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ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN
PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS**

Environmental Implementation Review 2022
Turning the tide through environmental compliance

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PRIORITY ACTIONS ON BETTER ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION

The present Annex summarises the priority actions in the 27 EIR country reports¹

<i>Priority actions</i>	<i>Member State(s)</i>
Measures towards a circular economy	
Strengthen the policy framework to speed up the transition towards the circular economy by all economic sectors, including priority sectors like plastics, textiles, and construction.	DE, HR, HU, MT, SK
Adopt circular economy action plans or strategies covering the whole life cycle and with clear deliverables and a timeline of implementation.	AT, BG, CZ, IE, RO, PT
Adopt measures to increase the circular material use rate.	BG, CY, DK, EL, ES, FI, HR, HU, IE, LV, LT, MT, PL, PT, RO, SK, SE
Waste management	
Ensure that national and/or regional waste management plans and waste prevention programmes in line with the revised Waste Framework Directive are in place.	AT, BE, BG, CZ, CY, DE, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, IE, IT, LT, LU, MT, PL, PT, RO, SI
Improve cooperation and coordination on waste management among the different competent public administrations.	ES
Introduce new policy instruments, including economic instruments in waste policies, such as landfill and/or incineration taxes, pay-as-you-throw schemes.	BG, CY, DK, EE, EL, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, MT, NL, PL, SE, SK
Improve the functioning of Extended Producer Responsibility systems, in line with the general minimum requirements established in the Waste Framework Directive.	AT, CY, CZ, EL, EE, HR, HU, LT, LV, PL, SK, RO
Introduce new policies to implement further the waste hierarchy, i.e. promote waste prevention and product reuse; keep incineration with energy recovery to the minimum necessary and significantly curb the landfilling of waste.	FI, LU, MT, PT, SE, SI
Ensure effective waste separate collection schemes as a precursor to quality recycling by, for example involving municipalities and using meaningful economic instruments (e.g. pay-as-you-throw schemes) and catering for its treatment into useful materials.	BG, CZ, CY, EE, EL, FR, HR, HU, IE, LV, MT, RO, SK
Develop and run support programmes for municipalities to help them implement separate collection policies and improve recycling rates.	CY, EE, HR, LT, LV, PL, RO
Shift waste that can be prepared for reuse or recycled away from incineration and landfilling.	AT, BE, CZ, DE, DK, EE, HR, IE, LU, NL, PL, SE
Close and rehabilitate non-compliant landfills as a matter of priority.	BG, CY, EL, ES, HR, PL, PT, RO, SK, SI
Prevent illegal dumping of waste, including littering, notably through effective penalties.	BG, PL
Limit incoming shipments of waste destined to incinerators to avoid landfilling of	CY

¹ The priority actions have been included in each country report in the light of the information available to the European Commission, to ensure equal treatment of all Member States. To enable comparability, all priority actions have been grouped in this Annex by clusters of Member States that received similar recommendations. For this reason, the wording in the Annex may be less specific than in the country reports.

locally generated residual waste.	
Avoid building excessive waste management infrastructure for the treatment of residual waste, namely landfill sites, mechanical-biological treatment (MBT) plants and incinerators.	CZ, EL, ES, PL, PT, SK
Ratify relevant international Conventions on ship recycling.	BG, CY, LU
Nature protection and restoration	
Complete the Natura 2000 site designation process, including addressing the Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), and defining the conservation objectives and measures to achieve the favourable conservation status of protected habitats and species in the framework of site management plans or equivalent instruments.	AT, BE, BG, CZ, CY, DE, DK, EL, EE, ES, FI, FR, HU, IE, IT, LV, LT, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK
Ensure that Natura 2000 management plans are being effectively implemented with sufficient administrative capacity and financing. Ensure implementation of Prioritised Actions Framework 2021-2027 (PAFs).	BG, CY, DK, EL, HR, HU, IT, LT, MT, PL, PT, RO, SK
Improve the quality of appropriate assessments, develop and promote smart and streamlined implementation approaches, in particular for appropriate assessment procedures and species permitting procedures.	BE, BG, CY, EE, HR, EL
Strengthen the integration of biodiversity concerns into other policies and promote communication between stakeholders.	BG, CZ, EL, ES, FI, HR, LU, LV, PT
Ensure the necessary regulatory framework for protected species, collect reliable data on the conservation status of protected habitats and species and carry out a sound monitoring system.	EL, FI, HR, RO
Ensure the appropriate enforcement of hunting and/or trapping bans for protected bird species, illegal forest logging and turf cutting.	CY, EL, IE, MT, RO
Take practical steps to address the serious decline of waders, and further develop the conservation programme for the curlew, both in Natura 2000 sites and the wider countryside.	IE
Ensure regional cooperation with neighbouring Member States to address predominant pressures on habitats and species.	LU
Improve the conservation of extensively managed grasslands and increase the share of grasslands that is managed for conservation purposes.	AT, EE
Restore river and floodplain habitats and and improve river connectivity.	AT
Reduce the use and risk of pesticides by continuing to implement dedicated programmes and promoting non-chemical pesticide and low pesticide input and integrated pest management.	NL
Step up implementation action on the EU Invasive Alien Species Regulation. Take further measures to combat invasive alien species.	BG, CZ, CY, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, LV, LT, LU, MT, PL, PT, RO, SI, SK
Ensure data collection on IAS and seek ways of improving the surveillance system.	HU, RO
Avoid pressure on protected habitats and species due to harmful agriculture practices and use the CAP to incentivize sound practices, by stepping up action on implementing the recommendation set out in the national CAP Strategic Plan.	BE, CZ, CY, DE, EE, EL, FI, HU, IE, LT, LV, LU, MT, NL, SI, SK
Promote organic farming, sustainable forest management and afforestation. Ensure compliance with the Habitats Directive before granting/renewing permits for forest logging.	AT, BE, CZ, EE, FI, LT, LV, NL, PL, RO, SE, SI, SK
Reduce and remediate degraded areas of soil, reduce nutrient losses and consider formally committing to Land Degradation Neutrality targets under the relevant UNCCD agreement. Increase soil organic carbon content, better nutrient	BE, ES, HU, LU, MT, PL, PT, SI

management and increasing nutrient use efficiency.	
Marine ecosystems	
Ensure regional cooperation with Member States sharing the same marine (sub)region to address predominant pressures.	BE, BG, CY, DK, DE, EL, EE, ES, FI, FR, HR, IE, IT, LV, LT, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI
Implement the Commission's recommendations regarding the preparation of the marine strategies, encompassing: the assessment, the determination of good environmental status and the establishment of environmental targets.	BE, BG, CY, DK, DE, EL, ES, EE, FI, FR, HR, IE, IT, LV, LT, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI
Ensure environmental status of marine waters is determined, assessed and improved where necessary.	BG, EL, HR, RO, SI
Sign and ratify relevant international conventions and protocols (Integrated Coastal Zone Management Protocol and Offshore Protocol to the Barcelona Convention, Regulation of Whaling, Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean).	CY, EL, FR, IT, MT
Ecosystems assessment and accounting	
Continue supporting the mapping and assessment of ecosystems and their services, and ecosystem accounting development, through appropriate indicators for integrating ecosystem extent, condition and services into national accounts. Continue supporting the development of national business and biodiversity platforms, including natural capital accounting systems to monitor and value the impact of business on biodiversity.	AT, BE, CY, DK, FR, EE, EL, FI, HR, HU, IE, LT, LV, LU, MT, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK
Ensure the necessary administrative capacity building and training, information sharing across networks and stakeholders involvement, including the development of national business and biodiversity platforms.	BG, CZ, DE, ES, FI, LU, MT, NL
Clean air	
Maintain downward emissions trends of air pollutants, and reduce adverse air pollution impacts on health and economy to ensure future concentrations, meet all air quality standards, upgrade and improve the air quality monitoring network, and ensure timely reporting of air quality data.	AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DK, DE, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LV, LU, MT, NL, PT, PL, RO, SE, SI, SK
Take, in the context of the National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP), actions towards reducing emissions sources.	AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EL, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LV, LU, MT, NL, PL, PT, SK, ES, SE, SI
Adopt a National Air Pollution Control Programme (NAPCP).	RO
Sign and ratify international conventions (UNECE Air Convention, Heavy Metals Protocol, POPs Protocol and Annex VI to MARPOL convention).	AT, BE, BG, EL, HU, IE, FR, IT, LV, MT, PL, PT
Industrial emissions	
Continue addressing emissions from relevant sectors (power sector, metal sector, intensive animal rearing).	BG, CZ, DE, EE, ES, EL, HU, IE, FR, IT, PL, PT, LU, RO, SK
Review of permits, strengthen control and enforcement to ensure compliance with the best BAT (best available techniques) conclusions.	RO, SK
Improve the reporting to the E-PRTR (European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register).	DE, LT, NL, SK
Sign and ratify the Kiev Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers.	MT
SEVESO	

Strengthen control and enforcement to ensure compliance with Seveso-III Directive provisions, especially on information to the public and/or EEP.	AT, BG, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EL, ES, IE, FR, IT, LT, LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI
Sign and ratify the TEIA (transboundary effects of industrial accidents) Convention.	IE, MT
Noise	
Complete noise mapping.	CY, EL, PT, ES
Complete action plans for noise management of relevant spaces (agglomerations, major roads and major railways).	CY, DE, FR, EL, ES, PL, PT, SK
Water quality and management	
Facilitate implementation of measures (e.g. restoration of river hydromorphology) to contribute to achieving the Water Framework Directive (WFD) objectives. Strengthen time and frequency of monitoring. Ensure sufficient funding to implement measures from the river basin management plans (RBMPs).	AT, BE, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EI, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IT, LT, LV, LU, MT, NL, PL, PT, SK, SE, SI, RO
Assess new physical modifications of water bodies in line with Article 4(7) of the WFD. Consider alternative options and adequate mitigation measures.	BE, BG, CY, CZ, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LV, LU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SE, SI
Urgently ensure an appropriate control over water abstraction and hydromorphological changes in compliance with the WFD.	IE
Complete implementation of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive for all agglomerations, by building up the necessary infrastructure.	BE, BG, CY, CZ, EE, FR, EL, ES, FI, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LV, MT, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK
Improve the coordinated implementation between water, marine and nature policies.	BE, BG, CY, CZ, EE, FI, FR, EL, EI ES, HR, HU, IE, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, SE, SI, SK
Tackle nutrients pollution, especially nitrates from agriculture, through the implementation of the Nitrates Directive.	CY, DE, DK, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HU, IE, IT, LV, LT, LU, MT, NL, PL, PT, SK, SE, SI
Chemicals	
Upgrade the implementation and enforcement administrative capacities towards a zero tolerance to non-compliance.	AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LV, LT, LU, MT, NL, PT, PL, RO, SE, SI, SK
Devise and implement strategies for the enforcement of the REACH and CLP Regulations.	BE, EE, HR, LV, MT, PL
Ratify the Stockholm Convention on POPs.	IT
Climate action	
Promote the sustainability and decarbonisation of the transport sector (road, maritime, improved rail connections), including through using alternatives to fossil fuels (biofuels, use of electric vehicles).	BE, CY, CZ, DE, EL, ES, IE, IT, FI, FR, HR, HU, IT LV, LT, LU, MT, NL, PT, PL, RO, SE, SK
Increase the uptake of clean and renewable energy (solar, wind, hydrogen) with supporting infrastructure.	AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE DK, EE, EL, ES, IE, IT, FI, FR, HR, HU, LV, LT, MT, NL, PT, PL, RO, SE, SK

Consider tax reforms and pricing of greenhouse gas emissions to incentivise the use of renewable energy over fossil fuels.	AT, LU, LT, LV
Increase energy efficiency and renewable energy in the building sector through deep renovation/retrofitting.	BG, CZ, CY, EE, EL, ES, FI, HU, HR, IE, IT, LV, LT, NL, PT, SE, SK
Ensure sustainable use of biomass. Explore solutions to convert biomass into long living wood products and change land management practices to foster the functioning of its LULUCF sink.	AT, BG, CZ, EE, ES, FI, HU, IE, LT, LV, MT, SE, SK
Accelerate the development of research and innovations in low-carbon technologies in the energy sector, skilled jobs and start-ups.	CY, DE, LV, PL, SK
Sieze the significant mitigation opportunities of non-CO2 greenhouse gas emissions from the waste sector. Reduce non-CO2 emissions in agriculture while enabling the agro-food industry to transition to sustainable modes of production.	IE, MT
Ensure that agriculture sector is on a low-carbon pathway.	FR, LV
Revitalize watercourses that would contribute to flood protection, drought, and possibly against a qualitative degradation of the available water resources. Further mainstream climate-change adaptation and disaster-risk-reduction measures, especially flooding prevention.	MT, SK
Implement reforms in regions with a carbon-intensive energy sector (coal regions).	BG
Incentivise investments in climate-friendly production processes throughout the industry sector.	DE
Ratify the Stockholm Convention on POPs (persistant organic pollutants).	IT
Finance	
Improve the capacity to use EU funds for the environment effectively, notably through technical assistance and/or environmental financing strategies, and increase the level of financing, including private financing where relevant, to address the investment needs in environmental sectors, notably for biodiversity. Bring together all relevant administrative levels while ensuring a complementary use of funds.	AT, BE, BG, DE, CZ, CY, EL, HR, FI, HU, HR, IE, IT, LV, LT, LU, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK
Address fiscal/tax reforms and green budgeting, including the phasing-out of environmental harmful subsidies, in a way that incentivise a more environmentally conscious behaviour of industry and society at large in line with the polluters pay principle.	CZ, EL, ES, FR, HU, LU, SK
Information, public participation and access to justice	
Make spatial data more widely accessible and prioritise environmental datasets in the implementation of the INSPIRE Directive, especially those identified as high-value spatial datasets for implementing environmental legislation.	BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EL, FI, FR, HR, IE, IT, LT, LV, PL, PT, NL, RO, SK, SE
Collect, monitor and publish information on the EIA and SEA processes to facilitate and improve public participation (eg. through dedicated tools) in environmental decision-making, including their outcomes and the extent to which public comments have been taken into account in the final decision.	AT, BE, CZ, CY, DE, DK, EL, EE, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SK, SE, SI
Complete the transposition of the revised Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive.	CZ, SK
Improve access to justice by the public concerned.	AT, BG, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EL, FI, HR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MT, NL, PL, RO, SK, SI, SE
Better inform the public about their access to justice rights, in particular by referring on national judicial and administrative portals to the fact sheets on access to justice in environmental matters accessible on the Commission's eJustice portal and on opportunities to file complaints about environmental concerns or infringements and	BG, CZ, DE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LV, LU, MT, PL, PT, RO, SK, SE, SI

publish data on the follow-up to such complaints.	
Ensure that costs are not a hindrance to effective access to justice in environmental matters.	BE, HR, IE, IT, PT
Ensure that the outcomes of judicial cases on environmental matters are effective in practice.	ES
Ratify the Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment to the UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Kiev Protocol).	FR
Compliance assurance	
Collect and make information available on the enforcement of environmental law, including on infringements, prosecution of environmental crimes, environmental damage cases, Environmental Liability Directive cases, inspections plans and reports, availability of financial securities to meet the costs of environmental damage and on formal arrangements for cooperation among responsible public bodies.	AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, EL, ES, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, LU, LV, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK,
Encourage and monitor public participation in enforcement, by awareness-raising activities on the options for reporting environmental problem. Improve the publicly available information on opportunities to file complaints about environmental issues or infringements and on the follow-up to complaints and to environmental inspections.	BE, BG, CY, DE, DK, EL, ES, FI, FR, HU, IT, LT, LU, MT, PL, RO
Improve or set up financial security system or instruments for environmental liability to meet the costs of environmental damage.	CY,HR, HU, LU, NL
Improve the availability of practical information for farmers and/or land managers on how to contribute to better implementation of the Nature directives and/or the Nitrates Directive.	AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, DK, EE, EL, ES, HR, IT, PL, PT, RO, SI, SK
Effectiveness of environmental administrations	
Further improve environmental governance, in particular the administrative capacity and coordination at national, regional and local levels.	ES, FI, HU, IT, LU, MT, PT