

# HMWB Workshop, 12-13 March 2009, Brussels

## Member State Questionnaire

### 1. Context

A workshop on Heavily Modified Water Bodies (HMWB) will be organised on 12-13 March 2009 in Brussels by Germany, UK and the European Commission in cooperation with the WFD CIS-ECOSTAT-group and the CIS-HYMO-activity.

The workshop aims to allow information exchange on the following topics:

- **Designation of HMWB:**  
Exchange of experiences on practical application of HMWB designation processes in Member States.
- **Establishing good ecological potential (GEP):**  
Exchange information on the practical application of both methods for deriving GEP (HMWB Guidance No 4 approach based on biological quality elements and the “Prague” approach based on mitigation measures – *see Annex*) and collect examples of results.  
Compare results of methods and discuss, if they are comparable and what are reasons of differences.
- **Objective setting and measures:**  
Collect and discuss experiences of Member States on objective setting for HMWB (including related issues like application of exemptions) and exchange information about planned mitigation measures.

A discussion document will be prepared for the workshop. In order to collect background information for the workshop discussion document, Member States are kindly asked to fill in the present questionnaire on water uses and parameters included in HMWB designation, methods for classification of HMWB and ways of objective setting for HMWB in Member States.

Please fill in one questionnaire per Member State and return to [elftheria.kampa@ecologic.eu](mailto:elftheria.kampa@ecologic.eu) at the latest by **16 January 2009**. Please do not hesitate to answer, even if you can only provide information on national RBD level.

### 2. General information

**Q2.1:** Name of Member State.

Ireland

**Q2.2:** Name and contact details of person to be contacted if any clarifications on the reply to this questionnaire are needed.

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### 3. HMWB designation

*Note: For each answer below rounded figures would be appropriate.*

**Q3.1: Please tell us about the proportion of each water category you have identified for designation as heavily modified by completing the two Tables below**

#### Number of HMWB

River		Lake		Transitional water		Coastal water	
Total number of water bodies (including non-HMWBs)	Number to be designated	Total number of water bodies (including non-HMWBs)	Number to be designated	Total number of water bodies (including non-HMWBs)	Number to be designated	Total number of water bodies (including non-HMWBs)	Number to be designated
4,525	13	808	16	230	13	112	4

#### Length and area of HMWB

River		Lake		Transitional water		Coastal water	
Total length of water bodies (including non-HMWBs) (Km)	Length of to be designated (Km)	Total area of water bodies (including non-HMWBs) (Km <sup>2</sup> )	Area to be designated (Km <sup>2</sup> )	Total area of water bodies (including non-HMWBs) (Km <sup>2</sup> )	Area to be designated (Km <sup>2</sup> )	Total area of water bodies (including non-HMWBs) (Km <sup>2</sup> )	Area to be designated (Km <sup>2</sup> )
13,869	169	1,112	45	839	45	13,158	79

**Q3.2: Please tell us about the water uses for which you have identified water bodies as heavily modified by completing the three Tables below**

*Note. If a water body has been designated for more than one use, please count each use.*

Water use [Art.4(3)(a)]	Number of water bodies		
Wider environment [Art.4(3)(a)(i)] *	1		
Navigation, including port facilities, or recreation [Art.4(3)(a)(ii)]			
- Navigation, including port facilities	22		
- Recreation			
Activities for the purposes of which water is stored [Art.4(3)(a)(iii)]			
- Storage for drinking water supply	10		
- Storage for power generation	12		
- Storage for irrigation			
Water regulation, flood protection, land drainage	Total	Urban land	Agricultural land

[Art.4(3)(a)(iv)]			
- Water regulation			
- Flood protection	9	9	
- Land drainage			

\* **Please specify your definition of “wider environment”:** The designation arises from bank and bed reinforcement to contain contaminated sediment.

Description of each 'equally important sustainable human development activity' for which HMWB are to be designated [Art.4(3)(a)(v)]	Number of water bodies
Protection of public transport infrastructure	1

#### Multiple water uses of HMWB

Number of water bodies designated for one use	Number of water bodies designated for two uses	Number of water bodies designated for three or more uses
37	9	

**Q3.3: Please tell us about the criteria you used to decide if a water body was substantially changed in character for it to be considered for designation as heavily modified by completing the applicable Tables below**

Did you use <u>impact-related criteria</u> (e.g. length or area expected to be worse than good status or substantially changed in hydromorphology)? (yes/no)	Did you use <u>pressure-related criteria</u> (e.g. volume of water stored; height of dam)? (yes/no)	Did you use <u>use-related criteria</u> (e.g. number of people provided with drinking water; protection against particular flood return period; daily number of vessels)? (yes/no)	Did you use <u>other types of criteria</u> ? (yes/no)
			Yes

If you used **impact-related criteria**, please complete the following Table

Water category	Description of impact-related criteria (e.g. length or area expected to be worse than good status)

River	
Lake	
Transitional water	
Coastal water	

If you used **pressure-related criteria**, please complete the following Table

Pressure	Description of pressure-related criteria (e.g. volume of water stored; height of dam)?
Impoundment	
Other hydromorphological alterations	
- Rivers	
- Lakes	
- Transitional waters	
- Coastal waters	

If you used **use-related criteria**, please complete the following Table

Water use	Description of use-related criteria (e.g. number of people provided with drinking water; protection against particular flood return period; daily number of vessels)
Wider environment [Art.4(3)(a)(i)]	
Navigation, including port facilities, or recreation [Art.4(3)(a)(ii)]	
- Navigation, including port facilities	
- Recreation	
Activities for the purposes of which water is stored [Art.4(3)(a)(iii)]	
- Storage for drinking water supply	
- Storage for power generation	
- Storage for irrigation	
Water regulation, flood protection, land drainage [Art.4(3)(a)(iv)]	
- Water regulation	
- Flood protection	
- Land drainage	
Equally important sustainable human development activity' [Art.4(3)(a)(v)]	

If you used **other criteria**, please complete the following Table

Description of other criteria used to decide if water bodies are substantially changed in character to consider designation
Each pHMWB identified in the Article 5 Characterisation Report was subjected to two designation tests to confirm that criteria for designation in the River Basin Management Plans were met. They are referred to as:

- The restoration measures test and
- The alternative means test.

**Q3.4: Please tell us about the criteria you used to decide if implementing a measure (e.g. a restoration measure to achieve good status or a mitigation measure aimed at improving the ecological potential of a water body) would have a significant adverse effect on use by completing the two Tables below**

<b>Have you developed specific criteria on significant adverse effects on use to help prepare the draft river basin management plans?</b>	
	No

<b>Have you identified <u>pressure-specific</u> criteria to help screen out measures which would have a significant adverse effect on use (e.g. reducing abstraction by &gt; 50 %)? (yes/no)</b>	<b>Have you identified <u>measure-specific</u> criteria to help screen out measures which would have a significant adverse effect on use (e.g. dismantling major dams)? (yes/no)</b>	<b>Have you identified <u>use-specific numeric</u> criteria (e.g. % loss of energy generation) to help screen out measures which would have a significant adverse effect on use? (yes/no)</b>	<b>Have you identified <u>other</u> types of criteria to help decide what constitutes a significant adverse effect on use? (yes/no)</b>
			Yes

<b>Water use</b>	<b>Examples of the principal criteria you used to decide if a measure or combination of measures would have a significant adverse effect on use</b>
Wider environment [Art.4(3)(a)(i)]	
Navigation, including port facilities, or recreation [Art.4(3)(a)(ii)]	
- Navigation, including port facilities	
- Recreation	
Activities for the purposes of which water is stored [Art.4(3)(a)(iii)]	
- Storage for drinking water supply	
- Storage for power generation	
- Storage for irrigation	
Water regulation, flood protection, land drainage [Art.4(3)(a)(iv)]	
- Water regulation	

- Flood protection	
- Land drainage	
Equally important sustainable human development activity' [Art.4(3)(a)(v)]	

**Q3.5: Please tell us about the other environmental options you considered to decide if the benefits of the use could be provided by a significantly better environmental option [Art. 4(3)(b)] by completing the Table below**

Water use	Other environmental options considered
Wider environment [Art.4(3)(a)(i)]	
Navigation, including port facilities, or recreation [Art.4(3)(a)(ii)]	
- Navigation, including port facilities	
- Recreation	
Activities for the purposes of which water is stored [Art.4(3)(a)(iii)]	
- Storage for drinking water supply	
- Storage for power generation	
- Storage for irrigation	
Water regulation, flood protection, land drainage [Art.4(3)(a)(iv)]	
- Water regulation	
- Flood protection	
- Land drainage	
Equally important sustainable human development activity' [Art.4(3)(a)(v)]	

#### 4. Establishing Good Ecological Potential (GEP)

**Q4.1: Please tell us about the method you used to classify the ecological potential of heavily modified water bodies by completing the applicable Tables below**

Are you satisfied that your draft classification results reflect the effect of hydromorphological alterations on ecological potential ? (yes/no)	Have you classified the effect of hydromorphological alterations on ecological potential using <u>biological assessment methods</u> (according to CIS Guidance No. 4 – See	Have you classified the effect of hydromorphological alterations on ecological potential by assessing whether <u>all practicable mitigation measures</u> have been taken (according to the	Have you developed <u>another method</u> of classifying the effect of hydromorphological alterations on ecological potential? (yes/no)

	<b>Annex)? (yes/no)</b>	<b>Prague approach - See Annex)? (yes/no)</b>	
		Yes	

**Have you adapted your existing biological assessment methods for application to heavily modified water bodies?**

(free text)

**Have you developed specific biological assessment methods for classifying HMWBs?**

(free text)

Please complete the Table below if you have classified the effect on ecological potential of hydromorphological alterations using **biological assessment methods** (according to CIS Guidance No. 4 – See Annex)

<b>Water category</b>	<b>Were you able to derive biological references for maximum ecological potential? (yes/no)</b>	<b>What biological quality element (or elements) have you used to make these assessments?</b>
Rivers		
Lakes		
Transitional waters		
Coastal waters		

Please complete the Table below if you have classified the effect on ecological potential of hydromorphological alterations using the **mitigation measures approach** (according to the Prague approach - See Annex)

<b>Water use</b>	<b>Did you develop use-specific generic checklists of mitigation measures? (yes/no)</b>	<b>Did you identify water body-specific mitigation measures rather than generic checklists? (yes/no)</b>	<b>If applicable, did you modify the generic list to take account of the specific characteristics and use of each HMWB? (yes/no)</b>	<b>Did you involve the water users in applying the method? (yes/no)</b>
Navigation, including port facilities	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Storage for drinking water supply	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Storage for power generation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Storage for irrigation				

Water regulation				
Flood protection	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Land drainage				
Equally important sustainable human development activity'	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

<b>If you have developed generic checklists of measures, please describe these</b>
(free text)
<b>Please specify if you have a special methodology for the definition of Maximum Ecological Potential (MEP), which differs from your GEP methodology</b>
(free text)

For Member States that have used both approaches of GEP establishment (Guidance No. 4 approach & “Prague” approach):

**Q4.3:** How do the results of using the two approaches compare? Are the mitigation measures needed to achieve good ecological potential comparable? Are there any examples to combine both methods?

(free text)
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## 5. Exemptions for HMWB

**Q5.1:** Do you intend to apply Art. 4(4) exemptions (time derogation) to HMWB?

	No

Do you intend to apply Art. 4(5) exemptions (less stringent objectives) to HMWB?

	No

How did you combine this with HMWB designation according to Art. 4 (3) and CIS guidance No 4?

(free text)
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## 6. Suggestions for the workshop

**Q6.1:** Do you have any suggestions for the upcoming workshop on Heavily Modified Water Bodies (12-13 March 2009, Brussels)? E.g.

- Any questions proposed for discussion?
- Public participation ideas concerning HMWB?
- Any pilot projects, methods for presentations at the workshop?

(free text)
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