

WISE Newsletter

The bulletin of the Water Information System for Europe

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FOREWORD

Welcome to this first edition of the WISE newsletter!

After more than 25 years of development and implementation efforts, EU water policies have drastically evolved in the last few years, firstly with the adoption of the 6th Environment Action Plan and the generalisation of participation of stakeholders in the consultation process, secondly with awareness about the need to better integrate various pieces of environmental legislation and related scientific and technological developments.

In this context, the Water Framework Directive (also known as the WFD or Directive 2000/60/EC) is the most ambitious piece of legislation for the protection and improvement of the quality of all water resources within the European Union. Considering the complexity of the technical issues, it was recognised that a common approach to some of these challenges would allow the sharing of expertise, information, experience and resources whilst facilitating, as far as possible, a coherent and harmonious implementation of the Directive. **A Common Implementation Strategy (CIS)** was thus agreed in May 2001 between Member States, Norway and the European Commission, which is now considered as a good example of European governance. A series of working groups and stakeholders and expert fora have been created during the last 4 years to study specific issues identified in an annual work programme.

The WFD is complemented by earlier directives which will continue to cover some aspects of the water environment (which will actually act as instruments linked to measures under the WFD) – the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive, the Bathing Water Directive, the Drinking Water Directive and the Nitrate Directive. New policies are being developed for the protection of our oceans and seas bringing together the current patchwork of policies, legislation, programmes and action plans at national, regional, EU and global level for the marine environment. In addition, an initiative has been taken to consider the feasibility of a new EU legislation related to

sustainable flood prevention and control. Even outside the Union, the European Union Water Initiative (EUWI) is aiming to bring together EU institutions and Member States, developing country government agencies, civil society, financial institutions, as well as the EU's water industry to raise the priority given to water and sanitation issues in the context of poverty reduction efforts in partner countries. Other European policies (i.e. Common Agricultural Policy, Thematic Soil Strategy, etc.) have in many instances a role to play in the protection of water resources and can contribute or reinforce the achievement of the objectives of the water policies.

The on-going and developing policies are supported by a range of projects funded by various EU or national instruments. Examples are research and demonstration projects funded by, respectively, the 6th Framework Programme and the LIFE programme, and projects funded by structural funds (e.g. INTERREG III).

In view of boosting information, exchanges of knowledge and good practices, the Water and Marine Unit of DG Environment has considered it useful to summarise key information related to water policies on a regular basis. This consideration is part of a wider initiative to modernise the collection and dissemination of information on water policy across Europe - the Water Information System for Europe – **WISE**. Member States, the European Commission (in particular DG Environment, the Joint Research Centre and Eurostat) and the European Environment Agency (EEA) have agreed that there is a need for streamlining the reporting process, gathering more useful and relevant information and making the exchange process as efficient as possible using modern technology for the information on water. That is exactly what the WISE initiative is meant to deliver!

This being said, it is a real pleasure for me to launch the WISE Newsletter, which will expand from and replace the previous WFD Newsletter to cover now a wider array of EU water policies. Its aim is to bring you up to date with developments of activities under the Water Framework Directive

Common Implementation Strategy and other EU water policies, including information on related legislation, research, demonstration- and other activities.

Published twice a year, the WISE Newsletter will bring you news on what progress has been made and on new issues arising from the different processes. With the **WISE Newsletter** we hope to not only inform you of what is going on, but inspire you to get involved and play your part in helping to deliver Europe's main challenges for water. **WISE Newsletter** will be available electronically free-of-charge through the WFD web-page of the Environment Directorate-General

I wish you a pleasant reading!

Patrick MURPHY

Head of the Water & Marine unit at DG ENV



The WISE Newsletter is the bulletin of information of the Water & Marine unit of the Environment General-Directorate of the European Commission.

This Newsletter replaces and complements the former "WFD Newsletter"

For further information about the activities of the Environment General-Directorate, visit the site: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/water>

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<i>The Water & Marine unit says goodbye to Ben van de Wetering and warmly thanks him for his work and contribution to the development of the Marine Strategy.</i>

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Water Framework Directive

State of implementation

According to Article 5 of the Water Framework Directive all member states had to complete, by the end of 2004, a detailed analysis of the characteristics of their river basin districts, including a review of the pressures and impacts of the human activity on surface and groundwater, and an economic analysis of the use of water. The results of these analysis will serve as a starting point and a source of information on which the River Basin Management Plans and the Programme of Measures will be built upon, with the objective to achieve the main environmental objective of the Directive, e.g., good status of all waters by 2015.

The Water Framework Directive requires member states to submit a summary report to the Commission on the Article 5 analysis by March 2005. Reports from 20 Member States have been submitted to date (30 June 2005). An updated overview on the reporting statistics is presented in the WFD Scoreboard which can be found on: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/water/water-framework/scoreboard.html>. The Water and Marine Unit intends to make these Article 5 reports publicly available during the course of August.

Although there is a broad heterogeneity on the depth and detail of the various reports, a first assessment confirm them as a very valuable and unique source of information about the current situation of the European Waters and the main drivers and pressures affecting them. In particular, one of the main objectives of the analysis is to identify which water bodies are at risk of non compliance with the environmental objectives by 2015 if no measures are taken. These water bodies will be the main objective of the Programmes of Measures. It is too early to make a detailed assessment but the percentage of water bodies at risk or possibly at risk is higher than 50% in many River Basin Districts in Europe. The results are not only driven by the ambitious environmental objectives of the Directive but also because of the conservative methodological approach of many member states to overcome difficulties as lack of data and uncertainty as regards operational criteria for defining the good status. In some cases, the high numbers also reflect the gaps and delays in implementation of other existing EU water legislation, e.g. Nitrates Directive or Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive.

As regards pressures, a survey carried out in 24 member states show that the main concerns are pollution from agriculture and hydromorphology

changes due to various human activities as hydropower, flood defence and navigation. Pollution from households and storm sewer overflows are still causing water quality problems, whereas the focus on pollution from industries has significantly decreased.

Groundwater Directive

The proposal of new directive for the protection of groundwater against pollution complements the Water Framework Directive with new elements concerning criteria setting up environmental chemical quality objectives ("good chemical status"), rules for identifying and reversing pollution trends, and measures to prevent or limit inputs of pollutants into groundwater. The new criteria represent a key step towards an improved groundwater protection regime. It will also pave the way for a better evaluation of groundwater environmental quality in Europe. The proposal will provide clear specifications that will ensure that the environmental objectives of the Water Framework Directive will be achieved with respect to groundwater. Equally, the proposal achieves the right balance between issues that need to be addressed at Community level and those that are best left to Member States. Further to the adoption of the first reading report at EP on 28th April 2005, the Commission supported the political agreement reached at the Environment Council of 24th June. Suggested modifications will provide flexibility to the compliance regime concerning groundwater chemical status, which focuses on identified risks of groundwater pollution, and clarify the related measures aiming to prevent or limit inputs of pollutants into groundwater. Taking the suggestions of European Parliament and Council into account, should provide a good basis for the adoption of the directive in second reading.

Common Implementation Strategy Work Programme 2005/2006

During their meeting in Amsterdam in December 2004 the Water Directors endorsed the WFD Common Implementation Strategy (CIS) Work Programme for 2005/2006, which includes the priorities for the next two years and specific mandates for the different working groups that are part of the CIS. The work in 2005/2006 will focus on the following priority activities:

- The **intercalibration exercise**, as a key activity foreseen in the Directive to achieve a common understanding of the good ecological status throughout EU.
- A renewed **pilot river basin exercise** will continue to be an inspiring exercise, testing approached to deal with a broad range of challenges posed by the WFD implementation.

The results of the first phase of the pilot river basin exercise can be found on: <http://forum.europa.eu.int/Members/irc/env/wfd/library>).

- A diverse set of activities in relation to **integrated river basin management**, focussing on the links with research needs, water scarcity management in the Mediterranean region, assessment of cost effectiveness of measures and international river basin cooperation.
- On **groundwater** and **priority substances** the process will serve as a exchange platform to address issues of practical relevance.
- Work on **reporting** requirements and GIS.
- **Integration of WFD with other policies**, with particular emphasis on agriculture, cohesion funds, transport (navigation) and renewable energies (hydropower).
- **Flood protection**

The work under the Common Implementation Strategy over the coming years will foster the processes on EU, national and river basin level of moving successfully from the "basin-wide characterisation and analysis" towards the establishment of the first river basin management plans, foreseen for 2009.

More information

General web pages on the WFD Implementation: http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/water/water-framework/index_en.html Public document exchange platform WFD CIRCA: <http://forum.europa.eu.int/Public/irc/env/wfd/library>

Intercalibration

What is the intercalibration exercise?

The general objective of the WFD is to achieve 'good status' for all surface waters by 2015. The concept of 'good status' comprises 'good ecological status' and 'good chemical status'. The intercalibration exercise is foreseen in the Directive and its objective is to harmonise the understanding of 'good ecological status' throughout all member states, and ensure this common understanding is consistent with the definitions of the Directive.

How is the process foreseen in the WFD?

The starting point for the intercalibration exercise is the publication by the Commission of a register of sites selected by member states on the basis of their current understanding of good ecological status. The intercalibration exercise shall be completed 18 months after the publication of the register of sites, which is expected for the summer 2005. The register includes 1489 sites from all 25 member states, Bulgaria, Norway and Romania.

How were the sites on the register selected?

The sites have been selected by member states back in 2003 and the first half of 2004, on the basis of the available information on the quality elements included in the definition of the ecological status. For some of quality elements the information is scarce because there was no national monitoring system in place that make use of this elements. Therefore, some of the sites were selected on the basis of information on only one or two quality elements. This does not limit the usefulness of those sites as the intercalibration is carried out at quality element level.

How are the sites actually used in the exercise?

To achieve consistent and sufficiently precise results, member states are using much larger data sets than the register of sites. The register is used to illustrate the individual current understanding of good ecological status.

How is the intercalibration exercise organised?

The work is led by the Working Group A on Ecological Status under the WFD Common Implementation Strategy, and the technical work is coordinated by the European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC) in Ispra, Italy. The intercalibration exercise is carried out within 14 Geographical Intercalibration Groups (GIGs). These are groups of member states that share ecological types of rivers, lakes and coastal/transitional waters, and therefore can compare their monitoring results among them. Examples of river, lakes and coastal GIGs are "Mediterranean rivers", "Northern lakes" or "North-East Atlantic". More than 500 experts from all 25 member states, Norway, Bulgaria and Romania are actively participating in the work.

What is the expected outcome of the process?

To define the good ecological status class, the intercalibration exercise will define its upper and lower boundaries, called the high-good and the good-moderate boundaries. The outcome of the intercalibration exercise will establish the boundaries of the good ecological status applicable to all national classification systems. Therefore, it is expected that some member states will need to adapt the boundaries of their national systems to the resulting EU-wide level.

More information

JRC Information exchange platform on the intercalibration exercise: http://forum.europa.eu.int/Public/irc/jrc/jrc_eewai/library
General WFD Information exchange platform: <http://forum.europa.eu.int/Public/irc/env/wfd/library>

Water Policies Implementation

Urban Waste Water Directive

The Urban Waste Water Directive (UWWTD) concerns the collection, treatment and discharge of urban waste water and treatment and discharge of waste water from food-processing industries. The objective is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of urban waste water discharges generated about 450 millions of inhabitants and their economic activities. Urban waste water directive is one of the main directives which complete and timely implementation is crucial to achieve good ecological status of surface waters implied by the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and to save this most precious natural resource for future generations.

The main challenge of the implementation of the directive for the member states implies to be in line with the Directive's requirements on designation of sensitive areas, and ensuring required treatment level and treatment performance. In the enlarged Europe there are about 15000 agglomerations that generate the load having more than 600 million population equivalents (p.e.). There are more than 600 big cities in EU-25 that produces about 50% of the total waste water load generated. 14 MS designated entire territory as sensitive area, 10 remaining member states designated 973 water bodies as sensitive areas. The only MS - Malta has normal areas only. There are still 104 areas which had to be designated as sensitive areas in 1994!

Challenges of the implementation: concerning implementation of the Directive, two different types of implementation level could be distinguished: old MS and new MS. For old MS (EU-15) the final deadline is 31/12/2005 to complete the Directive implementation, while the new MS (EU-10) have to go long way to implement the directive as the last deadline agreed in the Accession Treaty is 31/12/2015.

According to the last compliance-check results on the implementation status on 01/01/2003 for the large agglomerations, the EU-15 has approached significant challenges:

- There are 5495 agglomerations (having more than 210 mln. p.e. load) located in **sensitive areas**. It includes 3859 German and 384 Dutch agglomerations applying the Art.5(4) for which the overall reduction rate of 75% for total N and for total P from the discharges from all urban waste water treatment plants has to be reduced for each parameter. Germany already reached this goal while the Netherlands is

planning to reach the conformity by the end of 2005. Compliance of the remaining 1243 large agglomerations having more stringent treatment reaching only **54.9%**.

- Concerning the **normal areas**, there are 2698 agglomerations (having more than 261 mln. p.e. load). The challenges are even more severe. According to the recently analysed situation only **38.6%** of the load of these agglomerations (or 1151 agglomerations out of the total number of 2698 agglomerations) are in compliance with the required treatment level.

Thus the implementation challenges for overall EU-25 still are very substantial.

Another important issue is **reporting the implementation status** of the Directive. The challenges of reporting include the upcoming last deadline – 31/12/2005 of the directive for 'old' MS, and new challenges to start reporting for 'new' MS. The priority is to set up a single comprehensive reporting system which fits MSs and the Commission needs and to have it integrated into WISE as a long-term perspective.

During 2004/2005 much attention has been paid in order to have comprehensive and timely information on the implementation status and to manage reporting process soundly. Working group on reporting consisting of representatives from nearly all EU-25 and EFTA has been established in 2004 and has been intensively working to achieve its main objectives, namely to prepare a guidance document on information to be reported by Member States to the Commission pursuant to UWWTD obligations, to set up a single reporting system including all reporting obligations and deadlines of the Directive as a continuous exercise for all MS, as well as to adjust the existing UWWTD database to updated reporting system.

The work for **2005/2006** will remain to be focused on the following priority tasks:

- publication of the 4th Commission report on the implementation status
- enforcement of the implementation on the EU level
- work on setting a single coherent reporting system for all the articles of the Directive under the new conditions (deadline 2005 and for the enlarged EU)
- integration of the extended single reporting system into WISE (as a long-term perspective by the year 2010).

The work under the Directive will focus further on **the dialog between the MS and the Commission** working towards common understanding of

certain aspects of the Directive in order to achieve complete implementation in a set up frame, i.e.

- for the old MS - as soon as possible! (as MS is already late achieving this objective because the last deadline will expire at the end of 2005), and
- for the new MS - according the transitional periods set up and by 31/12/2015 at the latest.

It should be highlighted that full implementation of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive creates even bigger challenge as its complete implementation is only the minimum requirement to implement river basin management plans of WFD by 2015.

Water & Marine Policy development

The Marine Strategy

The marine environment is faced with a number of threats ranging from the loss or degradation of biodiversity and changes in its structure, loss of habitats, contamination by dangerous substances and nutrients and impacts of climate change. The related pressures include commercial fishing, oil and gas exploration, shipping, water borne and atmospheric deposition of dangerous substances and nutrients, waste dumping, physical degradation of the habitat due to dredging and extraction of sand and gravel.

If not addressed, these threats and pressures will put at risk the generation of wealth and employment opportunities derived from our oceans and seas.

While there are measures to control and reduce pressures and threats on the marine environment, they have been developed in a sector by sector approach resulting in a patchwork of policies, legislation, programmes and action plans at national, regional, EU and international level. At EU level there is no overall, integrated policy for protection of the marine environment. Therefore, an integrated approach taking into account all the pressures on the marine environment needs to be developed, setting clear sustainable objectives and targets to be met through a set of cost-effective measures

In light of increasing concerns in relation to the state of Europe's oceans and seas, the EU's 6th Environment Action Programme included a commitment to develop a Thematic Strategy for the protection and conservation of the marine environment with the overall aim "to promote sustainable use of the seas and conserve marine

ecosystems". The Commission is currently finalising the Strategy, due for adoption later in 2005.

This Strategy is one of seven being elaborated in the framework of the Community's 6th Environment Action Programme. These Thematic Strategies were conceived as a new way of approaching environment policy, looking at themes in a holistic way and emphasising integration of environment in other policies and programmes as the main route to achieving environmental aims.

The Marine Strategy is aimed at protecting Europe's seas and oceans and ensuring that human activities in these seas and oceans are carried out in a sustainable manner so that we and future generations can enjoy and benefit from biologically diverse and dynamic oceans and seas that are safe, clean, healthy and productive.

The Strategy is to be seen within the broader context of the development of a new EU Maritime Policy (http://europa.eu.int/comm/fisheries/maritime/index_en.htm) to which it will make a direct contribution.

The Strategy will be based on a knowledge-based, ecosystem-based, dual EU/regional and co-operative approach. The operational objective will be to achieve good environmental status of Europe's marine environment by a given date. In recognition of the fact that there are diverse conditions, problems and needs faced by the marine environment in the EU requiring tailor-made solutions, the Strategy will be implemented at regional level in Marine Regions to be identified on the basis of their hydrological, oceanographic and bio-geographic features. No specific management measures will be set down at EU level.

For each Marine Region Member States will be required to develop Regional Marine Strategies including the following elements: (1) an assessment of the pressures and threats impacting upon the marine environment; (2) a comprehensive framework of regional environmental objectives; (3) a set of indicators and monitoring measures in order to evaluate progress towards these objectives; leading to (4) the development of a programme of measures for the sea areas under their jurisdiction, in close collaboration with other Member States and third countries concerned. The long track record of scientific and technical competence and ability to act as a bridge with non-EU countries will make regional seas conventions invaluable partners in delivering the EU strategy.

Flood Risk Management

Between 1998 and 2002, Europe suffered over 100 major damaging floods, including the catastrophic floods along the Danube and Elbe rivers in 2002. Since 1998, floods have caused some 700 deaths, the displacement of about half a million people and at least €25 billion in insured economic losses. Floods can endanger human lives and can cause human tragedy. They also can affect economic and environmental life and undermine Europe's progress towards sustainable development and competitiveness. Therefore the European Commission is developing an action programme on Flood risk management.

The European action programme will include three distinct but closely linked actions:

- Improvement of the exchange of experiences and knowledge and increasing the awareness,
- Development of a targeted approach to the best use of funding tools,
- Development of a proposal for a legal instrument.

The action programme builds on the Commission's Communication on Flood risk management presented in summer 2004. The Commission proposed concerted EU action on flood risk management in order to improve protection against flooding. The issue of flood protection including the Communication have been discussed by the European Environment Ministers. In October 2004 the Ministers have invited the Commission to submit an appropriate proposal for a concerted European action programme. The Commission will develop the action programme together with the Member States and other stakeholders.

To elicit relevant opinions from stakeholders on the principles and elements being considered for inclusion into a new EU Floods Directive, a consultation has been launched on the internet and will run until 14 September 2005: http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/water/flood_risk/consult.htm. More information on the EU Action Programme including the Communication can be found at: http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/water/flood_risk/index.htm

International Activities

EU Water Initiative

The EU Water Initiative is designed as a catalyst and a foundation on which future action can be built to contribute to meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for drinking water and sanitation, within the context of an integrated approach to water resources management.

The EUWI has **5 main objectives**:

- Reinforce political commitments to action and raise the profile of water and sanitation issues;
- Promote better water governance arrangements;
- Improve coordination and cooperation in the way that water-related interventions are developed and implemented;
- Encourage regional and sub-regional cooperation on water management issues, using the integrated water resources management approach on a basin scale;
- Catalyse additional funding, through the development of new, flexible and innovative funding mechanisms to attract new partners.

...and covers **4 regions**:

- Africa, with the Netherlands and France as EU leaders, together with Lesotho and Burkina Faso;
- Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Central Asia (EECCA), led by the Commission;
- The Mediterranean, with Greece;
- Latin America, led by Spain and Portugal together with Mexico.

Cross-cutting components on Finance, led by United-Kingdom, Research, led by the Commission and Monitoring/ Reporting led by Italy are also contributing to the implementation of the objectives of the EUWI. The EU is the world's largest donor of Official Development Assistance for water-related development and has considerable expertise in water resources management. The EUWI seeks to mobilise the financial and human resources within EU in support of the efforts of partner countries to achieve the water-related MDGs.

The modular approach of the EUWI through its regional components is translated in the definition and implementation of regional work programmes, based on a strategic vision of the EU contribution for achieving the water-related targets and a financial strategy. These regional work programmes include the development of national policy dialogues and regional activities such as transboundary water resources management.

More information on the EUWI can be found on: <http://www.euwi.net/More information on the Stockholm meetings>: <http://www.worldwaterweek.org/seminarsandsideevents/seminarsEU.asp>

Science-policy integration

Research in support of water policies

Water policies are currently supported by a range of RTD funding activities, in particular those covered by the Priority 6.3 "Global Changes and Ecosystems" within the 6th Framework programme (FP6) of research and technological development (2002-2006). A wide range of projects has been selected for funding in this respect since the launch of the FP6. New proposals, resulting from the 2004 call of proposals of the Priority 6.3, are currently under negotiation, some of them being of direct relevance the EU Water Initiative, urban and drinking water policies and to the development of advanced water reclamation and wastewater treatment technologies. Besides this call, the 4th call of the "Scientific Support to Policies" (SSP) has also been completed. Noteworthy are the projects in response to DG ENV topics published in the framework of the 4th SSP call concerning water: they cover three main topics, namely (1) Health effects of bathing water in microbiologically contaminated waters; (2) Assessment of monetary value of environmental and resource costs for water services; and (3) European analytical quality control scheme for water, sediment and soil analysis. Following the evaluation of proposals, one proposal for each of the above topics has been selected for funding, and projects will hence start before the end of 2006. They will complement current SSP projects, which are progressing satisfactorily, in particular REBECCA (ecological/chemical status relationships), SWIFT-WFD (screening method's validation and development) and BRIDGE (methodology for the establishment of groundwater threshold values). Discussions are now on-going among DG ENV and DG RTD to define new topics for the 5th SSP call for proposals which is due to be published in the Autumn 2005. Besides these FP6 projects, several projects from the 5th RTD Framework Programme (1998-2002) have been recently finalised, of which the results will be useful in the context of the preparation of river basin management plans required by the WFD.

Finally, the Commission's proposal on the general orientations of the 7th Framework Programme of Research and Technological Developments has been adopted in April 2005 and is now in discussion at the European Parliament and Council. This will be followed by Commission proposals on specific programmes and rules of participation which are expected in September 2005. The aim is for an adoption at EP and Council in 2nd reading before summer 2006. Environment (including climate changes) will be one of the ten selected themes of the future FP7 RTD Framework programme.

LIFE

LIFE stands for "L'Instrument Financier pour l'Environnement" – the Financial Instrument for the Environment. It is a European Commission financial mechanism specifically aimed at assisting the development of environmental policy through its co-finance of demonstration projects proposed from within the Member States or certain Third Countries. The rationale behind this instrument is simply that innovation, be it highly technical or more like a new approach to an old problem, needs to be demonstrated to persuade other potential users of their value, and to establish that any innovations proposed actually do work in the real world.

About 30% of the approximately 2500 LIFE projects co-financed to date have water resource management within them and some are focussed on finding effective ways to implement water related Directives. A wide thematic and geographical range of projects includes, for example, those addressing the pollution status and effectiveness of monitoring in the Baltic's Bothnian Bay, stakeholder participation on wetland issues in the Erne catchment in Ireland, water demand side reduction in Saragoza Spain, and a project establishing a soils database in Malta driven by the need to address nitrate pollution. The search engine on our web page allows you to find relevant projects based on keywords, legislation, country, thematic area, etc. Further information is available at <http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/life/life/index.htm>.

Forthcoming meetings (second half of 2005)

- ✓ Eutrophication workshop, Brussels, 7-9/09/05
- ✓ EAF Flood Protection, Brussels, 16/09/05
- ✓ **UK Conference on water and agriculture, London, 20-22/09/05**
- ✓ EUWI Steering Group, Brussels, 11 October
- ✓ Working Group Groundwater (WG C), Brussels, 12/10/05
- ✓ ECOSTAT Working Group (WG A), Ispra, 13-14/10/05
- ✓ CIS Strategic Coordination Group (SCG), Brussels 26-27/10/05
- ✓ Chemical Monitoring Activity, Brussels, 17/11/05
- ✓ Expert Advisory Forum on Priority substances, Brussels, 21/11/05
- ✓ GIS Workshop, Brussels, 22/11/05
- ✓ Water Directors meeting, London 28-29/11/05

¹ Most of these meetings are based on invitations, i.e. they are not opened to external participations (except the conference marked in red in the table)