



FAO European Cooperative  
Research Network



## **Recycling of Agricultural, Municipal and Industrial Residues in Agriculture**

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### **RAMIRAN 2002**

**Proceedings of the 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference  
of the RAMIRAN Network**

**General Theme: Hygiene Safety**

**Štrbské Pleso, High Tatras, Slovak Republic  
May 14 - 18, 2002**

**Edited by Ján Venglovský and Gertruda Gréserová**

ISBN 80-88985-68-4



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## THE NEW WASTE MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION IN THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC AND THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ORGANIC WASTE

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In the Slovak Republic there is new legislation in the field waste management, in force since last year, which consists of the following legal documents:

- ◆ **the Act No. 223/2001 Col. on Waste** and on Amendment of Certain Acts as later amended Act No. 96/2002 Col. on financial market supervision (**new Waste Act**)
- ◆ the Regulation of the MoE of the SR **No. 234/2001 Col.** on issuing the Green, Amber and Red list of waste and requirement on formats of documents required for transport of waste
- ◆ the Regulation of the MoE of the SR **No. 273/2001 Col.** on authorisation and issuing expert statements concerning waste, nominating persons qualified for issuing expert statements and on verification of professional qualification of these persons
- ◆ the Regulation of the MoE of the SR **No. 283/2001 Col.** on execution of some provisions of the Waste Act
- ◆ the Regulation of the MoE of the SR **No. 284/2001 Col.** on issuing Waste Catalogue
- ◆ the Regulation of the MoE of the SR **No. 516/2001 Col.** on rates for calculation of the fees to the Recycling Fund
- ◆ the Edict of the MoE of the SR No 1/2002 of 12. February (**No. 75/2002 Col.**) on establishing the Uniform methods of analytical waste control

The main point in case of the subject of this conference is, in accordance with the new Waste Act, that the purpose of waste management shall be developing **technologies saving natural resources and recovering waste** by its recycling, re-use or other processes allowing obtaining secondary raw materials.

**Wastes containing high propositions of organic matter**, in particular vegetable waste, biological sludge from waste water treatment plants, municipal waste components containing a high proportion of organic matter, and other similar wastes shall be initially treated biologically.

**Biodegradable waste** shall mean any waste that is capable of undergoing anaerobic or aerobic decomposition, such as food waste, waste paper and paperboard, and garden and park waste, etc.

The basic EU legislation for this issue is following:

**Council directive 86/278/EEC** on the protection of the environment, and in particular of the soil, when sewage sludge is used in agriculture

**Council directive 1999/31/EC** on the landfill of waste

The 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of working document "Biological treatment of biowaste" - such the an EU - initiative to improve the present situation for biodegradable waste (biowaste) management and help meeting the targets of the Landfill Directive.

A few words of introduction in **the area of the waste management program (WMP)**. It is a systematic-conceptual document, which gives the conception of waste management based on dual waste properties. On one hand negative impacts into the environment which are necessary to be eliminated and on the other hand its positive properties providing a potential possibility to use it as a secondary raw material.

**The 1. WMP** was adopted in 1993 for the period till 1996. This program introduced a basic conception of waste management in Slovakia.

Unsolved problem - no improvement has been achieved in the field biological waste reclamation and use for soil fund quality improvement.

**The 2. WMP** was issued in 1996 for the period till 2000. This program specified the targets and measures of the basic conceptions from the first period focused on minimization of waste generation and use of waste as source of secondary materials.

Unsolved problem - "to increase share of composted biological waste" - because without optimal legislation and financial foundations is not possible the improvement in the biological waste reclamation and use for soil fund quality.

**The 3. WMP** was approved by the Slovak Republic Government in this year 2002 in its **resolution No. 180 of the 27. February 2002** being a system-concept document setting a waste management solution concept and waste management approach within this area with compliance with relevant EU legislation staged to the horizons **untill 2005**.

Current Legal Requirements for the Design of WMP - obligatory part and guiding part

The obligatory part of a waste management plan shall include:

- a) data on biodegradable wastes,
- b) organisational, technological and production measures for waste prevention,
- c) measures for reducing biodegradable waste transferred to landfills, expressed as units of mass for initial and target year, with the aim of reducing waste quantities transferred to landfills as follows:
  1. up to 9 years from the date of entry into force of this Order, the quantity of biodegradable municipal waste transferred to landfills shall be reduced to 75% of the total amount (by weight) of biodegradable municipal waste generated in 1995,
  2. up to 12 years from the date of entry into force of this Order, the quantity of biodegradable municipal waste transferred to landfills shall be reduced to 50% of the total amount (by weight) of biodegradable municipal waste generated in 1995,

3. up to 19 years from the date of entry into force of this Order, the quantity of biodegradable municipal waste transferred to landfills shall be reduced to 35% of the total amount (by weight) of biodegradable municipal waste generated in 1995.

Thanks to transposition of the relevant EU legislation into Slovak legal documents, waste recovery activities leading toward utilisation of physical, chemical or biological properties of wastes are also:

Recycling/reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents including **composting** and other biological transformation processes. (Called R 2)

**Spreading on land** resulting in benefit to agricultural or ecological improvement(Called R10)

Between waste disposal activities which shall mean such handling of waste, which does not lead to damage of the environment or to the threat to human health, are also:

Land treatment (e.g. **biodegradation** of liquid or sludge discards in soils) (Called D 2)

**Biological treatment** not specified in the Annex 3 to the new Waste Act (Called D 8)

These activities are the challenges for our future in this field. Moreover, it is necessary to implement the unified definition of the term bio-degradable waste.

### **The basic point of the new WMP until 2005:**

#### **Qualitative Declaration of Targets**

- ◆ to develop plans for reduction the amount of bio-degradable wastes disposed at landfills
- ◆ to increase the waste recovery portion and decrease waste disposal portion
- ◆ to increase separate collection of re-usable wastes
- ◆ to introduce a system of collection of biological waste from households and municipalities
- ◆ to implement a new economic instrument to support waste recycling
- ◆ to assure higher quality of waste processing by the effective implementation of the systems of certification and authorisation and application of technical standards
- ◆ to set up an optimal infrastructure in waste management
- ◆ to build the plants for waste sorting
- ◆ to build the composting plants
- ◆ to use a foreign aid
- ◆ to exploit the alternative methods

#### **Quantitative Declaration of Targets**

- ◆ to reduce the incineration of bio-degradable waste by 10 %
- ◆ to achieve 35 % of composting proportion from the municipal bio-degradable wastes
- ◆ to reduce the bio-degradable component of municipal waste currently landfilled by 30 %

#### **Measures**

- ◆ to develop a system of registration and monitoring of handling with bio-degradable waste from municipal waste

- ◆ to implement the system of registration and monitoring of handling with this waste
- ◆ to shape conditions for the separation of the bio-degradable waste from municipal waste that the territory allows
- ◆ to shape conditions for preferred recovery of the bio-degradable waste by composting and afterwards by incineration
- ◆ to extend the separate collection of the bio-degradable waste from household
- ◆ to look for new instruments to support the extension and improvement of the bio-degradable waste collection and composting or to create a market for the compost.