AGENDA ITEM: NITRATES
Directive 91/676/EEC

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LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

- Decree Law No. 441 on Establishment and Tasks of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA)
- Law No. 1380 on Fisheries
- Law No. 2872 on Environment
- Law No. 4856 on Establishment and Task of Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF)
- By-law on the Protection of Waters Against Pollution Caused by Nitrates from Agricultural Sources
COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

Coordinator: MARA

Main responsible authorities for implementation

- MARA
- MoEF
- General Directorate of State Hydraulic Works (DSI)
COMPETENT AUTHORITIES (CONT’D)

MARA
81 Provincial directorates
40 Laboratories located in provinces
90 Mobile photometers

MoEF
81 Provincial directorates
1 Reference Laboratory

DSI
25 Regional Directorates (basin wide)
23 Regional Laboratories
CONTENT OF THE BY-LAW

The By-law addresses following provisions in the Directive

- Objective
- Pollution determination
- Determination of nutrient vulnerable zones (NVZ)
- Good Agricultural Practices
- Establishing action program
- Monitoring
ONGOING TECHNICAL STUDIES

MARA, MoEF and DSI have established a technical study group focusing on:

- Harmonize the Nitrate Directive
- Determine responsibilities so as to
  - evaluate monitoring
  - designate NVZs
  - establish Code of Good Agricultural Practices
  - establish action programmes
  - implementation
  - reporting

A MATRA project provides technical support
IMPLEMENTATION

1) Identifying Waters

- At provincial level
- Covering all intensive agricultural areas

- Surface and ground waters are identified considering waters
  - Polluted
  - could be polluted,
  - under pressure

In this respect 3 Ministerial (MARA) Circular Order came into force
IMPLEMENTATION (CONT’D)

2) Monitoring program
   a) Nitrate in surface and groundwater

   ▪ Started in 2005
     Taking into consideration
     ▪ By-law on Nitrates
     ▪ EC Nitrates Guideline
     ▪ Soil-water structure

   ▪ Training regional-provincial experts on
     ▪ Selection of sampling points
     ▪ Sampling, storing, transferring
     ▪ Analysis
     ▪ Filling forms related to environment

   ▪ Within the framework of MATRA project pilot areas are
     selected regarding observation monitoring and sampling-
     analysis
IMPLEMENTATION (CONT’D)

b) Eutrophication

No monitoring system established yet,

However;
In the framework of MATRA project a workshop planned on
- deciding parameters for analysis
- establishing monitoring

Eutrophication parameters are being monitored in accordance with
- The Barcelona and the Bucharest Conventions
  In the Mediterranean and the Black Sea coastal waters
- And DSI
  - Dams, irrigation ponds, drainage channels and estuaries
IMPLEMENTATION (CONT’D)

3) Nutrient Vulnerable Zones
   Eutrophication status or if nitrate level over 50 mg/l, NVZ will be designated after assembling sufficient monitoring data related to
   - Groundwater
   - Surface water

4) Code of good agricultural practices will be prepared by MARA considering
   - Results of monitoring
   - Agricultural data and practices
   - Existing national legislations such as By-law on Good Agricultural Practices
5) Action program in NVZ will be established by MARA in the process of designating NVZ regarding provisions set out in the By-law and existing national legislation considering measures to prevent water pollution;

taking into account:
- fertilizing period
- minimum manure storage capacity
- manure handling
- limits for fertilizer utilization etc.
ASSESSMENT

- Nitrate Directive is complex
- Implementation may take time
- Diverse NVZs
- Improved monitoring network and analysis
- Overuse of fertilizer and manure is not a nation wide problem, “hot spots”
- Irrigated farming as potential source of nitrate
- Inappropriate manure handling is a problem
- Technical studies (MATRA and WB-GEF on agricultural pollution control)
PLANNED ACTIVITIES

- Workshop on eutrophication, database and reporting
- Combining monitoring data, agricultural data and GIS: a national image on nitrate
- Identification of provinces at risk
- Further studies on
  - first Code of Good Agricultural Practices
  - first Action Program
- first report to EC: baseline report
- improve monitoring network
- NVZs
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION