



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
ENVIRONMENT  
Directorate C - Quality of Life, Water & Air  
**ENV.C.2 - Marine Environment & Water Industry**

## **GUIDANCE AND LIST OF PARAMETERS UNDER ARTICLE 17**

**INDICATIONS TO FILL IN THE NEW TABLES FOR REPORTING UNDER  
ARTICLE 17 OF THE EU DIRECTIVE CONCERNING THE TREATMENT OF  
URBAN WASTE WATERS (91/271/EEC, UWWTD)**

**Version 1.2 December 2015**

## 1. BACKGROUND

The renewed reporting under Article 17 aims at collecting information on planning processes for the implementation of the Directive taking place in Member States, beyond the information on the status of compliance for agglomerations and treatment plants, which is collected within the so-called Article 15 reporting. The required information is included in the Commission Implementing Decision of 26 June 2014 concerning formats for reporting on the national programmes for the implementation of Council Directive 91/271/EEC (notified under document C(2014) 4208)<sup>1</sup>, also known as "Implementation Programmes". The preparation of programmes for the implementation of the Directive, their update, if necessary, each two years and the notification of relevant information to the Commission are obligations already in force under Article 17 of the UWWTD. This document is intended to explain in more detail the main aspects in relation to the use of the tables that are annexed to the Decision.

The renewed form for the collection of information adheres to some of the principles shaping Structured Implementation and Information Frameworks (SIIFs).

## 2. THE PROPOSED NEW TABLES OF THE IMPLEMENTING DECISION: SYSTEM TO COLLECT THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF INFORMATION THAT THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS NEEDED. BASIC CONCEPTS

### 2.1. Level of aggregation

The new tables of the implementing decision organize the information in two levels of aggregation: individual features (agglomerations and treatment plants) and Member States (global information and figures).

Filling the tables 2 and 3 is not compulsory when:

- tables 2.A and 3.A: the Member State concerned reaches 97% of compliance at the reference date in terms of total generated load by all non-compliant agglomerations among all the agglomerations of 2000 p.e. or above, or in term of number of agglomerations among all the agglomerations of 2000 p.e. or above, The Commission estimates that a rate of 3% not compliant agglomeration may be considered as an usual situation regarding the number of facilities which have to be renewed every year due to obsolescence. It should also be noted that some of them are renewed even if they are still compliant with the requirements of the Directive<sup>2</sup>.
- tables 2.B and 3.B: there is a deadline still to expire and no more work to do to comply with the basic requirements of the Directive (referring both to those established by the Accession Treaties or those set by the designation of sensitive areas).

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<sup>1</sup> <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1405007191767&uri=CELEX:32014D0431>

<sup>2</sup> Non-compliant situations concerning exceptional cases of bad performance of the UWWTP (e.g. bad operation of the system) has not to be taken into account in this rate if the sanitation system is well designed

Because it might allow each Member State to have a detailed overview of the situation and the evolution of its implementation system, it is highly recommended to fill the tables 2.A and 3.A, even if the level of compliance is above 97%.

As a general principle, aggregated socio-economic information at national level is requested to all MS (table 4), including those that reach very high compliance levels. This information will allow assessing the approach applied by Member States to address the identified problems and the actions needed to keep their achievements (e.g. maintenance/renewal etc).

The table 5 suggests different proposals to be included in a national programme in the format of "free text".

## 2.2. Compliance

Four types of compliance are considered: with Article 3 (collection and IAS), Article 4 (secondary treatment), Article 5 (more stringent treatment) and Article 7<sup>3</sup> (appropriate treatment).

The information and data needed to assess the compliance status for agglomerations and treatment plants is requested within the legal requirement established under Article 15 reporting. In principle, there is no reason to consider that the compliance status resulting from the assessment of such information is different of the criteria used here to assess whether the level of compliance proposed is reached, which is presented below:

1. **Agglomerations** are considered as compliant (and therefore, excluded from the scope of the reporting exercise under Article 17) only if
  - The entire generated load is collected or is handled using individual systems or any other appropriate system, as requested by Article 3.1 of the Directive,AND
  - The treatment provided by all treatment plants treating the waste water entering the collecting system(s) for the agglomeration concerned meets the conditions established by the Directive.
2. **Treatment plants** discharging into a normal area are considered compliant (and therefore, excluded from the scope of the reporting exercise under Article 17), only if the entirety of the load they receive is treated and meets the standards laid down in Annex I, table 1 of the Directive,
3. **Treatment plants** obliged to provide more stringent treatment, as requested by Articles 5.2, 5.3 and, whenever necessary, 5.5 of the Directive, are considered compliant (and therefore, excluded from the scope of the reporting exercise under Article 17) only if the entirety of the load they receive is treated and meets the standards laid down in Annex I, table 1 and table 2 of the Directive,

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<sup>3</sup> See also Terms and Definitions of the Urban Waste Water Treatment directive 91/271/EEC <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/water-urbanwaste/info/pdf/terms.pdf>

4. **Treatment plants** obliged to comply with provisions laid down in Articles 5.4 and, whenever necessary, 5.5 of the Directive, are considered compliant (and therefore, excluded from the scope of the reporting exercise under Article 17) only if the entirety of the load they receive is treated and meets the standards laid down in Annex I, table 1 of the Directive, and the minimum percentage of reduction of the overall load entering all plants in the area concerned is at least 75% for total phosphorus and at least 75% for total nitrogen,
5. **Treatment plants of agglomerations of less than 10 000 p.e.** obliged to provide appropriate treatment, as requested by Articles 7 (i.e., discharging into coastal areas), are considered as compliant when all the relevant quality objectives and the relevant provisions of the UWWTD and other Directives (Bathing Water Directive, Water Framework directive, Marine strategy framework directive etc.) are met in the receiving water,

No information will be requested for agglomerations or treatment plants which are considered as compliant and for which there are no reasons to conclude that this situation would change within the next two years. However, MS have the option to also report agglomerations and treatment plant that are compliant but where specific works are needed to update the sanitation system.

For consistency between Article 15 and Article 17, it is preferable to report data under the reference year 2014 as regards the situation of compliance or pending deadline. It is also possible to add new non-compliant situations because of a better knowledge of the situation taking into account more recent available information than the reference year 2014. .

In a number of cases, the deadlines have to be taken into account. If compliance assessment is not yet possible (because the deadline in the Accession Treaties is not yet expired), detailed information showing the status of implementation already achieved or expected should be provided in tables 2 and 3.

### 3. REPORTING FORMAT

The objective of this chapter is to describe more in detail the reporting requirements in order to help MS to fill the different dataset

The previous first reporting exercise (Q2013) under the new Decision was tackled in parallel with the official Article 15 reporting. Excel files were reported directly to the Commission. Some MS were also allowed to report under the old format whenever it occurred before 26 June 2014<sup>4</sup>. For the new reporting exercise (Q2015), all MS will have to report information under the formats established by the new Decision. The information requested under the tables one to four of the new Decision has been integrated in four data blocks establishing the official reporting format under Article 17, which is summarised as follows: This reporting format is linked to the Article 15 reporting. A specific XML format and QA/QC rules have been also created related to this format. The block 0 is now similar to the block 0 established under the Article 15. The data blocks 1 to 3 include information requested under tables 2 to 4 of the Implementing Decision. Optional parameters were added in blocks 1 to 3 to allow MS to provide complementary information.

Parameters to be reported under the article 17 of the UWWTD are presented in three data blocks:

1. Basic Information: it presents information on the reporting authority. It has to follow the same format than the format requested under Article 15 reporting (reporter, report period, contact).
2. Forward looking aspects-Agglomerations: it presents disaggregated information on actual nature of the problems faced at agglomeration level, planned measures, expected compliance dates and support (to be) provided.
3. Forward looking aspects-UWWTP: it presents disaggregated information on actual reason of non-compliance, specific measures to be taken, expected treatment type and capacity, as well as planned funds.
4. Forward looking aspects-Investments-Jobs (Aggregated): annual information on the cost of implementation, total size of the urban waste water treatment plants, current and expected number of related jobs and other aggregated information.

It is requested to be in coherence with article 15 reporting reference date to establish the list of agglomerations and treatment plants projects concerned by tables 2 and 3 of the implementing Decision and blocks 1 and 2 of the reporting format.

To avoid inconsistency, it is not possible to have different reporting lines with the same ID code of agglomeration or UWWTP. When different works are needed in a specific

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<sup>4</sup> Date when the Implementing Decision 2014/431/EU was published

agglomeration concerning its collecting system to comply with the requirements of the directive, all these works have to be integrated in one reporting line. The detailed of the works can be written in the parameters "measures" or "comments". The parameters related to cost and funds have to contain aggregated information. The dates have to be related to the overall project that is needed to meet the requirements of the directive.

The written information requested under table 5 of the Decision is not part of the dataset, as it includes no data and only texts. The way of reporting the requested information is explained in Chapter 4 of this document.

The personal information (e.g., basic information) will not be made publicly available.

The methodology and data specification related to each parameter is included in the "Definition of Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive reporting under article 17" data dictionary – document

The deadline for submission of the information is 30 June 2016.

## Data block 0:

### General information about the report and contact details

In Reporting sheets:

- T\_fl>Contact

	Title of the parameter
	Member State
	Reported Year
	Report ID
	Situation as at
	Version of reported data
	Name of the Contact Person
	Institution
	Street
	Post Code
	City
	Phone
	Fax
	E-mail
	Remarks (text)

## Data block 1:

### Forward looking aspects-Agglomerations

#### In Reporting sheets:

- t\_flaagglomerations

	Title of the parameter	Required/ Conditional /Optional	Stability of data
1.	Report ID, as specified by country	C*	
2.	ID of the agglomeration	C*	Very stable
3.	Name of the agglomeration	C*	Very stable
4.	Status of the agglomeration at the reference reporting year	C*	It will change when the agglomeration becomes compliant or meets the requirements of the Directive
5.	Identified reason(s) for non-compliance	C*	Stable  It will change if a new reason is provided
6.	Measure(s) foreseen to reach compliance with Article 3 (collecting systems and IAS)	C*	Stable  It will change if a new measure is provided
7.	Date or expected date for completion of preparatory measures for the collecting system or IAS (planning, design, procurement, consents as required at MS level, etc)	C*	These data can change every time there is a new, updated information
8.	Start date or expected start date for works on the collecting systems or IAS	C*	These data can change every time there is a new, updated information
9.	Expected date of completion of the collecting system or IAS works	C*	These data can change every time there is a new, updated information
10.	Forecast investment cost for the collecting system or IAS (as in the national plan)	C*	Stable, it will change if there is an update of the investment cost
11.	Name of EU fund planned to be used to complete the collecting system or IAS (if any)	C*	Stable, it will change if there is an update in the relevant fund or if the fund is not finally used
12.	Amount of (planned) EU funds likely to be requested to complete the collecting system or IAS (if any)	C*	Stable, it will change if there is an update in the relevant fund or if the fund is not finally used
13.	Any relevant comment on collecting system or IAS	O	This information can change if a new comment is provided
14.	Expected generated load of the agglomeration at the expected date of compliance	O	Stable  This information can change if new information related to the load is provided

15.	Expected rate of the generated load of agglomeration collected through collecting systems at the expected date of compliance	O	Stable if 100%  These data can change if new information related to the rate is provided
16.	Expected rate of the generated load of the agglomeration addressed through IAS at the expected date of compliance	O	Stable if equal to 0%  These data can change if a new information (rate) is provided.
17.	Amount of funds likely to be given to complete the collecting system or IAS (if any)	O	Stable, it will change if there is an update in the relevant fund or if the fund is not finally used
18.	Name of the entity planned to give fund to complete the collecting system or IAS (if any)	O	Stable, it will change if there is an update in the relevant fund or if the fund is not finally used
19.	Amount of loan likely to be granted to complete the collecting system or IAS (if any)	O	Stable, it will change if there is an update in the relevant loan or if the loan is not finally used
20.	Name of the entity planned to give loan to complete the collecting system or IAS (if any)	O	Stable, it will change if there is an update in the relevant loan or if the loan is not finally used

\* Conditional to be filled depending from the rate of non compliance at national level. See chapter 2

## Data block 2:

### Forward looking aspects-UWWTPt\_flauwwtps In Reporting sheets:

- t\_flauwwtps

	Title of the parameter	Required/ Conditional /Optional	Stability of data
1.	Report ID, as specified by country	C*	
2.	ID of the UWWTP/collecting system without treatment	C*	Very stable
3.	Name of UWWTP/collecting system without treatment	C*	Very stable
4.	Status of the UWWTP at the reference reporting year (Not compliant/Pending deadlines)	C*	It will change when the UWWTP becomes compliant or meets the requirements of the directive
5.	Identified reason(s) for non-compliance	C*	Stable  It will change if a new explanation is provided
6.	Measure(s) to reach the compliance needed for UWWTP	C*	Stable  It will change if a new measure is provided
7.	Load entering the UWWTP at the expected date of compliance (as planned)	C*	Stable, it will change if new information which allows MS to provide a new amount is available
8.	Organic design capacity UWWTP (as planned)	C*	Very stable when the project is decided



9.	Type of treatment UWWTP (as planned)	C*	Very stable when the project is decided
10.	Date or expected date of completion of preparatory measures (planning, design, etc)	C*	These data can change every time there is a new, updated information
11.	Date or expected start date for works	C*	These data can change every time there is a new, updated information
12.	Date or expected date of completion of works	C*	These data can change every time there is a new, updated information
13.	Expected date of compliance (12 months of compliant samples)	C*	These data can change every time there is a new, updated information
14.	Forecast cost investment needed for the UWWTP (as in the national plan)	C*	
15.	Name of EU fund planned to be used UWWTP (if any)	C*	Stable, it will change if there is an update in the relevant fund or if the fund is not finally used
16.	Amount of (planned) EU funding needed	C*	Stable, it will change if there is an update in the relevant fund or if the fund is not finally used
17.	Any relevant comment on UWWTP	O	This information can change if a new comment is provided
18	Expected rate of entering load transported to this UWWTP by truck at the expected date of compliance	O	These data can change if new information related to the rate is provided
19.	Amount of funds likely to be given to complete the UWWTP (if any)	O	Stable, it will change if there is an update in the relevant fund or if the fund is not finally used
20.	Name of the entity planned to give fund to complete UWWTP (if any)	O	Stable, it will change if there is an update in the relevant fund or if the fund is not finally used
21.	Amount of loan likely to be granted to complete the UWWTP (if any)	O	Stable, it will change if there is an update in the relevant loan or if the loan is not finally used
22.	Name of the entity planned to give loan to complete the UWWTP (if any)	O	Stable, it will change if there is an update in the relevant loan or if the loan is not finally used

\* Conditional to be filled depending on non-compliance rate at national level. See Chapter 2

Two parameters in tables 3 of the implementing Decisions are related to the ID code(s) and name(s) of the agglomeration(s). They have not been included in the data block 2. This information is relevant when using excel tables to have a direct relationship between the UWWTP and related agglomeration(s). However, it has not been possible to include this information in the Data block 2 because the data model allows having several agglomerations *per* UWWTP and the article 17 reporting process doesn't allow having different lines with the same ID code and different ID codes in the same cell. The table "UwwtpAgglos" reported under Article 15 will allow to create the link between the agglomeration(s) and the related UWWTP. Thus, it is important to check that all UWWTPs reported under Article 17 have an ID code that exists in the "UwwtpAgglo" table under Article 15 reporting.

### Data block 3:

#### Forward looking aspects-Investments-Jobs

In Reporting sheets:

t\_flainvestments

	<b>Title of the parameter</b>	<b>Required/ Conditional /Optional</b>	<b>Stability of data</b>
1.	Report ID, as specified by country	R*	
2.	Code corresponding to the period covered	R*	
3.	Starting Reference period	R*	It will change whenever a new reporting is available
4.	End Reference period	R*	It will change whenever a new reporting is available
5.	current and expected situation	R*	It will change whenever a new reporting is available
6.	Current or expected total organic design capacity of all UWWTPs at the end of the period	R*	This field will change whenever new information on the evolution of the different projects is available
7.	Current or expected investment costs of the collecting systems (new and renewal)	R*	This field will change whenever new information on the evolution of the different projects is available
8.	Current or expected investment costs of the treatment plants (new and renewal)	R*	This field will change whenever new information on the evolution of the different projects is available
9.	Any relevant comment on this table	O	It will change whenever a new comment is available
10.	Current or expected Investment costs of the IAS	O	This field will change whenever new information on the evolution of the different projects is available
11.	Current or expected operating costs of the collecting systems and UWWTPs without amortization of investments	O	This field will change whenever new information on the evolution of the different projects is available
12.	Current or expect EU funds (if applicable)	O	This field will change whenever new information on the evolution of the different projects is available
13.	Current or expected number of Jobs in the waste water field at the end date	O	This field will change whenever new information on the evolution of the different projects is available
14.	Length of combined sewer systems at the last date of the period)	O	This field will change whenever new information on the evolution of the collecting system is available
15.	Length of sanitary sewer systems at the last date of the period	O	This field will change whenever new information on the evolution of the collecting system is available
16.	Length of storm drainage systems at the last date of the period	O	This field will change whenever new information on the evolution of the collecting system is available

			available
17.	Number of IAS in the country at the last date of the period	O	This field will change whenever new information on the evolution of the IAS is available
18.	Population of the country at the last date of the period	O	This field will change whenever new information on the evolution of the population of the country is available.

\*Parameters have to filled regardless the level of non-compliance.

#### 4. REPORTING OF TABLE 5 OF THE IMPLEMENTING DECISION: OTHER INFORMATION FROM THE NATIONAL PROGRAMMES

Beyond the article 17 requirements, the Commission considers that a national waste water Implementation Programme is necessary as regards the cost of the implementation of the directive, the need to maintain the compliance of all the facilities and the new requirements of emissions reduction addressed to reach the objectives of other relevant directives or international regulation (Water Framework Directive, Marine Strategy Framework Directive, Natura 2000 Directive, Bathing Water Directive, sustainable development goals...). The table 5 proposes to MS questions to be answered if a new national Implementation Programme is foreseen: These questions are related to:

- Status of the National Programme
- Main drivers
- Relations with other pieces of EU legislation
- Use of EU funds
- Information systems
- Other requirements of Directive 91/271/EEC
- Others

If a MS has an existing national programme already ongoing, it can replace the table 5 request. It can also be replaced by the part of the programme of measures under the WFD, reorganised, regarding only the requests under table 5.

If information of the above-mentioned type is not available, it will be appreciated to receive some feedback regarding the different proposals in the table (not compulsory to reply to all), even if it is short.

If a MS doesn't have any input to provide to the Commission, the reasons for this lack of information will be explained (including if information is still under development)

Two examples of implementation programmes are provided as response to table 5.

[http://assainissement.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/documents/2011\\_09\\_27\\_Plan\\_daction\\_assainissement\\_version\\_finale.pdf](http://assainissement.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/documents/2011_09_27_Plan_daction_assainissement_version_finale.pdf)

<http://www.wsc.com.mt/sites/default/files/wsc%20strategic%20plan.pdf>

For the reporting exercise Q2015, the Commission will particularly assess the specific measures related to storm water overflows and treated waste water reuse.

This information has to be reported directly in Reportnet. MS have to provide either a hyperlink to a national webpage or document, either a file established under a format easily readable.