



Originalas nebus siunčiamas

LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS SVEIKATOS APSAUGOS MINISTERIJA

MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

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Re: 31-01-2020 No 2020/OES/029/ENV/27

cc: UNECE secretariat, Palais des Nations
1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland,
E-mail: protocol.water_health@un.org

WHO European Centre for Environment and
Health
53113 Bonn, Germany,
E-mail: euwatsan@who.int

REGARDING THE CONSULTATION PROCESS UNDER THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE OF THE UNECE-WHO REGIONAL OFFICE FOR EUROPE PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH

Dear Ms Olga Algayerova

The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania would like to thank the Compliance Committee for the possibility to take part in the consultation process, for the interesting discussions as well as for the possibility to learn more on the experiences of other Baltic states.

The Consultation Process with the three Baltic states helped in the preparation of the Lithuanian Summary Report under the Protocol on Water and Health prepared within obligations of Lithuania as a Party to the Protocol on Water and Health and using the format outlined in the Guidelines for summary reports in accordance with article 7 of the Protocol on Water and Health.

The Consultation meetings with Compliance Committee (6 March 2018 and 5-6 November 2018) helped to map the common challenges and find the solution of targets setting, implementation and progress evaluation. After these meetings it was decided to organize a discussion among health policy decision makers in Lithuania and agree on how to move forward towards the target-setting in Lithuania. Specific focus should be on small scale supplies and individual supplies.

Regarding the consultation process National safe drinking water and health meeting was organised on 23 October 2018 in the Ministry of Health. During this meeting it was agreed to review the Lithuanian Hygiene Norm HN 43:2005 "Wells and springs: the installation and maintenance of safety requirements" and the Lithuanian Hygiene Norm HN 24:2017 "Drinking water safety and quality requirements" and if needed to harmonize requirements.

Other "Workshop on scaling-up Water Safe Planning (WSP) capacities in Lithuania" has taken place in Vilnius on 20-22 August 2018. The overall objective of this meeting was to support building WSP knowledge and capacities among relevant national authorities and water service providers. The main outcomes of the meeting were increased awareness of multiple stakeholders of the policy relevance of WSPs in global, regional and national context and improved understanding of the key steps and requirements of the WSP approach.

Within the framework of the Consultation Process with the three Baltic states the Compliance Committee of the Protocol on Water and Health prepared very useful document "Interpretive Note. The provisions of the Protocol on Water and Health and their relationship with the European Union law governing water and health" and Advice provided by the Compliance Committee within the Consultation process under the Protocol on Water and Health to 3 countries. This help us to understand the European Union's instruments relating to water and sanitation are generally consistent with the obligations arising from the Protocol because they give effect to some or all of these obligations and permit State Parties to the Protocol which are also Members of the European Union to adopt more stringent measures in their domestic law whenever this may be appropriate.

Sincerely,

Minister



Aurelijus Veryga