



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

GUIDANCE ARTICLE 17

HOW 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 1.1 July 2014

ADDENDUM TO THE

DESCRIPTION OF THE DATA-BLOCKS (REPORTING SHEETS)

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 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 in force under Article 17 of the UWWTD. The formal request for data for the regular UWWTD reporting exercise (Q2013) specifically mentioned the reporting under Article 17, with the deadline for submission of the information end June 2014.

This document is intended to explain in some detail the main aspects in relation to the use of the proposed form. In the future there will be one single guidance document regarding article 15 and 17 reporting.

The exercise adheres to some of the principles shaping Structured Implementation and Information Frameworks (SIIFs) and, to this end, a renewed form for the collection of information has been prepared.

2. THE PROPOSED NEW FORMS CONSTITUTE THE SYSTEM TO COLLECT THE MINIMUM AMOUNT OF INFORMATION THAT THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS NEEDED. BASIC CONCEPTS

2.1. Level of aggregation

The new form organizes 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 load generated by all not compliant agglomerations among all the agglomerations of more than 2000 p.e. or in term of number of agglomerations among all the agglomerations of more than 2000 p.e., The Commission is considering that a rate of 3% not compliant agglomeration is a normal situation regarding the number of facilities which have to be renewed each year due to the obsolescence and as regard the fact that some of them are renewed even if the performances are still compliant with the requirements of the Directive¹.
- 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 (including both those established by the Accession Treaties or those set by the designation of sensitive areas).

¹ Not compliant situations concerning an exceptional 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 gives different proposals to be included in a national programme as a free text.

2.2. Compliance

Four kinds of compliance are considered: with Article 3 (collection and IAS), with Article 4 (secondary treatment), Article 5 (more stringent treatment) and Article 7².

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 compliant (and therefore, excluded from the scope of the reporting exercise under Article 17) only if
 - The entire load generated 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 systems 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,

² 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, are considered 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,...) are met in the receiving water,

No information will be requested for agglomerations or treatment plants which are considered compliant and for which there are no reasons to conclude that this situation would change within the next two years.

If the reference year used for the article 17 reporting is more recent than that used for article 15 reporting, it could be possible to have new not compliant situations because of a better knowledge of the situation. In the same situation, it is also possible to have less not compliant agglomerations than those identified under article 15 because the work has been achieved between the two reference years.

In a number of cases, the deadlines have to be taken into account. If no compliance assessment is 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.B and 3.B.

3. THIS DETAILED INFORMATION WILL INCLUDE THE ACTUAL NATURE OF THE PROBLEM BEING FACED (E.G. COLLECTING SYSTEMS UNCOMPLETED, TREATMENT PLANT UNABLE TO DELIVER THE LEVEL OF QUALITY NEEDED, ETC), ON EXPECTED DATES (OF COMPLETION, OF COMPLIANCE, ETC), ON THE SUPPORT PROVIDED (IF ANY) BY EU FUNDS, ETC. STRUCTURE OF THE FORM

The "form" is an excel file (attached), divided into different 5 tables, each one intended to collect a particular data set.

Tables		Collected Information
Name	In full	
TABLE 1 BASIC INFORMATION		Information on the reporting authority .
TABLE 2-A AGGLOMERATIONS NC	Information on agglomerations which are considered non-compliant.	Information on individual features, agglomerations.
TABLE 2-B AGGLOMERATIONS PD	Information on agglomerations for which there is any deadline, which is not expired at the reference date.	Information on individual features, agglomerations.
TABLE 3.A. UWWTPS NC	Information on treatment plants which are considered non-compliant	Information on individual features, treatment plants.
TABLE 3.B UWWTPS PD	Information on treatment plants for which there is any deadline which is not expired at the reference date.	Information on individual features, treatment plants.
ECONOMIC ASPECTS		Aggregated: annual information on the cost of implementation and the total size of the urban waste water treatment plants
OTHER ASPECTS		Aggregated: any other information considered relevant by the Member State concerned

4. LIST OF FIELDS IN THE FORM

The objective of this chapter is to give more precision to help MS to fill the different tables

TABLE 1- Basic information

	Parameter number
Member State:	1.1
Date of reporting:	1.2
Reference date used for identification of non-compliance or pending deadlines (tables 2 and 3):	1.3
Name of the Contact Person for reporting:	1.4
Institution:	1.5
Street:	1.6
Post Code:	1.7
City:	1.8
Phone:	1.8
Email:	1.9
Any other remark:	1.10

The reference date in this table is the reference date used for tables 2 and 3.

The best option is of course to be in coherence with article 15 reporting reference date. But the Commission gives MS the choice to determine its reference date. If a MS estimates that the reference date of reporting under article 15 is too old, it can also provide a more recent situation to have less agglomerations and UWWTPs in the tables: e.g. reference date 31.12.2013 for the first exercise with the new Decision.

The personal information will not be made publicly available.

TABLE 2.A - Collecting systems or IAS of agglomerations of 2000 p.e. and larger than 2000 p.e. not compliant at the reference date
and
TABLE 2.B - - Collecting systems or IAS of agglomerations of 2000 p.e. and larger than 2000 p.e. for which pending deadlines existed at the reference date

Conditional as regard chapter 2.1 rules.

Parameters	Explanations	Stability of the data	Parameter number
ID of the agglomeration (2)	Same ID than this used under article 15 reporting	Very stable	<i>2.A.1 or 2.B.1</i>
Name of the agglomeration	Same name than this used under article 15 reporting	Very stable	<i>2.A.2 or 2.B.2</i>
Status of the agglomeration	If the agglomeration is in the list, the status is not compliant. The not compliant situations are referred to all not compliant agglomerations at the chosen reference year even if they are not in any specific infraction procedures. It is a way for a MS and EU to better communicate at national and EU level about the identified not compliant situations. See also chapter 2.2 of this document about compliance	Change when the agglomeration becomes compliant	<i>2.A.3 or 2.B.3</i>
Identified reason(s) for non compliance	Examples of answers : Absence of collection and IAS, discharge of untreated UWW in the collecting system or treatment plant, excess of storm overflows in the collecting system...	Stable Change when there is new explanation to be provided	<i>2.A.4</i>
Measure(s) foreseen to reach compliance with Article 3 (collecting systems and IAS)	Examples of answers : building of a collecting system, renewal of the collecting system, building of a storage system,...	Stable Change when there is a new measure to be provided	<i>2.A.5 or 2.B.4</i>
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) (3)	If there is no clear information regarding the project the cell has to be filled with a date regarding the minimum time needed to achieve the objective	This information can change each time there is a new information related to the date	<i>2.A.6 or 2.B.5</i>
Start date or expected start date for works on the collecting systems or IAS	If there is no clear information regarding the project the cell has to be filled with a date regarding the minimum time needed to achieve the objective	This information can change each time there is a new information related to the date	<i>2.A.7 or 2.B.6</i>

Parameters	Explanations	Stability of the data	Parameter number
Expected date of completion of the collecting system or IAS works	If there is no clear information regarding the project the cell has to be filled with a date regarding the minimum time needed to achieve the objective	This information can change each time there is a new information related to the date	<i>2.A.8 or 2.B.7</i>
Forecast investment cost for the collecting system or IAS (as in the national plan)	Estimation has to be provided if not known	Stable, change if there is a change of the investment cost	<i>2.A.9 or 2.B.8</i>
Name of EU fund planned to be used to complete the collecting system or IAS (if any) (4)	If known at the reference date	Stable, change if there is a change of the relevant fund or if the fund is finally not used	<i>2.A.10 or or 2.B.9</i>
Amount of (planned) EU funds likely to be requested to complete the collecting system or IAS (if any)	If known at the reference date	Stable, change if there is a change of the relevant fund or if the fund is finally not used	<i>2.A.11 or 2.B.10</i>
Any relevant comment on collecting system or IAS	Examples: problems of implementation of remedial measures, change of the project, explanation of the delay of the project,...	This information can change each time there is a new comment	<i>2.A.12 or 2.B.11</i>

As regards table 2.B, the only change concerns one parameter

Parameters	Explanations	Stability of the data
Status of agglomeration	If the agglomeration is in the list it means that it doesn't meet the requirements of the Directive even if the deadline has not expired The status is Pending Deadline PD	Change when the agglomeration meets the requirements of the Directive

And there is no parameter as regard the identified reason(s) for non compliance.

See also chapter 2.1.

TABLE 3.A - Urban waste water treatment plants (UWWTP) of agglomerations of 2000 p.e. and larger than 2000 p.e. not compliant at the reference date

and

TABLE 3.B - Urban waste water treatment plants of agglomerations of 2000 p.e. and larger than 2000 p.e. for which pending deadlines existed at the reference date (6)

Conditional as regards chapter 2.1 rules.

Parameters	Explanations	Stability of the data	Parameter number
ID of the UWWTP (7)	Same ID than this used under article 15 reporting	Very stable	<i>3.A.1 or 3.B.1</i>
Name of the UWWTP	Same name than this used under article 15 reporting	Very stable	<i>3.A.2 or 3.B.2</i>
ID(s) of the agglomeration(s) served	If a UWWTP is attached to several agglomeration, the different ID have to be provided separate with a coma	Very stable	<i>3.A.3 or 3.B.3</i>
Name(s) of the agglomeration(s) served	If a UWWTP is attached to several agglomeration, the different names have to be provided separate with a coma	Very stable	<i>3.A.4 or 3.B.4</i>
Status of the UWWTP	If the UWWTP is in the list, the status is not compliant NC The not compliant situations are referred to all not compliant UWWTPs at the chosen reference year even if they are not in any specific infraction procedures. It is a way for a MS and EU to better communicate at national and EU level about the identified not compliant situations. See also chapter 2.2 of this document about compliance	Change when the UWWTP becomes compliant	<i>3.A.5 or 3.B.5</i>
Identified reason(s) for non compliance	Examples of answers : discharge of untreated urban waste water from the UWWTP, absence of UWWTP, excess of storm overflows in the UWWTP, absence of secondary/tertiary treatment, absence of nitrogen/phosphorus removal, absence of disinfection, improper design/obsolescence/new requirements/ increase of the load/bad operation....	Stable Change when there is new explanation to be provided	<i>3.A.6</i>
Measure(s) to reach compliance needed for UWWTP	Examples of answers : building a new treatment plant/secondary treatment/more stringent treatment, building of a storm storage reservoir in the UWWTP, renewal of the collecting system/treatment plant, extension of the treatment plant, implementation of article 5.4 of the directive	Stable Change when there is a new measure to be provided	<i>3.A.7 or 3.B.6</i>

Parameters	Explanations	Stability of the data	Parameter number
Load entering the UWWTP at the expected date of compliance (as planned)	<p>Estimation of the load entering the treatment plant at the expected date of compliance of the agglomeration.</p> <p>This load is calculated as regard the requirement of article 4.4 (maximum average weekly load)</p>	Stable, change when there are new information which allow MS to give a new number	<i>3.A.8 or 3.B.7</i>
Organic design capacity UWWTP (as planned)	If not known estimation regarding the size of the agglomeration	Very stable when the project is decided	<i>3.A.9 or 3.B.8</i>
Type of treatment UWWTP (as planned)	<p>1: primary treatment,</p> <p>2: secondary treatment,</p> <p>3-N: more stringent treatment nitrogen removal,</p> <p>3-P: more stringent treatment phosphorus removal,</p> <p>3-microbiology: more stringent treatment disinfection,</p> <p>3-other: any other type of treatment more than secondary treatment</p>	Very stable when the project is decided	<i>3.A.10 or or 3.B.9</i>
Date or expected date of completion of preparatory measures (planning, design, etc) (9)	If there is no clear information regarding the project the cell has to be filled with a date regarding the minimum time needed to achieve the objective	This information can change each time there is a new information related to the date	<i>3.A.11 or 3.B.10</i>
Date or expected start date for works	If there is no clear information regarding the project the cell has to be filled with a date regarding the minimum time needed to achieve the objective	This information can change each time there is a new information related to the date	<i>3.A.12 or 3.B.11</i>
Date or expected date of completion of works	If there is no clear information regarding the project the cell has to be filled with a date regarding the minimum time needed to achieve the objective	This information can change each time there is a new information related to the date	<i>3.A.13 or 3.B.12</i>
Expected date of compliance (12 months of samples)	12 months after the former deadline	This information can change each time there is a new information related to the previous date	<i>3.A.14 or 3.B.13</i>
Forecast cost investment needed for the UWWTP (as in the national plan)	Estimation has to be provided if not known		<i>3.A.15 or 3.B.14</i>
Name of EU fund planned to be used (if any) (4)	If known at the reference date	Stable, change if there is a change of the relevant fund or if the fund is finally not used	<i>3.A.16 or 3.B.15</i>

Parameters	Explanations	Stability of the data	Parameter number
Amount of (planned) EU funding needed	If known at the reference date	Stable, change if there is a change of the relevant fund or if the fund is finally not used	<i>3.A.17 or 3.B.16</i>
Any relevant comment on UWWTP	Examples : problems for implementation of remedial measures, change of the project, explanation of the delay of the project,...	This information can change each time there is a new comment	<i>3.A.18 or 3.B.17</i>

As regards table 3.B, the only change concerns one parameter

Parameters	Explanations	Stability of the data
Status of UWWTP	If the UWWTP is in the list it means that it doesn't meet the requirements of the directive even if the deadline has not expired The status is Pending Deadline PD	Change when the UWWTP meets the requirements of the directive

And there is no parameter as regard the identified reason(s) for non compliance

See also chapter 2.1.

TABLE 4 - CURRENT AND EXPECTED TOTAL ORGANIC DESIGN CAPACITY AND INVESTMENT COSTS AT NATIONAL LEVEL

Parameters	Explanations	Stability of the data	Parameter number
Period Cover	<p>The information is needed per period (e.g. 1 January 2014 to end 2014 or 1 January 2014 to end 2018)</p> <p>It is also possible to add new lines with new periods</p> <p>from 1 January xxxx to end xxxx (11)</p> <p>from 1 January xxxx to end xxxx</p> <p>from 1 January xxxx to end xxxx</p> <p>from 1 January xxxx to end xxxx</p> <p>from 1 January xxxx to end xxxx</p> <p>from 1 January xxxx to end xxxx</p> <p>from 1 January xxxx to end xxxx</p>	Change each time there is a new reporting	4.1
Current and expected situation	It has to be précised. It is also possible to add new periods for current and expected situation	Change each time there is a new reporting	4.2
Current or expected total organic design capacity of all UWWTPs at the end of the period	<p>For the current situation can be calculated by the sum of all organic design capacity of the UWWTPs reported under article 15 for compliant and not compliant situations</p> <p>For the expected total organic design capacity, the total amount might be corrected with the information given in table 3 parameters 3.A.9 and 3.B.8</p>	Information will change each time there is a new Reporting as regard the evolution of the different projects	4.3
Current or expected investment costs of the collecting systems (new and renewal)	All investments have to be taken into account and not only the investments needed for the not compliant situations. What is needed to renovate all the system is also important to maintain the performance of the whole system.	information will change each time there is a new reporting as regard the evolution of the different projects	4.4
Current or expected investment costs of the treatment plants (new and renewal)	All investments have to be taken into account and not only the investments needed for the not compliant situations. What is needed to renovate all the system is also important to maintain the performance of the whole system	information will change each time there is a new reporting as regard the evolution of the different projects	4.5

TABLE 5 - Other information from the national programmes (NP)

Topic	Parameter number
Status of the National Programme	5.1
Main drivers	5.2
Relations with other pieces of EU legislation	5.3
Use of EU funds	5.4
Information systems	5.5
Other requirements of Directive 91/271/EEC	5.6
Other	5.7

Beyond the article 17 requirement, the Commission considers that a national waste water programme is needed as regard the cost of the implementation of the directive, the necessity to maintain the compliance of all the facilities and the new requirements of reduction of emissions to reach the objectives of other relevant directives (water framework directive, marine strategy framework directive, Natura 2000 directive, bathing water directives,...). The table gives MS proposal of questions to be answered if a new national programme is proposed to be written.

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

If there is nothing like that, it will be appreciated to have some feedback regarding the different proposals in the table (not compulsory to give answers to all), even with quick answers.

If a MS doesn't have anything to give to the Commission, it has to be explained why or perhaps when a specific paper will be submitted if it is under writing.

Two examples of implementation programmes which can be given as response to table 5.

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>