



Brussels, 22/09/2005
ENV.D.3 (05)D -

Subject: Guidance for the contents of Member States reports further to Chapter VI. 1-2 of the EU Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Recommendation¹.

1. PURPOSE

This document is to provide guidance to Member States to set up their reports further to Chapter VI 1-2 of the EU ICZM Recommendation.

2. TIMING AND FORMAT OF MEMBER STATES REPORTS

The EU ICZM Recommendation invites Member States to report to the European Commission 45 months after the adoption of the Recommendation, that is: **by the end of February 2006.**

It is crucial to respect this deadline, because the subsequent review of the Commission is to follow the Member States reports within only 10 months. The process and quality of this review will be severely hampered if the Commission cannot rely on a timely submission of Member States reports.

Chapter VI Reporting and review *

1. Member States report to the Commission on the experience in implementation of this Recommendation 45 months after its adoption.

(...)

3. The Commission should review this Recommendation within 55 months following the date of its adoption and submit to the European Parliament and the Council an evaluation report accompanied if appropriate by a proposal for further Community action.

* EU ICZM Recommendation

Reports from Candidate Countries in relation to the ICZM Recommendation are welcomed by the same deadline.

¹ Recommendation of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2002 concerning the implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (2002/413/EC, OJ L 148, 6.6.2002).

For practical purposes, the report submissions should be submitted in a **paper copy and an electronic copy**, preferably on CD.

3. DISSEMINATION AND USE OF THE REPORTS AT EU LEVEL

The Recommendation states that the Member States reports “are available to the public”. In line with the principles of communication with interested parties and stakeholder involvement, Member States are encouraged to pursue an **active dissemination policy** and make the reports available on the internet, in addition to printed copies that Member States may wish to distribute.

For the purposes of informing other Member States and the international public, Member States are strongly encouraged to provide a **summary in English** of the main items of their report.

In the context of the Commission’s review and report to the European Parliament and Council by the end of 2006, the Commission will post the main reports from the Member States on the **ICZM web-site of the Europa-server** (<http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/iczm/home.htm>).

The Member States reports will be a major source of information for the review process requested from the Commission in Chapter VI.3 of the Recommendation. In line with Commission’s guidance on evaluations, DGEnvironment will contract an external party to conduct the evaluation. Based on the evaluation report, the Commission will submit a Communication to the European Parliament and Council. The external evaluator chosen by the Commission will be given access to the Member States’ reports.

<p>Chapter VI Reporting and review *</p> <p>2. These reports are available to the public (...)</p> <p>3. The Commission should review this Recommendation within 55 months following the date of its adoption and submit to the European Parliament and the Council an evaluation report accompanied if appropriate by a proposal for further Community action.</p> <p>* EU ICZM Recommendation</p>
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4. STRUCTURE AND CONTENTS

The Recommendation suggests contents for the Member States reports in Chapter VI 2(a) to 2(e).

<p>Chapter VI Reporting and review *</p> <p>(...)</p> <p>2. These reports are available to the public and include, in particular, information concerning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the results of the national stocktaking exercise;(b) the strategy or strategies proposed at the national level for implementation of integrated coastal zone management;(c) a summary of actions taken, or to be taken, to implement the national strategy or strategies;
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(d) an evaluation of the expected impact of the strategy or strategies on the status of the coastal zone;
(e) an evaluation of the implementation and application of Community legislation and policies that have an impact on coastal areas.

* EU ICZM Recommendation

For enhanced readability of the reports from various countries, Member States are strongly invited to **structure** their reports so as to clearly separate out the items listed in the Recommendation Chapter VI 2(a) to 2 (e). From the table of contents the items 2(a) to 2(e) should be easily found in the report.

Recall from previous section: a **summary in English** of the main items in the reports is strongly encouraged.

The **contents** of the report should cover at least:

(a) the results of the national stocktaking exercise

This includes:

- a description of the **state of the coast**, an analysis of the major stakes and challenges for the Member State's coastal zone. As a basis to report Member States should consider the set of Sustainability indicators, developed by the Working Group on Indicators and Data and endorsed by the ICZM Expert group;
- a description and analysis of **the regulatory, planning and management regime** of the Member State's coastal zone, including relevant regional sea level cooperation structures. An analysis of the degree of integration and an identification of gaps and inefficiencies. To measure the degree of integration, Member States should include an assessment based on the ICZM Progress indicator developed by the Working group on Indicators and Data and endorsed by the ICZM Expert Group;
- a description of **the way in which the stock-take was conducted** (sources of information, involvement of administrative levels and stakeholders, consultations, etc).

(b) the strategy or strategies proposed at the national level for implementation of integrated coastal zone management

Reference: Chapter IV.3 (a) to (h) of the Recommendation lists possible content items for the national strategy/ies.

The report should include:

- the objectives / priorities to be pursued
- thematic and/or geographic areas where action will be taken and the rationale
- the implementation and supervision mechanism for the strategy/ies
- a description of the process of development of the strategy; and information on the status of the strategy (approved; if not: timing for final adoption)

(c) a summary of actions taken, or to be taken, to implement the national strategy or strategies

Member States should clearly indicate what are new actions compared to existing measures. For each action it should be clear who the lead body for its implementation is.

(d) an evaluation of the expected impact of the strategy or strategies on the status of the coastal zone

This includes:

- when and to what extent the **ICZM principles** of Chapter II of the EU Recommendation will be attained and maintained in the future;
- what **risks and uncertainties** can be identified in relation to the implementation of the national ICZM strategy/ies;
- what are the **expected benefits** resulting from implementation of the strategy/ies, in relation to the governance of the coastal zone and the state of the coast (covering physical-environmental and socio-economic dimensions);
- are **negative impacts or constraints** anticipated from the strategy/ies
- what are the **implementation costs** of the strategy/ies.

(e) an evaluation of the implementation and application of Community legislation and policies that have an impact on coastal areas

As part of the possible contents of the national ICZM strategy/ies, the Recommendation calls for “mechanisms to ensure full and coordinated implementation of EU policies/legislation” (Chapter IV (f)). The evaluation of implementation and application of Community legislation and policies should draw on this part of the strategy, as well as the general stock-take performed further to Chapter III.

The evaluation should include:

- an identification of **weaknesses** in, and **barriers** to, a full and **coordinated implementation** of Community legislation and policies. It should gauge the implications for the state of the coastal zone and its prospects. The evaluation should be linked to measures in the strategy to overcome barriers and/or to achieve better coordination;
- a discussion of the prospects for further ICZM implementation support through **emerging EU policy initiatives**.