SIST EN ISO 14001 SIST ISO 14004 SIST EN ISO 14010 SIST EN ISO 14011 SIST EN ISO 14012 SIST ISO 14020 SIST EN ISO 14040 SIST EN ISO 14041	BDS EN ISO 14001-adopted Till the end of 1999 will be adopted: ISO 14050, 14011, 14018, 14010 Till the end of 2000 will be adopted: En ISO 14040, 14004, 14020
6. Has implementation of ISO 14000 standards been supported by your Government? If so, in what manner?	A lot of sympathy, no financial support. Government officials participate in seminars etc.	No	Yes, by adoption of a national strategy of environmental labelling as well as by financial means.	No	--	Part of the adoption of the EN ISO 14000 series as Bulgarian standards is financed by the relevant Technical Committee-15 within the Committee for Standardisation and Metrology
7. If ISO 14001 is utilized in the chemical industry of your country, please indicate the number of enterprises that:	- have been certified for it:					
	~10	1	21	-	3	-
	- are in the implementation phase:					
	~20	6	8	-	-	-
	- are planning to implement it within the next year:					
100	1	6	2	4	2	

QUESTION	ISRAEL	ROMANIA	SLOVAKIA	BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	SLOVENIA	BULGARIA
8. How many ISO 14001 certification/registration organizations (national/foreign subsidiaries) operate in your country?	2	2	4	-	1+2	1-National, 6 Foreign (SGS, TÜV, Lloyd Reg., BVQI, BSI, GLS)
	How many of them are accredited?					
	2	No	4	-	3	
	How many of them have mutual recognition agreements?					
	2	No	2	-	3	
How many of them are competent to deal with the chemical industry?						
	2	2	3	-	3	
9. Is there a network of consultancies (national/foreign subsidiaries) providing assistance in ISO 14000 standards in general and in particular for the chemical industry in your country? If yes, please briefly describe.	- Yes: Local and international consultancies	Yes: - Private companies association working on environmental protection - Departments for environmental protection of Research Institutes	-	-	-	yes - in general
10. Is there any coordination between environmental performance evaluation and ISO 14001 certification/registration? If yes, please describe.	No	Yes: -The majority of companies which are involved in ISO 14001 certification are localised in the Priority areas for environment (in Romania there are 14 such areas)	Yes: -National programme on environmental labelling -Regional environmental management plan	-	-	NO

QUESTION	ISRAEL	ROMANIA	SLOVAKIA	BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	SLOVENIA	BULGARIA
11. Is ISO 14001 certification/registration supported by your Government? If yes, in what way?	see question 6	No	Yes, by national strategy of environmental labelling	-	Governmental co-financing of projects on ISO 14001 certification publicly announced by the Ministry	Yes, by providing information and training
12. Does the chemical industry need further <u>external</u> support to increase ISO 14001 certification (apart from financial assistance)? If yes, in which ways could you suggest this be done?	Yes, mainly SMEs, Food Industry and Construction/Chemical Materials	Yes, training and implementation	-	Yes, by training and consultancy	Yes, through workshops with practical case studies of ISO 14000 implementation, organised by specialists from the industry, who went through the procedure and not by theoretical consultants.	Yes
13. If financial assistance were to be available, which order of priorities do you believe would apply in your country? Please indicate 1 (highest) through 5 (lowest). The same rating may be used more than once.	1. SMEs 2. Implementation 3. Training 4. Consultancy 5. Awareness campaigns	1. SMEs 1. Implementation 3. Training 4. Consultancy 5. Awareness campaigns	1. SMEs 1. Implementation 2. Training 3. Consultancy 4. Awareness campaigns	1. Awareness campaigns 2. Training 3. Consultancy 4. Implementation 5. SMEs	1. SMEs 2. Implementation 3. Training 4. Awareness campaigns 5. Consultancy	1. SMEs 1. Implementation 1. Consultancy 2. Training 4. Awareness campaigns

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14. What are the main barriers to further ISO 14000 certifications in the chemical industry of your country? Please indicate 1 (highest) through 5 (lowest). The same rating may be used more than once.	1. Cost of setting up the ISO 14000 system 2. Low commercial return 3. Lack of awareness of benefits 4. Cost of consultancy 5. Cost of registration/certification 6. Lack of internal expertise/ competence	1. Cost of setting up the ISO 14000 system 2. Cost of consultancy 2. Lack of internal expertise/ competence 3. Cost of registration/certification 4. Lack of awareness of benefits 4. Low commercial return	1. Cost of setting up the ISO 14000 system 2. Low commercial return 2. Lack of internal expertise/competence 3. Lack of awareness of benefits 3. Cost of registration/certification 4. Cost of consultancy	1. Lack of awareness of benefits 2. Low commercial return 3. Cost of consultancy 3. Cost of setting up the ISO 14000 system 3. Lack of internal expertise/ competence 4. Cost of registration/certification	1. Low commercial return 2. Lack of awareness of benefits 2. Cost of consultancy 3. Cost of setting up the ISO 14000 system 3. Cost of registration/certification 4. Lack of internal expertise/ competence	1. Cost of setting up the ISO 14000 system 1. Cost of registration/certification 1. Cost of consultancy 2. Lack of internal expertise/ competence 4. Low commercial return 5. Lack of awareness of benefits
<b>D. Environmental labels (ISO 14020)</b> 15. Which environmental labels in general and for the chemical industry exist in your country?	"Tav yarok" - Green Label	For cosmetics - friendly with ozon	Product - environmental friendly	-	none	Draft of the Law on Chemical Substances is in the Parliament for adoption, Environmental labels stipulation: EU Directives are introduced
16. Are any of these environmental labels supported by the Government?	Yes, they are given by SII jointly with the Ministry of Environment	Yes, The cosmetic products were financed from the Multilateral Fund of Montreal Protocol	Yes, by the programme mentioned above in Q15.	-	-	According to the draft law

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17. Is there any control of the application of environmental labels on products or production in the chemical industry? If yes, please describe briefly.	No	No	Yes, from the Centre of environmental management Travna and Ministry of Environment	-	-	No
18. Is there any Government subsidy programme for production of environmentally sound products or for environmentally friendly manufacture?	No	Yes, Environmental Protection Programme HG 486/1998	As mentioned above	-	Till now, subsidies only exist for those who implement ISO 14001 and are certified	Subsidy programme: Environmental National Fund has projects for implementing clean industries or their improvement
19. If ISO 14020 labelling is not implemented in your country, do you expect this to occur within the next two years?	No, because of problems with "self declaration"	Yes	-	-	Yes	Yes
<b>E. Practical experience in introducing Environmental Management Systems (EMS) for those enterprises which have received or are awaiting certification</b>	<i>Necessity to meet requirements:</i>					
	(a) International environmental legislation					
	1	2	1	-	1	no ISO 14001 certified companies
	(b) local legislation and/or governmental requirements					
	2	2	3	-	3	-
	(c) self-imposed environmental targets					
	3	1	2	-	4	-
	<i>Necessity to meet demand from:</i>					
	(a) domestic customers					
	2	3	2	-	2	-
	(b) customers abroad					
	1	1	1	-	3	-
	(c) to match competitors which have certification					
	3	2	2	-	1	-
20. Perceived benefits and requirements which made your company (companies in your country) introduce ISO 140001 standard: (1 - very important; 2 - important; 3 - fairly important; 4 - not important; 5 - don't know)						

QUESTION	ISRAEL	ROMANIA	SLOVAKIA	BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	SLOVENIA	BULGARIA
21. Specific problems faced by your company (companies in your country) in introduction of ISO 14000 standards:	(a) did you (they) have any specific problems relating to understanding or interpreting specific provisions of the ISO 14001 standard?					
	No	No	No	-	No	No such companies
	(b) which areas were most difficult in introducing environmental management system(EMS)?					
	Investment in equipment	Planning and implementation	launching consensus on environmental goals	-	-	-
	(c) did you (they) already have quality management systems (under the ISO 9000 series of standards) and, if yes, did it facilitate introducing an EMS?					
	Yes	Yes, Yes	Yes	-	2-yes, 1-no	-
	(d) did you (they) use consultants to introduce an EMS (in which areas, training, audit, etc.)?					
	Yes	Training, audit	Yes, (training, consultancy, separate audit)	-	yes (training audits, implementation)	-
	(e) did you (they) have major problems with employees or managers when introducing an EMS, and was special training organized prior to introducing of the EMS? If yes, please specify.					
	Managers do not see the benefits to the bottom line	Yes, training organised by Dutch Programme	Usage of ISO 9001, when introducing ISO 14001 tailored to companies' needs	-	no major problems training was organised	-