



REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

Council Directive 96/59/EC of 16 September 1996 on the disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls and polychlorinated terphenyls (PCB/PCT)

STATUS OF TRANSPOSITION AND IMPLEMENTATION IN SERBIA

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LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

Main instruments for transposition :

- **Law on Waste Management (“The Official Gazette of the RS”, No. 37/11 and 88/10)**, entered into force in 2009 - provides the legal framework for implementation of the obligations from the Stockholm Convention with respect to PCBs and PCBs waste management in Article 52, and Article 100
- **Law on Ratification of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants** (Official Gazette of RS - International Treaties 42/09) - *entered into force in 2009*;
- **Rulebook on treatment of the equipment and waste which contains PCB (Official Gazette of RS, No. 37/11)** - defines the content of the inventory form and the register for the PCB-containing equipment and waste, manner and conditions for handling of PCBs, the manner and the conditions to be fulfilled by installations and facilities for storage, disposal and decontamination of PCBs, methods for determination of the PCB content, as well as the manner of labelling the equipment containing PCBs



TRANSPOSITION STATUS

- Directive has been largely transposed through the Law of Waste Management and Rulebook on treatment of the equipment and waste which contains PCB.
- Remaining provision **shall be transposed** by amendments of the Law on Waste Management (which is scheduled for **2015**) and by revision of the Rulebook on treatment of the equipment and waste which contains PCB (which is scheduled for **2018**).



COMPETENT AUTHORITY (CA)

- **Ministry in charge of Environment (MAEP),
Department for Waste Management**
 - Work on PCB harmonized tasks and establishing a system of PCBs and PCBs waste management.
- **Serbian Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)**
 - A person carrying out collection, decontamination or disposal of PCBs waste must hold a valid permit, must keep a record on collected, treated or disposed quantities and submit all data to the Serbian Environmental Protection Agency.
 - The Serbian Environmental Protection Agency keeps a register on PCBs containing equipment in use.



ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITIES

- **MAEP**, Department for Waste Management
1 full time staff, with share responsibilities, engaged on PCB harmonized tasks;
- **MAEP**, Department for Harmonization of Environmental Legislation, Sector for Legislative Affairs
2 full time staff engaged, with share responsibilities;
- **MAEP**, Sector for Supervision and Control
16 full time staff, with share responsibilities, engaged on waste management;
- **SEPA**
1 full time staff, with share responsibilities, engaged on PCB register.
- The need for further employment on PCB harmonized tasks has not been identified yet;



ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITIES

- Central staffs have acquired knowledge and practical experience on PCB *harmonized* obligations during several years;
- Capacities of central staffs and inspectors have been further built in the cooperation with Austria
IPA 2008 “Strengthening Administrative Capacities for managing hazardous waste” 2010-2013.
- Capacities of central staffs and inspectors have been further built in the cooperation with Austria and Germany
IPA 2013 “Improvement of hazardous waste management in the Republic of Serbia – IHWMS” 2015-2017.



IMPLEMENTATION

- **The main challenge for the directive implementation are:**
 - The lack of technical capacity to determine if equipment containing PCBs or not;
 - The lack of historical data about equipment maintaining - companies who maintain the equipment do not exist for more than 20 years;
 - Often is the case that the tile has been removed from equipment and there is no data about oil in it;
 - Unavailability of data on storage and removal of obsolete equipment and waste oils containing PCB;
 - Poor economic situation caused that many companies are unable to provide funding for testing and labelling of equipment contaminated with PCB (30 companies have submitted an official report).



IMPLEMENTATION

- The holder of equipment and waste containing PCBs is required to prepare a management plan for equipment and waste containing PCBs. Management plan for equipment and waste containing PCBs containing the measures planned for removal or decontamination, including replacement of fluids in accordance with the Law of Waste Management (Article 52) and Rulebook on treatment of the equipment and waste which contains PCB.
- The holder of equipment and waste containing PCBs shall keep records of equipment and PCB waste and PCB quantities of records and data submitted to the SEPA by 31 March of the current for the previous year.



IMPLEMENTATION

- MAEP has issued 1 permit for the decontamination of PCBs in the mobile unit.
- „Guideline for identification, recording and safe handling of PCBs-containing equipment and PCBs waste, intended for the owners and the entities operating and maintaining PCBs equipment“ is quite comprehensive and gives information and instructions for different phases in the PCB management life-cycle (identification, labelling, package, transportation, storage, PPE, emergency and preparedness procedures, disposal).



IMPLEMENTATION

- Republic of Serbia has finalized the project “Enable Activities for the Development of the NIP for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)” in cooperation with UNEP and funded by GEF in which preliminary inventories of POPs (PCB) were made. On the basis of those inventories, implementation measures and related action plans have been developed in the original NIP, including measures needed for establishment of legal framework for PCB management in Serbia. Draft updated NIP with action plans is finalized.
- Adequate knowledge on PCB management is available and will be continuously improved by international and bilateral projects funded by IPA, GEF;



ENFORCMENT

- Ministry responsible for the environmental protection is the Competent Authority for enforcement of the Law on Waste and other laws in the field of Environmental protection ;
- Inspectors have the powers given by the Law on Waste Management ;
- In 2014 inspectors visited more than 80 locations where identified PCB, and where dealing with PCB is not in accordance with the regulation was ordered to be corrected.



SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS

- Republic of Serbia has established legislative and institutional framework for PCB management;
- Project “Environmentally sound management and final disposal of PCBs” is approved by the GEF Council, began implementation in March this year and the planned duration is 4 years. Project is consistent with national priorities and strategies for elimination of releases to the environment and for elimination of hazards for human beings, as defined in the National Implementation Plan for the Stockholm Convention of the Republic of Serbia (NIP). For implementation of the project is responsible Steering Committee, which part are all relevant stakeholders.



SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS

- The inventory, storage and final disposal of PCBs contaminated equipment and wastes are defined in the Action Plan for PCBs within the NIP. Draft updated NIP with action plans is finalized, and send to procedure of adoption by Serbian Government.
- National PCB legislation is almost fully transposed with the PCB Directive;
- Cost estimate for the full implementation of Directive will be provided through the project “Environmentally sound management and final disposal of PCBs” and it is possible that a transitional period for full implementation will be necessary.
- Capacities needs to be further improved;



Thank you for your attention

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