



Malta-EU Steering & Action Committee

# ENVIRONMENT

Sectoral Committee  
Weekly Update  
**12.02.10**

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## **MEUSAC Environment Sectoral Committee meets again on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February**

The MEUSAC Environment Sectoral Committee is set to meet again for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time this year on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February at 1030hrs at MEUSAC premises. The committee will be discussing the new Commission proposal COM (2010) 4 entitled "Options for an EU vision and target for biodiversity beyond 2010". Officials from MEPA will be giving a presentation on the proposal. This will be followed by a discussion and exchange of the views by the representatives on the committee. More information will be sent via e-mail to the representatives.

**In the meantime, here is a link to the original Commission document:**

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2010:0004:FIN:EN:PDF>

Please send an email to: [frederick.abdilla@gov.mt](mailto:frederick.abdilla@gov.mt) to book a place for the meeting

### **COM (2010) 47 - Report from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on implementation of Council Directive 91/676/EEC concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources based on Member State reports for the period 2004-2007**

Directive 91/676/EEC (also referred to as the Nitrates Directive) aims to protect waters against pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources through a number of steps to be fulfilled by Member States: water monitoring (with regard to nitrate concentration and trophic status); identification of waters that are polluted or at risk of pollution; designation of vulnerable zones (areas that drain into identified waters); the establishment of codes of good agricultural practices and action programmes (a set of measures to prevent and reduce nitrate pollution) and the review at least every 4 years of the designation of vulnerable zones and action programmes.

The aim of the present report is to inform the European Parliament and the Council on the state of the implementation of the Nitrates Directive, in accordance with article 11 of the Directive. It is based on the information submitted by Member States referring to the period 2004-2007 and is accompanied by aggregated maps of nutrient pressures from agricultural sources, of water quality and of designated nitrate vulnerable zones included in the Staff Working Document. This is the first time that all 27 Member States have submitted a report. Consequently, it deals principally with EU 27; however it also includes a comparison with the third reporting period for the former EU 15 and some new Member States. A comparison with



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the former reporting period is not possible for all New Member States for many of which this was the first report. Reports were submitted in 2008-2009. Several Member States provided additional information during 2009, mainly regarding water quality data.

**The full report can be found here:**

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2010:0047:FIN:EN:PDF>