Chemical management and public participation in the Republic of Serbia

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A framework for **Life Cycle Management**

- Basel Convention
- Rotterdam Convention
- Stockholm convention

The 3 Conventions together cover elements of “cradle-to-grave” management

**Common objective = to protect human health and the environment**

**Exchange of information**

Conventions do not restrict the Parties to take a procedure that is more effective in protecting human health and the environment than is provided for in the convention.
Synergy between chemical and waste conventions

- Stockholm Convention (SC)
- Rotterdam Convention (BC)
- Basel Convention (BC)
INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

Public Participation


Chemicals and waste

- Law on Ratification Aarhus Convention ("Official Gazette of RS- International Treaties", No. 38/09)

- Law on Ratification on Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Register to the Aarhus Convention ”Official Gazette of RS-International Treaties”, No. 8/11)
## STRATEGIC AND LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

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## STRATEGIC AND LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

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Key characteristic of legislative framework

- A certain number of laws in the field of environmental protection regulate the matter of public participation in environmental matters.

- The Law on Chemical Management regulates the integrated management of chemicals, their classification, packaging and labeling, register of chemicals and trade of chemicals.

- Principles of a strategic approach to chemicals management - Joint Body for Integrated Management of Chemicals. This body has not yet established.

- Law on Waste Management prescribes public participation in decision making (issuing permits on waste management).
PREPARATION OF LEGISLATION
-Role and responsibilities of industry-

6 July 2015

- Project "Chemical Risk Management in Serbia" implemented by the Ministry with the Swedish Chemicals Agency (KemI), in cooperation with the Serbian Chamber of Commerce

- Meeting with business entities and other stakeholders discussing the role and obligations of industry arising from national regulations governing biocidal products, as well as the EU Biocidal Products Regulation (EU Regulation 528/2012 on the availability and use of biocidal products)

- The aim was to present:
  - The role and responsibilities of the industry in accordance with national regulations governing biocidal products, as well as the EU Biocidal Products Regulation
  - Role and responsibility of the industry - joining a single EU market
ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY

- Project "Capacity Building and Strategic Partnership for the Safe Management of Chemicals in the Republic of Serbia" implemented in cooperation (UNDP), non-governmental organization Alternative for Safer Chemicals - ALHem and international organization civil society "Women in Europe for a Common Future" (WECF)

- Seminar was held on May 20, 2016 for civil society and was devoted to introduce consumers with the provisions of the Law on Chemicals about the presence of substances that cause concern in products

- Data sources and opportunities for introducing safer alternatives
Informal public consultation on the Draft Law on Biocidal Products

Aim
- to introduce business entities that place on the market and use biocidal products with the procedures and procedures that are the subject of the Draft Law on Biocidal Products,
- as well as with the obligations that it will have in accordance with that law

Results
- the representatives of the biocidal products industry and other interested participants had the opportunity to be informed on legal provisions
- to point out potential problems that could prevent its implementation, as well as to provide their proposals and suggestions for amending and improving the text of the law.
• Seminar for civil society organizations "Choices to Know" (May 20th, 2016, Belgrade)

• Project - Capacity Building and Strategic Partnership for the Safe Management of Chemicals in the Republic of Serbia "implemented with the technical support of the UNDP and financial support" SAICM Quick Start Program Trust Fund

• The project has supported the implementation of public policies and legislation, through capacity building of stakeholders (civil society organizations, consumer protection organizations, the media, scientists and healthcare professionals)
CONCLUSIONS

○ **Serbia** has established **legal and institutional framework** on the implementation of chemical and waste management

○ Need for **continuously harmonization with EU legislation**, specially with the REACH and new Regulation on biocide products and **development of institutional frame** through establishment of **Joint Body for Integrated Management of Chemicals**

○ Development of **instruments to implement second pillar of Arhus convention** regarding the public participation in decision making

○ **Industry and civil society organizations** have been recognized as one of the **key partners** in establishing a system for the safe management of chemicals.

○ **Capacity building and strengthening of cooperation between state bodies** (chemicals management, health and consumer protection), **civil society organizations and other stakeholders** in order to improve the quality of products and improve their chemical safety
THANK YOU

Ministry of Environmental Protection of the Republic of Serbia

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