

SUMMARY REPORT UNDER THE PROTOCOL ON WATER AND HEALTH

PART ONE: GENERAL ASPECTS

1. Provide brief information on the process of target-setting in your country, e.g. which public authority (ies) took the leadership and coordinating role, which public authorities were involved, how coordination was ensured, which existing national and international strategies and legislations were taken into account, how cost-benefit analysis of target sets was performed.

No specific targets with respect to solely the Protocol On Water and Health is set as the related aspects are covered by a number of general political planning and legislation`s documents (Public Health Strategy (2001), Action program for implementation of Public Health Strategy 2004-2010, National Environmental Policy Plan 2004-2008, Basic Statements of Environmental Policy 2009-2015, Action program for pollution reduction and quality assurance of priority fish-waters and bathing waters (2004), Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 235 on the obligatory requirements for drinking water safety and quality (2003), Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 523 on the monitoring of bathing waters, quality assurance and requirements for public information (2008), etc.) Leadership and coordinating role was taken by the Ministry of Environment (setting of overall environmental targets), Ministry of Health (bathing waters) and Ministry of Agriculture (drinking waters). Relevant legislations of European Union were taken into account - Directive 2006/7/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 February 2006 concerning the management of bathing water quality and repealing Directive 76/160/EEC and Council Directive 98/83/EC of 3 November 1998 on the quality of water intended for human consumption. No cost-benefit analysis of target sets is performed for the moment.

2. What has been done in your country to ensure public participation in the process of target-setting and how was the outcome of public participation taken into account in the final targets set?

During the process of elaboration of general political planning and legislation`s documents all related stakeholders were involved (governmental, non-governmental, business and municipalities sectors) by means of working groups and/or final commenting of draft strategic documents and legislative acts.

3. Provide information on the process by which this report has been prepared, including information on which public authorities had the main responsibilities, which other stakeholders were involved, etc.

This report is prepared by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment, Health Inspectorate of Latvia (subordinated institution of the Ministry of Health) and by the Infectology Center of Latvia (subordinated institution of the Ministry of Health).

4. Report any particular circumstances that are relevant for understanding the report, e.g. whether there is a federal and/or decentralized decision-making structure, or whether financial constraints are a significant obstacle to implementation (if applicable).

Latvia has centralized decision-making structure, but the primary responsibility for local "water services" is put on local municipalities both in the case of drinking waters and bathing waters. Financial constraints may have impact on implementation of targets set especially starting from 2008 due to global financial crisis.

5. Please describe whether and, if so, how emerging issues relevant to water and health, (e.g. climate change) were taken into account in the process of target-setting.

It is planned to address the issues of climate change in the near future through the elaboration of national strategy and action program on adaptation to climate change. The provisions set shall be integrated in all other political planning documents.

PART TWO: COMMON INDICATORS¹

I. QUALITY OF THE DRINKING WATER SUPPLIED

A. Context of the data

Please provide general information related to the context of the data provided under sections B and C:

1. What is the population coverage (in millions or per cent of total national population) of the water supplies reported under this indicator?

The population coverage reported under this indicator is ~80 % of total national population

2. Do the water supply systems reported here supply the urban population only or both the urban and rural populations?

Water supply systems reported here supply both the urban and rural population

3. In the reports, the standards for compliance assessment signify the national standards. If national standards for reported parameters deviate from the WHO guideline values, provide information on the values (standards) used for calculation.

The national standards for reported parameters correspond to criteria given in the Council Directive 98/83/EC of 3 November 1998 on the quality of water intended for human consumption

B. Bacteriological quality

Indicator to be used: WatSan_S2: The percentage of samples that fail to meet the national standard for *E. coli* and the percentage of samples that fail to meet the national standard for *Enterococci*.

WatSan_S2	Baseline value (2005)	Current value (2009)
E. coli	1.8	1.6
Enterococci	1.8	2.4

C. Chemical quality

Indicator to be used: WatSan_S3. The percentage of samples that fail to meet the national standard for chemical water quality. All countries shall monitor and report on:

- Fluoride,
- Nitrate and nitrite²,
- Arsenic,
- Lead
- Iron.

¹ In order to allow an analysis of trends for all Parties under the Protocol, please use wherever possible 2005 – the year of entry into force of the Protocol – as the baseline year.

² As defined in the WHO Guidelines.

Parties shall also identify five additional health-relevant chemical parameters that are of special concern in their national or local situation (e.g. pesticides).

Substance	Baseline value (2005)	Current value (2009)
Fluoride	0	0
Nitrate and nitrite	0.2	0
Arsenic³	0	0
Lead	0	0
Iron	62.8	36.0
Sulphate	7.0	6.3
Ammonium	9.2	0.8
Manganese	1.3	0.8
Aluminium	0	0
Chloride	0.2	0.8
Pesticides-Total	0	0
Tetrachloroethene and Trichloroetene	0	0

If your country calculates an integrated value reflecting overall compliance with chemical quality of drinking water, please report it below:

	Baseline value (please specify the year)	Current value (please specify the year)
Integrative chemical failure rate	N/A	N/A

³ If relevant for the country.

II. REDUCTION OF THE SCALE OF OUTBREAKS AND INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES POTENTIALLY RELATED TO WATER

For incidence, please report the total number of cases per year from all exposure routes.
For the number of outbreaks, please report cases that could be potentially related to water.

	Incidence		Number of outbreaks	
	Baseline (2005)	Current value (2009)	Baseline (2005)	Current value (2009)
Cholera	0	0	0	0
Bacillary dysentery (shigellosis)	182	37 (1.6 per 100 000 inhabitants)	0	0
EHEC ⁴	0	2 (0,1 per 100 000 inhabitants)	0	0
Viral hepatitis A	145	2291 (101,9 per 100 000 inhabitants)	0	0
Typhoid fever	1	0	0	0

There are not outbreaks related to water, only food borne diseases.

III. ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER

Percentage of population with access to improved drinking water	Baseline value (2006) *	Current value (specify the year)
Total	82.1	Newest data will be available after population census anticipated in 2011
Urban	93.1	Newest data will be available after population census anticipated in 2011
Rural	58.8	Newest data will be available after population census anticipated in 2011

*WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation. 2006 Geneva, World Health Organization and New York, United Nations Children's Fund.

The Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) defines access to water supply in terms of the types of technology and levels of service afforded. Access to water-supply services is defined as the availability of at least 20 liters per person per day from an "improved" source within 1 kilometer of the user's dwelling. An "improved" source is one that is likely to provide "safe" water, such as a household connection, a borehole, a public standpipe or a protected dug well.

⁴ Enterohaemorrhagic *E. coli*.

If your definition of access to “improved” drinking water from which the above percentages are calculated differs from the JMP, please provide the definition and describe your means of calculation.

IV. ACCESS TO SANITATION

Percentage of the population with access to improved sanitation, including small decentralized sewerage systems, septic tanks and safe excreta disposal.

Percentage of population with access to improved sanitation	Baseline value (specify the year) 01/01/2004	Current value (specify the year) 01/01/2008
Total*	52%**	62%**
Urban		
(>100 000 p.e.)	80.5%**	83%**
10 000 - 100 000 p.e.	74%**	76%**
2000 – 10 000 p.e.	55.7%**	56.3%**
Rural***		

* 68% of 2.3 million inhabitants of Latvia live in the cities or settlements above 2000 p.e. and the rest 32% in rural areas. During accession to European Union negotiation Latvia got transitional period for implementation of the directive 91/271/EEC till 2015/12/31.

** Numbers in table indicates percentage of population which is provided with centralized collection system of waste water, in addition, most of the remaining wastewater generated in the settlements is either collected and transported to wastewater treatment plants or treated in situ.

*** There is very low population density in Latvia - 35 inhabitants per square kilometer on average besides around 32% of population lives in small settlements or farmsteads. Within limits of available financial resources also in small settlements water management projects are organized but where centralized canalization is not available individual appropriate systems are used.

V. EFFECTIVENESS OF MANAGEMENT, PROTECTION AND USE OF FRESHWATER RESOURCES

Water quality

On the basis of national systems of water classifications, the percentage of the number of water bodies or the percentage of the volume (preferably) of water⁵ falling into each defined class (e.g. in classes I, II, III, etc. for non-EU countries; for EU countries, the percentage of surface waters of high, good, moderate, poor and bad ecological status, and the percentage of groundwaters/surface waters of good or poor chemical status).

For European Union countries:

Ecological status of surface water

⁵ Please specify.

Percentage of surface water classified as of	Baseline value (specify the year)	Current value *
High status	-	3
Good status	-	47
Moderate status	-	28
Poor status	-	9
Bad status	-	13

Chemical status of surface water

Percentage of surface water classified as of	Baseline value (specify the year)	Current value *
Good status	-	100
Poor status	-	0

Status of groundwaters

Percentage of groundwaters classified as of	Baseline value (specify the year)	Current value *
Good status	-	100**
Poor status	-	0**

* Data from river basin management plans adopted in 2009/12/21

** Small part of three groundwater bodies is indicated to be at poor chemical status due to sea water intrusion, local point source pollution or artificial supplementation of groundwater resources.

Water use

Water exploitation index at the national and river basin levels for each sector (agriculture, industry, domestic): mean annual abstraction of freshwater by sector divided by the mean annual total renewable freshwater resource at the country level, expressed in percentage terms.

Water exploitation index Surface water	Baseline value (2004)	Current value (2007)
Agriculture	0.12	0.12
Industry ⁶	0.05	0.03
Domestic use ⁷	0.21	0.11

Water exploitation index groundwater	Baseline value (2004)	Current value (2007)
Agriculture	1.15	1.02
Industry ⁸	6.74	6.41
Domestic use ⁹	24.70	25.15

⁶ Please specify whether the figure includes both water abstraction for manufacturing industry and for energy cooling.

⁷ Please specify whether the figure only refers to public water supply systems or also individual supply systems (e.g. wells).

⁸ Please specify whether the figure includes both water abstraction for manufacturing industry and for energy cooling.

Water uses of industry mainly include water used for manufacturing. Domestic use of water mainly include public water supply.

⁹ Please specify whether the figure only refers to public water supply systems or also individual supply systems (e.g. wells).

PART THREE: TARGETS AND TARGET DATES SET AND ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS

I. QUALITY OF THE DRINKING WATER SUPPLIED, (ARTICLE 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (a))

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

Latvia is obliged to reach completely the requirements set by EU directive on drinking water by the 2015.

National Environmental Policy Plan 2004-2008

Naturally available resources of underground freshwater are approximately 1.4 million cu. m. per day which is 4 times higher than the current overall output of underground water for water supply needs and 1.5 times higher than the maximum output of water in Latvia (868 cu. m. per day in 1989). Although natural freshwater renewal rates exceed the output, problems exist because of the irregular location of resources and consumers in the territory.

Latvia has sufficient underground water resources to provide quality potable water. Artesian waters are usually used for central water supply, while groundwater is used in farmsteads and small settlements. In Riga water infiltrated artificially from the Baltezers Lake and water of the Daugava River taken from the Riga hydroelectric station and processed at the Daugava purification plant is also used. Quality of water taken from the Daugava River is already dependent on transboundary pollution, however. Latvian underground waters are characterised by higher contents of iron and lower contents of fluorine compounds as well as high water hardness and concentration of sulphates. 56.3 per cent of samples of potable water taken in 2002 across the country did not correspond to standards by their chemical parameters (mainly due to higher concentrations of iron compounds) while 3.1 per cent of samples failed due to non-compliance with microbiological indices.

Main problems:

- Insufficiently effective potable water deironing installations or lack thereof in many populated places*
- Insufficient pressure in water distribution network, pipeline ruptures and water loss which prevent regular water supplies or cause risk of pollution*
- Improper sanitary condition of the potable water supply network*
- Risk of pollution of ground water in the decentralised system (wells of low depth) of potable water supply*
- Risk of pollution of the Daugava River with respect to potable water supply in Riga.*

Policy goal and targets:

- *To provide for the compliance of potable water to quality standards - compliance of potable water to national standards ensured in Riga, Liepāja and Daugavpils, and supply of potable water from centralised water systems in Riga and Liepāja exceeds 95 per cent.*

Basic Statements of Environmental Policy 2009-2015

Policy goal: to ensure compliance of water quality according to standards, to ensure quality of water management services

Targets: to carry out measures in order to ensure supply of qualitative potable water, to continue to improve obsolete infrastructure of water management in order to diminish water losses from water networks

Public health strategy (2001)

One of the policy goals –healthy and safe environment - sets target to ensure all inhabitants with sufficient amount of satisfactory qualitative drinking water. In order to perform this target, is was envisaged to implement EU directive on drinking water, to ensure more complete collection of relevant data and their analysis, better information compilation and assessment. Action program to this strategy foresees to reach compliance with respect to standards of drinking water safety.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

With adoption of the Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 235 on the obligatory requirements for drinking water safety and quality (2003) Latvia has transposed and implemented the requirements resulting from the Council Directive 98/83/EC of 3 November 1998 on the quality of water intended for human consumption. Therefore all management measures regarding drinking water surveillance and control, monitoring, informing and reporting correspond to EU requirements. Health Inspectorate of Latvia is the responsible state authority for surveillance and control of drinking water. The system of allocation of special normatives for selected parameters naturally elevated in Latvian groundwater provides effective way how to address the issue of inappropriate drinking water quality in the line with WHO guidelines. It gives reasonable mechanism for water suppliers and stimulates them to raise funds and elaborate programs of measures to arrange their water treatment technologies and networks` infrastructure. The national regulations foresee washing, cleaning and disinfection of water pipes and related facilities before starting exploitation or after repair works of water supplying system as well as prophylactic disinfection not rarely than two times per year in order to improve the microbiological quality of drinking water. By the end of 2009, the Ministry of Health has assigned special normatives for 535 drinking water supplying systems out of approx. 1528 public water networks, mainly for small ones. The mentioned special normatives cover iron, sulphate, ammonium, chlorides and manganese.

Owing to the implementation of environmental policy plans the enhancement of drinking water quality has been achieved, especially through reduction of iron concentration due to establishing or modernization of iron removal facilities and/or improvement of obsolete pipeline infrastructure. Health Inspectorate of Latvia performs regular inspection of all 1528 public water networks.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

Certain progress has been achieved with regard to improvement of drinking water quality – the chemical quality has enhanced from 72.6 % of audit monitoring water samples that fail to meet the standard for chemical water quality in 2005 to 44.2 % in 2009. As regards the microbiological

parameters, no clear changes in dynamic of water quality are noticed but the number of bad samples is small and fluctuates mainly in the range of 2-3 %. As a rule, the problem is attributable to small water supplying systems, mainly in rural areas, serving small amount of population. The proportion of inhabitants receiving water with good quality has increased from ~63 % in 2005 to ~75 % in 2009.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

As Latvia is obliged to reach completely the requirements set by EU directive on drinking water by the 2015, there is no need to revise the target for the moment.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

II. REDUCTION OF THE SCALE OF OUTBREAKS AND INCIDENTS OF WATER-RELATED DISEASE (ARTICLE 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (b))

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

Public health strategy

By 2010, the control of communicable diseases in Latvia should be at least as good as the European Union average.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

*There are **Epidemiological Safety Law** The purpose of this Law is to regulate epidemiological safety and specify the rights and duties of State authorities, Local Governments, and natural and legal persons in the field of epidemiological safety, as well as to determine liability for the violation of this Law. According this law Ministry of health, State Health inspectorate, State Agency „Infectology Center of Latvia” and Local governments.*

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

Target of Public health strategy is reached. Level of incidence of food borne infections decrease during of 2005 till 2009. There are not registered cases of water borne diseases.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and target date have already been adopted, please describe them.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

III. ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER (ARTICLE 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (c))

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

Public health strategy (2001)

One of the policy goals –healthy and safe environment - sets target to ensure all inhabitants with sufficient amount of satisfactory qualitative drinking water until 2010.

Naturally available resources of underground freshwater are approximately 1.4 million cu. m. per day which is 4 times higher than the current overall output of underground water for water supply needs and 1.5 times higher than the maximum output of water in Latvia (868 cu. m. per day in 1989). Latvia has sufficient underground water resources to provide quality potable water. Artesian waters are usually used for central water supply, while groundwater is used in farmsteads and small settlements. Although natural freshwater renewal rates exceed the output, problems exist because of the irregular location of resources and consumers in the territory. The main problem is risk of pollution of ground water in the decentralised system (wells of low depth) of potable water supply, mainly in rural areas.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

Local municipalities are responsible for assurance of water services to their local population. Owing to the implementation of environmental policy plans the enhancement of drinking water quality has been achieved, especially through reduction of iron concentration due to establishing or modernization of iron removal facilities and/or improvement of obsolete pipeline infrastructure. By reconstruction of pipeline infrastructure new consumers are connected to the centralized water supplying systems everywhere where it is feasible.

The main difficulty and challenge encountered applies to the problem how to obtain proper data for assessment of progress towards the target in question. It is suspected that the data reported in Part Two Section III “Access to drinking water” (82.1 % of the total population had access to improved drinking water in 2006) relate to much narrower definition of “improved” or “safe” water and takes into account only the population connected to centralized water supplying systems. Many inhabitants not connected to centralized systems are using individual groundwater wells, boring wells, water from springs or public standpipes as well as everybody can use bottled water being in broad offer on the market. However, the problems with water quality in shallow wells and springs exist.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

According to the investigation of population carried out in late 2007 with respect to influence of different environmental health factors, 74 % of all respondents are commonly using drinking water from centralized systems, 28 % - bottled water, 16 % - from groundwater wells, 8 % - from individual boring wells and 6 % - spring water. As the respondents were asked to indicate all sources of drinking water usually used, it is impossible to say precisely how many have access to "improved and safe" water but it could be supposed that this figure approaches almost 100 %.

Starting from the baseline year 2005, no outbreaks of water related infectious diseases have been registered in Latvia.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

The target does not need to be revised.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

IV. ACCESS TO SANITATION (ARTICLE 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (d))

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

One of the Basic Statements` of Environmental Policy 2009-2015 goals is to ensure water quality in line with laws and regulations, diminish eutrophication of inland waters and ensure quality of water supply and sanitation services. In order to meet those goals further implementation of measures to reduce surface water pollution with waste water and dangerous substances is needed.

Joining European Community, Latvia undertook to fulfil requirements of its legislation inter alia Council Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning urban waste water treatment.

Since infrastructure of water supply and sanitation in Latvia were not in line with requirements of Directive 91/271/EEC and was physically and morally outdated and since for developments of infrastructure large financial investments were needed, during accession negotiations transitional period was set for implementation of Directive 91/271/EEC. In the specific implementation plan for the directive 91/271/EEC Latvia promised to provide that by 31 December 2015 about 95% of inhabitants of agglomerations above 2000 p.e. will be able to use centralized sanitation.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

In order to fulfil above mentioned targets European funds such as Cohesion fund and European Regional Development Fund as well as national and local finances are used. Functions of local authority include also provision of inhabitants with water supply and sanitation. Besides according to national legislation local authorities are responsible for installation of centralized canalization system. Centralized canalization systems are mandatory in the agglomerations above 2000 p.e.

Water supply and sanitation solutions should be provided during building or renovation process - if possible centralized water supply and waste water collection must be used. If collecting systems are not in place, individual appropriate systems such as septic tanks or individual treatment plants must be used.

In order to facilitate development and implementation of water services infrastructure projects information of legislative requirements and best practises are aggregated as well as workshops are organised therefore helping local authorities and companies of water services to attract investments and find better solution for development of infrastructure.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

Since 2004 significant amount of financial resources are invested and infrastructure projects are accomplished. Never the less low population density as well as outdated/ deteriorating collecting systems makes reaching of abovementioned targets difficult. Financial resources are invested in replacing existing old collecting systems instead of providing new customers with centralized sanitation. Therefore development of the infrastructure of water services does not occur as rapidly as was predicted before the EU accession.

In settlements or parts of settlements where centralized sanitation are not yet developed individual appropriate systems such as septic tanks and individual waste water treatment plants are used.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

There is no need to revise the target or the target date for the moment.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

V. LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE OF COLLECTIVE SYSTEMS AND OTHER SYSTEMS FOR WATER SUPPLY (ARTICLE 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (e))

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

Latvia is obliged to reach completely the requirements set by EU directive on drinking water by the 2015. These requirements apply to all systems for water supply serving more than 50 persons or providing less than 10 m³/day. Latvia has 32 large water supplying systems providing more than 1000 m³/day, 146 medium systems providing 100-1000 m³/day and 944 small systems providing less than 100 m³/day (acc. to 2009 data).

National Environmental Policy Plan 2004-2008

During the period from 1991 to 2000 water consumption per year for household needs dropped from 200 million cu. m. to 80 million cu. m.; in industry, water consumption per year dropped from 225 million cu. m. to 75 million cu. m. while the drop in agriculture was from 150 million cu. m. to 50 million cu. m. per year. Losses in distribution networks exceed 30 million cu. m. per year.

The main problems were associated with insufficiently effective potable water deironing installations or lack thereof in many populated places, insufficient pressure in water distribution network, pipeline ruptures and water loss which prevent regular water supplies or cause risk of pollution, improper sanitary condition of the potable water supply network as well as inadequate water saving activities carried out.

The policy goals set are to promote a sustainable and rational use of water, with particular attention paid to the preservation of underground water resources and lakes and water bodies threatened by eutrophication as well as to ensure compliance of potable water to quality standards. Compliance of potable water to national standards shall be ensured in Riga, Liepāja and Daugavpils, and supply of potable water from centralised water systems in Riga and Liepāja shall exceed 95 per cent.

Basic Statements of Environmental Policy 2009-2015

Policy goal: to ensure compliance of water quality according to standards, to ensure quality of water management services.

Targets: to carry out measures in order to ensure supply of qualitative potable water, to continue to improve obsolete infrastructure of water management in order to diminish water losses from water network.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

A number of legal actions have been taken. Law on municipalities (approved on 19 May 1994) states that one of the main tasks of municipalities is to ensure communal services (water supply,

sanitation, heat supply, management of municipal waste and collection of wastewaters, their canalization and treatment) to local residents. Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 736 on the permits for usage of water resources (2003) states that special permits are needed if water abstraction both from surface and groundwater exceeds 10 m³/day or more than 50 persons are served. Applying for a permit, a number of documents shall be provided including technical information on water network as well as technical passport for boreholes. Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr.280 on the general procedures for the issue of licences for the use of subterranean depths and authorisations for the extraction of widespread mineral resources, and for the use of geological information (2007) sets among them requirements for sources of abstraction of drinking water. In order to choose a site for borehole intended for drinking water supply, it must be reconciled with Inspectorate of Health. The site is evaluated on the spot assuring elimination of possible drinking water pollution. Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 43 on methodology for setting of protected zones around water abstraction sites (2004) says how to set appropriate protection areas both around surface water and groundwater abstraction sites. The protected zones are supervised by Health Inspectorate.

Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 38 regarding construction normative LBN 222-99 "External network for water supply and related buildings" (2000) sets requirements for construction of new water supplying systems as well as for reconstruction of old ones. All water projects with respect to water supply must be concerted with sewerage systems` projects. Balance assessment of anticipated water usage and amount of wastewaters to be produced shall be carried out. Besides, the regulations says that washing, cleaning and disinfection of water pipes and related facilities before starting exploitation or after repair works of water supplying system as well as prophylactic disinfection not rarely than two times per year in order to improve the microbiological quality of drinking water must be performed.

Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 256 regarding construction normative LBN 221-98 "Internal water and sewage water network of the buildings" (1998) sets requirements for new buildings and reconstructed ones with respect to cold and hot water networks as well as for projection of domestic sewage networks. Besides, allowed pipe and junction materials are listed.

The system of allocation of special normatives for selected parameters naturally elevated in Latvian groundwater provides effective way how to address the issue of inappropriate drinking water quality in the line with WHO guidelines. It gives reasonable mechanism for water suppliers and stimulates them to raise funds and elaborate programs of measures to arrange their water treatment technologies and networks` infrastructure.

The main difficulties are connected to the global economic crisis which forces the water suppliers to postpone the envisaged projects due to lack of financial resources.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

Since 2004 significant amount of financial resources are invested and infrastructure projects are accomplished. Certain progress has been achieved with regard to improvement of drinking water quality – the chemical quality has enhanced from 72.6 % of audit monitoring water samples that fail to meet the standard for chemical water quality in 2005 to 44.2 % in 2009. As regards the microbiological parameters, no clear changes in dynamic of water quality are noticed but the number of bad samples is small and fluctuates mainly in the range of 2-3 %. As a rule, the problem is attributable to small water supplying systems, mainly in rural areas, serving small amount of population. The proportion of inhabitants receiving water with good quality has increased from ~63 % in 2005 to ~75 % in 2009. Starting from the baseline year 2005, no outbreaks of water related infectious diseases have been registered in Latvia.

By the end of 2009, the Ministry of Health has assigned special normatives for 535 drinking water supplying systems out of approx. 1528 public water networks, mainly for small ones. The mentioned special normatives cover iron, sulphate, ammonium, chlorides and manganese being mainly the natural problem of Latvian groundwater. These measures provide the possibility to supervise the scope of the problem and to follow-up the measures taken by the water suppliers.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and target date have already been adopted, please describe them.

There is no need to revise the target or the target date for the moment.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

VI. LEVELS OF PERFORMANCE OF COLLECTIVE SYSTEMS AND OTHER SYSTEMS FOR SANITATION (ART. 6 (2) (e) continued)

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

One of the Basic Statements` of Environmental Policy 2009-2015 goals is to ensure water quality in line with laws and regulations, diminish eutrophication of inland waters and ensure quality of water supply and sanitation services. In order to meet those goals further implementation of measures to reduce surface water pollution with waste water and dangerous substances is needed. Joining Europe Community Latvia undertake to fulfil requirements of its legislation inter alia Council Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning urban waste water treatment.

Since infrastructure of water supply and sanitation in Latvia were not in line with requirements of Directive 91/271/EEC and was physically and morally outdated and for developments of infrastructure large financial investments were needed, during accession treaty transitional period was set for implementation of Directive 91/271/EEC. In the specific implementation plan for the directive 91/271/EEC Latvia promised to provide that by 31.december 2015 about 95% of inhabitants of agglomerations above 2000 p.e. will be able to use centralized sanitation.

All the territory of Latvia is specified as a highly sensitive territory, to which high requirements for urban waste water treatments apply. Therefore in populated areas with more than 10 000 p.e. from 31 December 2011 all waste water collected in centralised collecting systems shall be treated more intensively than necessary, performing a secondary treatment and shall ensure nitrogen and phosphorus removal, but from 31 December 2015 in populated areas, where the population equivalent is from 2 000 to 10 000, a secondary treatment shall be performed for all waste water collected in centralised collecting systems.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

In order to fulfil above mentioned targets European funds such as Cohesion fund and European Regional Development Fund as well as national and local finances are used. Functions of local authority include also provision of inhabitants with water supply and sanitation. Besides according to national legislation local authorities are responsible for installation of centralized canalization system. Centralized canalization systems are mandatory in the agglomerations above 2000 p.e. Water supply and sanitation solutions should be provided during building or renovation process - if possible centralized water supply and waste water collection must be used. If collecting systems are not in place, individual appropriate systems such as septic tanks or individual treatment plants must be used.

In order to facilitate development and implementation of water services infrastructure projects information of legislative requirements and best practises are aggregated as well as workshops are organised therefore helping local authorities and companies of water services to attract investments and find better solution for development of infrastructure.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

Since 2004 significant amount of financial resources are invested and infrastructure projects are accomplished. Never the less low population density as well as outdated/ deteriorating collecting systems makes reaching of abovementioned targets difficult. Financial resources are invested in replacing existing old collecting systems instead of providing new customers with centralized sanitation. Therefore development of the infrastructure of water services does not occur as rapidly as was predicted during access treaty. Nevertheless reconstruction of collecting systems reduced pollution risk of water bodies as well as risk to human health due to leakage of untreated waste water.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

There is no need to revise the target or the target date for the moment.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

VII. APPLICATION OF RECOGNIZED GOOD PRACTICES TO THE MANAGEMENT OF WATER SUPPLY, (ARTICLE 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (f))

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

One of the Basic Statements` of Environmental Policy 2009-2015 goals is to ensure quality of water supply and sanitation services. In order to meet this goal further implementation of water infrastructure projects is needed to improve supplied water quality and reduce water losses during process of water supply. General public and businessman should be informed on possibilities to economize water resources.

Joining Europe Community Latvia undertakes to fulfil requirements of its legislation inter alia Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy. The purpose of this Directive is to establish a framework for the protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwater which inter alia promotes sustainable water use based on a long-term protection of available water resources.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

Cohesion fund and European Regional Development Fund as well as national and local finances are available to improve water supply systems and supplement inhabitants with drinking water up to EU and national standards.

A permit for the use of water resources is needed for 10 m³ or more of surface water or groundwater is extracted per day or more than 50 natural persons are provided with water supply services. Permit contains measures for the maintenance of protection zones of the places of water extraction, requirements of monitoring and permitted amount of water abstraction.

For extraction of water resources Natural Resources Tax should be paid. The tax rate depends on quality of the water extracted, specific properties of groundwater (degree of mineralization etc.) and volume of water extracted. The tax for extraction or use of water resources above the volume specified in limits (permit) shall be calculated applying the tenfold tax rate.

Informative materials for general public and businessman are available on rational usage and possibilities to economize water resources.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

Considering above mentioned local authorities actively implement projects of water infrastructure development where water meters are often installed as part of the project. A lot of households are equipped with water meters and pay water bills according to them. Water consumption accounting and water prices with included costs of water extraction, purification and supply stimulates users to economize water resources.

Reconstruction of water supply systems decreases and prevents water leakage (loss) in the systems and improves supplied water quality. According to the national statistic, water loss in the supply system is decreased by 26-41% during period from 2004 to 2009.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

There is no need to revise the target or the target date for the moment.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

VIII. APPLICATION OF RECOGNIZED GOOD PRACTICE TO THE MANAGEMENT OF SANITATION (ART. 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (f)) continued)

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

One of the Basic Statements` of Environmental Policy 2009-2015 goals is to ensure water quality in line with laws and regulations, diminish eutrophication of inland waters and ensure quality of water supply and sanitation services. In order to meet those goals further implementation of measures to reduce surface water pollution with waste water and dangerous substances is needed.

Joining European Community Latvia undertook to fulfil requirements of its legislation inter alia Council Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning urban waste water treatment.

Since infrastructure of water supply and sanitation in Latvia were not in line with requirements of Directive 91/271/EEC and was physically and morally outdated and for developments of infrastructure large financial investments were needed, during accession treaty transitional period was set for implementation of Directive 91/271/EEC. In the specific implementation plan for the directive 91/271/EEC Latvia promised to provide that by 31 December 2015 about 95% of inhabitants of agglomerations above 2000 p.e. will be able to use centralized sanitation.

All the territory of Latvia is specified as a highly sensitive territory, to which high requirements for urban waste water treatments apply. Therefore in populated areas with more than 10 000 p.e. from 31 December 2011 all waste water collected in centralised collecting systems shall be treated more intensively than necessary, performing a secondary treatment and shall ensure nitrogen and phosphorus removal but from 31 December 2015 in populated areas, where the population equivalent is from 2 000 to 10 000, a secondary treatment shall be performed for all waste water collected in centralised collecting systems.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

In order to fulfil above mentioned targets European funds such as Cohesion fund and European Regional Development Fund as well as national and local finances are used. Functions of local authority include also provision of inhabitants with water supply and sanitation. Besides according to national legislation local authorities are responsible for installation of centralized canalization system. Centralized canalization systems are mandatory in the agglomerations above 2000 p.e.

Water supply and sanitation solutions should be provided during building or renovation process - if possible centralized water supply and waste water collection must be used. If collecting systems are not in place, individual appropriate systems such as septic tanks or individual treatment plants must be used.

Companies which provide water services should obtain permit for the performance of polluting activities. Permit contains waste water treatment and discharge requirements and emission limits. In order to build new or reconstruct existing waste water treatment plant technical requirements of Regional Environmental Boards should be received where requirements for waste water treatment

as well as planned solution of treated waste water discharge and protection of environment during construction are included.

For emission of polluting substances into the environment Natural Resources Tax should be paid. The tax for pollution emitted into the environment above the volume specified in limits (permits) is calculated applying the tenfold tax rate.

In order to facilitate development and implementation of water services infrastructure projects information of legislative requirements and best practises are aggregated as well as workshops are organised therefore helping local authorities and companies of water services to attract investments and find better solution for development of infrastructure.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

Considering above mentioned local authorities actively implement projects of water infrastructure development. Since 2004 significant amount of financial resources are invested and infrastructure projects are accomplished. Never the less low population density as well as outdated/ deteriorating collecting systems makes reaching of abovementioned targets difficult. Financial resources are invested in replacing existing old collecting systems instead of providing new customers with centralized sanitation. Therefore development of the infrastructure of water services does not occur as rapidly as was predicted during access treaty. Nevertheless reconstruction of collecting systems as well as renovation and building of new waste water treatment plants providing waste water treatment up to standards reduced pollution risk of water bodies as well as risk to human health due to leakage of untreated or not sufficiently treated waste water.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

For improvement of human life quality implementation of water infrastructure development projects are planned also in smaller (less than 2000 p.e.) settlements.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

IX. OCCURRENCE OF DISCHARGES OF UNTREATED WASTEWATER (ART. 6, PARAGRAPH 2(g) (i))

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

One of the Basic Statements` of Environmental Policy 2009-2015 goals is to ensure water quality in line with laws and regulations, diminish eutrophication of inland waters and ensure quality of water supply and sanitation services. In order to meet those goals further implementation of measures to reduce surface water pollution with waste water and dangerous substances is needed.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

Legislation of Latvia prohibits discharge of non-treated industrial waste water into the environment. Discharge of untreated domestic waste water also is not allowed. An operator, when performing a polluting activity shall obtain permit for the performance of polluting activities. Permit contains waste water treatment and discharge requirements and emission limits.

Water supply and sanitation solutions should be provided during building or renovation process - if possible centralized water supply and waste water collection must be used. If collecting systems are not in place, individual appropriate systems such as septic tanks or individual treatment plants must be used.

For emission of polluting substances into the environment Natural Resources Tax should be paid. The tax for pollution emitted into the environment above the volume specified in limits (permits) is calculated applying the tax rate tenfold.

European funds such as Cohesion fund and Europe Regional Development Fund as well as national and local finances can be used to improve performance of waste water treatment plants.

Involvement of general public in the various campaigns such as joint work, competitions, workshops etc. raise awareness to the protection of environment and water in particularly. Information on water quality is publicly available and annual reports are prepared. Opportunity to inform environment inspectorate and other controlling organisation on potential pollution of environment are provided and widely used thereby even more preventing violation of legislation.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

Considering above mentioned local authorities actively implement projects of water infrastructure development. Since 2004 significant amount of financial resources are invested and infrastructure projects are accomplished. Reconstruction and installation of new collecting systems as well as renovation and building of new waste water treatment plants providing waste water treatment up to standards reduce pollution risk of water bodies as well as risk to human health due to leakage of untreated or not sufficiently treated waste water.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

There is no need to revise the target or the target date for the moment.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

**X. OCCURRENCE OF DISCHARGES OF UNTREATED STORM WATER
OVERFLOWS FROM WASTEWATER COLLECTION SYSTEMS TO WATERS WITHIN
THE SCOPE OF THE PROTOCOL (ART. 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (g) (ii))**

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

One of the Basic Statements` of Environmental Policy 2009-2015 goals is to ensure water quality in line with laws and regulations, diminish eutrophication of inland waters and ensure quality of water supply and sanitation services. In order to meet those goals further implementation of measures to reduce surface water pollution with waste water and dangerous substances is needed.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

According to the requirements of Latvian laws and regulations in designing, constructing and maintaining of centralised collecting system, the most advanced technical solutions shall be used taking into account the necessity to eliminate leakage and the necessity to restrict surface water pollution, which is caused due to overload of the collecting system or in case of accidents during rainfall, in order that the quality objectives specified for surface waters are observed.

In order to facilitate development and implementation of water services infrastructure projects information of legislative requirements and best practises are aggregated as well as workshops are organised therefore helping local authorities and companies of water services to attract investments and find better solution for development of infrastructure.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

During implementation of water infrastructure development projects and reconstruction or building of new waste water treatment plants and collecting systems requirements of national laws and regulations, size of agglomeration, local climatic conditions as well as best practices are taken into account thereby diminish discharge of untreated waste water.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

There is no need to revise the target or the target date for the moment.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

XI. QUALITY OF DISCHARGES OF WASTEWATER FROM WASTEWATER TREATMENT INSTALLATIONS TO WATERS WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE PROTOCOL (ART. 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (h))

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

One of the Basic Statements` of Environmental Policy 2009-2015 goals is to ensure water quality in line with laws and regulations, diminish eutrophication of inland waters and ensure quality of water supply and sanitation services. In order to meet those goals further implementation of measures to reduce surface water pollution with waste water and dangerous substances is needed.

Joining European Community Latvia undertook to fulfil requirements of its legislation inter alia Council Directive 91/271/EEC of 21 May 1991 concerning urban waste water treatment.

Since infrastructure of water supply and sanitation in Latvia were not in line with requirements of Directive 91/271/EEC and was physically and morally outdated and for developments of infrastructure large financial investments were needed, during accession treaty transitional period was set for implementation of Directive 91/271/EEC. In the specific implementation plan for the directive 91/271/EEC Latvia promised to provide that by 31 December 2015 about 95% of inhabitants of agglomerations above 2000 p.e. will be able to use centralized sanitation.

All the territory of Latvia is specified as a highly sensitive territory, to which high requirements for urban waste water treatments apply. Therefore in populated areas with more than 10 000 p.e. from 31 December 2011 all waste water collected in centralised collecting systems shall be treated more intensively than necessary, performing a secondary treatment and shall ensure nitrogen and phosphorus removal but from 31 December 2015 in populated areas, where the population equivalent is from 2 000 to 10 000, a secondary treatment shall be performed for all waste water collected in centralised collecting systems.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

Latvian laws and regulations determine requirements of waste water treatment according to the size of agglomeration and quality of receiving water body. An operator, when performing a polluting activity shall obtain permit for the performance of polluting activities. Permit contains waste water treatment and discharge requirements and emission limits.

Water supply and sanitation solutions should be provided during building or renovation process - if possible centralized water supply and waste water collection must be used. If collecting systems are not in place, individual appropriate systems such as septic tanks or individual treatment plants must be used.

For emission of polluting substances into the environment Natural Resources Tax should be paid. The tax for pollution emitted into the environment above the volume specified in limits (permits) is calculated applying the tax rate tenfold.

European funds such as Cohesion fund and Europe Regional Development Fund as well as national and local finances can be used to improve performance of waste water treatment plants.

In order to facilitate development and implementation of water services infrastructure projects information of legislative requirements and best practises are aggregated as well as workshops are organised therefore helping local authorities and companies of water services to attract investments and find better solution for development of infrastructure.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

Considering above mentioned local authorities actively implement water infrastructure development projects with renovation or building of new waste water treatment plants which operate in line with standards. It should be stressed that water infrastructure projects are implemented not only in big agglomerations but also in small settlements thereby decreasing pollution pressure of surface and groundwater. According to the national statistic pollution load (P, N, BOD, COD, SS) discharged to the surface waters is decreased by 10-40% during period 2004 to 2008.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

Requirements of nitrogen and phosphorus partial removal were introduced also for smaller agglomerations and settlements in order to reduce pollution risk of water bodies. More stringent treatment should be applicable if waste water effluents are discharged in water bodies at risk.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

**XII. DISPOSAL OR REUSE OF SEWAGE SLUDGE FROM COLLECTIVE SYSTEMS
OF SANITATION OR OTHER SANITATION INSTALLATIONS
(ART. 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (i), first part)**

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

One of the Basic Statements` of Environmental Policy 2009-2015 goals is to ensure water quality in line with laws and regulations, diminish eutrophication of inland waters and ensure quality of water supply and sanitation services. In order to meet those goals further implementation of measures to reduce surface water pollution with waste water and dangerous substances is needed.

Sewage sludge management as part of urban waste water management is responsibility of local authority.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

According to the laws and regulation of Latvia discharge of sludge from waste water into the environment is prohibited. An operator of waste water treatment plant shall ensure useful utilisation of sewage sludge (including the use of sludge from waste water in the fertilisation of the soil and improvement of the territories). A permit shall be received for the disposal of sewage sludge. Installations for the disposal of sewage sludge shall be set up in such a way that they decrease the adverse effect of sewage sludge on the environment. The operator has the right to agree with other operators regarding the collection and disposal of sewage sludge at the places of deposition of other treatment plants.

Informative materials are available on sewage sludge usage in agriculture, afforestation or as compost in greening etc.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

According to the national statistic 1/3 to half of the produced sewage sludge are used in agriculture or as compost in greening. The rest part holds in wastewater treatment plant or is stored in waste deposit area.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

There is no need to revise the target or the target date for the moment.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

XIII. QUALITY OF WASTEWATER USED FOR IRRIGATION PURPOSES
(ART. 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (i), second part)

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

Latvia has sufficient amount of surface and groundwater resources therefore waste water is not used for irrigation purposes.

XIV. QUALITY OF WATERS USED AS SOURCES FOR DRINKING WATER (ART. 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (j), first part)

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

Latvia is obliged to reach completely the requirements set by EU Water Framework Directive with respect to surface and groundwater quality in 2015, having at least good water quality in all water bodies or water objects set in accordance with this directive.

Groundwater is the main source of drinking water supply in Latvia covering about of 78 % of water supplied. The remaining ~22 % is surface water abstracted from Rīga water reservoir located on the River Daugava and intended for water preparation to be supplied for part of capital city Rīga.

National Environmental Policy Plan 2004-2008

Latvia has sufficient underground water resources to provide quality potable water. Artesian waters are usually used for central water supply, while shallow groundwater is used in farmsteads and small settlements. In Riga water infiltrated artificially from the Baltezers Lake and water of the Daugava River taken from the Riga hydroelectric station and processed at the Daugava purification plant is also used. Quality of water taken from the Daugava River is already dependent on transboundary pollution, however. Latvian underground waters are characterised by higher contents of iron and lower contents of fluoric compounds as well as high water hardness and concentration of sulphates. Underground water pollution has been found in separate places, however, e.g. near the sulphuric acid tar dump site in Inčukalns, liquid industrial dump site in Olaine, near oil bases, in the territory of military aerodromes of the former USSR in Rumbula and Lielvārde, as well as in the territory of the Riga Port and Liepāja Naval Port. Improvement works have been partially carried out in a majority of these objects to prevent the pollution from further spreading.

As main problems associated to groundwater the following should be mentioned: risk of pollution of underground waters as a result of use of unregistered bores and abandoned bores, irregular control in places where pollution of underground waters is found and risk of pollution of ground water in the decentralised system (wells of low depth) of potable water supply. With regard to surface water foreseen for the drinking water supply risk of pollution of the Daugava River with respect to potable water supply in Riga is stressed.

The policy goals set are improvement of the quality of underground and surface waters, to prevent further pollution thereof and to gradually reduce the current level of pollution as well as improvement of international co-operation with respect to transboundary river basins in order to ensure joint use of water resources and to reduce the pollution arriving in Latvia.

Basic Statements of Environmental Policy 2009-2015

Naturally available resources of underground freshwater are approximately 1.4 million cu. m. per day which is 4 times higher than the current overall output of underground water for water supply needs. Mainly these are Devonian artesian waters being well protected against pollution but again

naturally higher contents of iron, sulphates, manganese, ammonium and sometimes chlorides should be stressed.

The main problems associated with groundwater quality are the possible point source pollution caused by big plants, polluted sites and landfills near the abstraction locations of drinking water. But diffuse pollution from settlements and agricultural lands entering shallow groundwater shall be mentioned, as well. In some places (Liepāja, Rīga, Jūrmala) intrusion of marine water into the groundwater horizons should be underlined. Still use of unregistered bores and abandoned ones pose risk to groundwater pollution.

The main policy goal is to ensure compliance of water quality according to standards. The proportion of water bodies set according to Water Framework Directive reaching at least good water quality shall increase from 38 % in 2008 to 88 % in 2015. Elaboration of river basin management plans should play the main role in integrated management of water resources.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

A number of legal actions have been taken. Water Management Law (2002) sets the general framework for integrated water management including insurance of quality of surface and groundwater. Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 858 on typology of surface water bodies, classification, quality elements and procedures for identification of anthropogenic loads (2004) set the rules for typology of surface water bodies and principles of their classification according to ecological quality. Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr 118 regarding the quality of surface waters and groundwaters (2002) adopt the related water quality standards. Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr 92 on requirements regarding monitoring of surface water, groundwater and protected areas and regarding development of programmes for the monitoring (2004) set the content and requirements for all water monitoring programmes. Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr 857 regarding procedures for ascertaining of groundwater resources and criteria of quality (2004) adopt procedures for ascertaining of groundwater resources, the classes of the groundwater bodies and the good and poor chemical quality criteria of the groundwater bodies, as well. Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 43 on methodology for setting of protected zones around water abstraction sites (2004) says how to set appropriate protection areas both around surface water and groundwater abstraction sites to eliminate both local source pollution and drinking water pollution. The protected zones are supervised by Health Inspectorate.

The river basin management plans according to Water framework directive were adopted in the late 2009. The Latvian territory is divided into 16 underground water bodies, 11 of them being transboundary.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

Rīga water reservoir serving as a source of drinking water abstraction for part of capital city Rīga has shown the improvement of general ecological water quality from medium quality (class 3) in 2007-2008 to good quality (class 2) in 2009. The quantitative status and chemical quality of groundwater bodies during the last 5 year period is generally good showing quality corresponding to natural circumstances of the particular region. Some minor problems have been determined in Lielupe river basin where in shallow groundwater (one water body) elevated nitrogen concentrations are detected due to diffuse pollution entering from agricultural lands.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

There is no need to revise the target or the target date for the moment.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

XV. QUALITY OF WATERS USED FOR BATHING (ART. 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (j), second part)

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

Latvia is obliged to reach completely the requirements set by EU directive Directive 2006/7/EC on management of quality of bathing waters by the 2015 – all bathing waters shall qualify at least as sufficient quality waters.

National Environmental Policy Plan 2004-2008

3.7 per cent of the territory of the country is covered by surface waters consisting of more than 12 thousand rivers and streams (including nearly eight hundred rivers with length exceeding 10 km), more than three thousand lakes and artificial watercourses (including approximately nine hundred with length exceeding 10 ha). The coastal sea line covers a bit more than 500 km. Lakes and rivers and the sea are favourite recreation spots with local residents and tourists. Sand beaches give excellent possibilities for bathing. There are about forty official swimming places on the shore of the Baltic Sea and the Gulf of Riga in Latvia, of which four (in Liepāja, Ventspils, Jūrmala) have been awarded the Blue Flag, an eco-label of the global Foundation for Environmental Education, awarded by the Blue Flag Campaign.

In the swimming season water quality in swimming places was monitored two times a week. Water quality in these swimming places generally met regulatory microbiological and chemical requirements, however some problems were indicated with failure of bathing grounds to conform to hygienic and bathing water quality requirements. Lack of joint planning and uniform requirements on the river drainage basin or district level was stressed, as well. Eutrophication of both Gulf of Riga and lakes` water contributes to the possible propagation of blue green algae. The quality of bathing waters can be influenced by environmental discharge of untreated and insufficiently treated sewage. No water monitoring activities were carried out in unofficial swimming places, which abound in large numbers, due to the lack of adequate financing.

As one of the goals set the necessity to develop river basin management plans was underlined. It was foreseen that public swimming places shall be registered and regular control shall be exercised over the quality of swimming waters.

Basic Statements of Environmental Policy 2009-2015

Taking into account both limit values and target values for microbiological parameters set by “old” bathing water directive 76/160/EEC, approximately 21 % of bathing sites were characterized as not corresponding to requirements of acceptable water quality in 2007 with respect to long-term view. In 2009 this proportion was reduced to 14 % (taking account of E. coli parameter only). Each bathing season a couple of lakes` bathing sites are closed for some time due to mass development of blue green algae signaling that the overall ecological quality of these lakes is bad owing mainly to eutrophication. The eutrophication process is caused both by natural as anthropogenic factors and contributes to the possible propagation of blue green algae.

The main goal set is to ensure safe water quality with regard to human health. The target set for bathing water states that the amount of not acceptable water samples shall be reduced from 14 % in 2008 to 12 % in 2015. One of the measures foreseen in order to reach acceptable bathing water quality is to promote awarding of international “blue flag” certificate to bathing sites.

Action program for pollution reduction and quality assurance of priority fish-waters and bathing waters (2004)

The main goal is to ensure bathing water quality according to quality standards and to reduce pollution of bathing waters. It is stressed that the main factor influencing bathing water quality is discharge of wastewaters into natural waters, however diffuse pollution originated from fertilizers applied on agricultural lands and transboundary pollution is mentioned, as well. So, the measures dedicated to improve bathing water quality indirectly relates to measures for improvement of wastewater treatment, promotion of good agricultural practice and transboundary cooperation. The action program anticipates including measures for improvement of bathing water quality into the river basin management plans elaborated according to Water framework directive. As a significant gap the lack of appropriate monitoring in inland waters was underlined. It is concluded that local municipalities should be involved in order to provide timely information on the quality of bathing waters to the public. The tasks envisaged include assessment of pollution sources influencing bathing water quality and optimization of monitoring system. It is set that the action program will be fulfilled until 2020.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

Since 2005 bathing water monitoring is performed at 276 sites including both marine coastal and inland waters significantly increasing the number of places monitored compared to 2004 when 32 marine bathing places were surveyed only. Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 523 on the monitoring of bathing waters, quality assurance and requirements for public information have been adopted in 2008 transposing requirements of the Directive 2006/7/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 February 2006 concerning the management of bathing water quality and repealing Directive 76/160/EEC into national legislation. Besides, a number of additional legal acts regulate the requirements for standards of hygiene at bathing sites dedicated to improve local bathing water quality. Information on bathing water quality is regularly provided to local municipalities and to the public through mass media and internet. The river basin management plans according to Water framework directive were adopted in the late 2009, covering aspects of bathing water management, as well.

Since 1998 Latvia participates in the program of international eco-certificates “Blue Flags” awarded to voluntary bathing places ensuring compliance with a 29 criteria associated with water quality, safety, information and environmental education. Since 2004 a national eco-certificate for bathing places is awarded helping interested owners of bathing places to prepare to gain the international “Blue Flags” certificate. A special national jury has been established for consideration of applications for awarding of mentioned certificates and comprising participants from different governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations.

The national system of operational warning about cases when bathing is limited or prohibited is established.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

The number of bathing sites monitored increased from 32 marine sites in 2004 to 276 in 2005 and onward including inland waters. In long-term perspective taking into account both microbiological limit values and target values the overall quality of bathing places is characterized as being acceptable in 79-86 % of them during 2007-2009, in other words, having no possible considerable risks to human health in long term view. The total number of “bad samples” forcing to limit or prohibit bathing temporary is stable and fluctuates from 3,2 % to 3,6 % in 2008-2009. No cases of outbreaks of infectious diseases related to bathing waters being in bad quality are registered in the last decade.

The number of bathing places awarded with a “Blue Flags`” certificate has gradually reached 9 bathing sites in 2009 bathing season.

The complete assessment of bathing water quality according to EU Directive 2006/7/EC on management of quality of bathing waters will be possible after 2011 when the data from four consecutive bathing seasons will be compiled according to criteria set by the directive in question.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

There is no need to revise the target or the target date for the moment.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

**XVI. QUALITY OF WATERS USED FOR AQUACULTURE OR FOR THE
PRODUCTION OR HARVESTING SHELLFISH
(ART. 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (j), third part)**

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

Climatic conditions of Latvia do not allow production or harvesting of shellfish.

XVII. APPLICATION OF RECOGNIZED GOOD PRACTICE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF ENCLOSED WATERS GENERALLY AVAILABLE FOR BATHING (ART. 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (k))

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

Latvia is obliged to reach completely the requirements set by EU directive Directive 2006/7/EC on management of quality of bathing waters by the 2015 – all bathing waters shall qualify at least as sufficient quality waters.

The Directive 2006/7/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 February 2006 concerning the management of bathing water quality and repealing Directive 76/160/EEC sets completely new criteria for bathing water quality in the light of advanced scientific knowledge. Only two microbiological parameters – E.coli and intestinal enterococci must be monitored.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

Latvia started to implement the Directive 2006/7/EC in 2008. Regulations of the Cabinet of Ministers Nr. 523 on the monitoring of bathing waters, quality assurance and requirements for public information have been adopted in 2008 transposing requirements of the Directive 2006/7/EC into national legislation.

Information on bathing water quality is regularly provided to local municipalities and to the public through mass media and internet. The river basin management plans according to Water framework directive were adopted in the late 2009, covering aspects of bathing water management, as well.

Since 1998 Latvia participates in the program of international eco-certificates “Blue Flags” awarded to voluntary bathing places ensuring compliance with a 29 criteria associated with water quality, safety, information and environmental education. New water quality criteria have been elaborated by the international jury taking into account the criteria set by the directive 2006/7/EC. The national “Blue Flags” jury is going to implement these criteria after 2010 bathing season.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

The complete assessment of bathing water quality according to EU Directive 2006/7/EC on management of quality of bathing waters will be possible after 2011 when the data from four consecutive bathing seasons will be compiled according to criteria set by the directive in question.

Information on bathing water quality is regularly provided to local municipalities and to the public through mass media and internet. Public is involved in the management of bathing water quality having possibility to suggest bathing sites to be monitored and to submit its own observations to the state competent authority.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

There is no need to revise the target or the target date for the moment.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

XVIII. IDENTIFICATION AND REMEDIATION OF PARTICULARLY CONTAMINATED SITES (ART. 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (I))

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

One of the Basic Statements` of Environmental Policy 2009-2015 goals is to ensure sustainable usage and protection of land resources. In order to meet this goal pollution distribution from contaminated sites should be limited and remediation should be carried out.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

National regulations prohibits introduction of polluting substances into groundwater and realization of other non authorized polluting activities. Person who is responsible for the accident when pollution is released to the environment should cover costs of the damage and make remediation of contaminated site according to the "pollutant pays" principle.

Information on contaminated sites are gathered and aggregated in the register of contaminated and potentially contaminated sites. Cohesion Fund and ERAF finances are available for investigation and remediation of contaminated sites.

The big part of contaminated sites makes historical contaminated sites where remediation is responsibility of national, local authority or private owner. There are a lot of contaminated or potentially contaminated sites with are heritage from Soviet Union army. Environment protection in Soviet Union was not considered a lot of such contaminated sites were left. Mainly these sites are estimated and within existing financial resources amount and specifics of pollution are explored and remediation planned. Remediation process is very costly therefore finances of European funds are attracted to investigate and remediate contaminated sites. European funds couldn't be used for remediation of contaminated sites of private owner.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

There are 3562 contaminated or potentially contaminated sites included in the register of contaminated and potentially contaminated sites, 242 are recognized as contaminated sites. A lot of investigation projects are released to prepare projects of remediation and choose best available technologies. Remediation of soil and groundwater were realized in Rumbula and Lielvarde military aerodromes, military base Kaugurmuiza and industrial territory of Milgravis etc. 270 dumpsites were remediated with support of Cohesion Fund and ERAF. Detailed projects of remediation are produced for implementation in the planning period 2007-2013.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

There is no need to revise the target or the target date for the moment.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

XIX. EFFECTIVENESS OF SYSTEMS FOR THE MANAGEMENT, DEVELOPMENT, PROTECTION AND USE OF WATER RESOURCES (ART. 6, PARAGRAPH 2 (m))

For each target set in this area:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether the target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant. Also include information on the background and justification for the adoption of such target.

One of the Basic Statements` of Environmental Policy 2009-2015 goals is to ensure water quality in line with laws and regulations, diminish eutrophication of inland waters and ensure quality of water supply and sanitation services. In order to meet those goals further implementation of measures to reduce surface water pollution with waste water and dangerous substances is needed.

Joining Europe Community Latvia undertake to fulfil requirements of its legislation inter alia Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy.

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

Daugava, Gauja, Lielupe and Venta river basin management plans are developed and approved by the Minister of Environment to facilitate water management and improve water quality. River basin management plans contains water quality objectives and measures for improvement and protection of water quality. Management of water resources are organized in national, regional (river basin) as well as local (water body) level.

Programme of measures of the river basin management plan contains basic measures which results from national and EU regulations and supplementary measures for improvement of water quality. Attraction of EU funds, national, local and private finances is needed to implement these measures and improve water quality.

Interactive events like workshops, conferences, exhibitions etc. with involvement of different stakeholders are organized to support better management and protection of water resources. Informative campaigns are organized to raise awareness among general public to the water protection and management.

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

There were lack of joint planning and uniform requirements on the river drainage basin or district level. Now planning and management of water resources are organized on the river basin level and four river basin management plans are developed and approved.

Consulting board for each river basin district is created where various stakeholders involve in the process of planning and management of water resources.

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

There is no need to revise the target or the target date for the moment.

5. If you have not set a target in this area, please explain why.

XX. ADDITIONAL NATIONAL OR LOCAL SPECIFIC TARGETS

In case additional targets have been set, for each target:

1. Describe the target, target date and baseline conditions. Please include information on whether target is national or local, and intermediate targets as relevant.

N/A

2. Briefly describe the actions taken (e.g. legal/regulatory, financial/economic and informational/ educational and management measures) to reach the target and, if applicable, the difficulties and challenges encountered.

N/A

3. Briefly assess the progress achieved towards the target.

N/A

4. In the review of progress achieved towards the target, has it appeared that the target and target date need to be revised, e.g. in the light of scientific and technical knowledge? If so, and if the revised target and targets date have already been adopted, please describe them.

N/A

PART FOUR: OVERALL EVALUATION OF PROGRESS ACHIEVED IN IMPLEMENTING THE PROTOCOL

This part of the summary report shall provide an analysis and synthesis of the status of implementation of the Protocol. Such an overall evaluation should not only be based on the issues touched upon in the previous parts, but should also include, as far as is possible, a succinct overview of implementation of: article 9 on public awareness, education, training, research and development and information; article 10 on public participation; article 11 on international cooperation; article 12 on joint and coordinated international action; article 13 on cooperation in relation to transboundary waters; and article 14 on international support for national action.

This analysis or synthesis should provide a succinct overview of the status, trends and threats, sufficient to inform decision makers, rather than an exhaustive assessment of these issues. It should provide an important basis for planning and decision-making as well as for the revision of the targets set, as needed.

River basin management plans shall be the main tool for implementation of integrated water management in Latvia according to the Protocol and related EU legislation. Success of integrated measures taken will be possible to assess by the year 2015 only being the deadline for a number of key issues linked both for drinking and bathing water quality as well as in relation to general surface and groundwater quality. For the moment there is no need to change or revise the set targets or its deadlines. It should be stressed that economic crisis touching many countries worldwide can influence the possibility to reach the set goals and targets due to lack of appropriate financing being a serious problem for Latvia, too.

As regards the international cooperation on transboundary waters, Latvia has signed a number of international bilateral agreements with neighbor countries sharing common surface and groundwater bodies:

With Lithuania:

- *Agreement between the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia and the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania on Management of Nature Conservation in Transboundary Context (signed on 24 May 2001)*
- *Technical Protocol between the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia and the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania on Exchange of Information on Emergency Ecological Situations (signed on 24 May 2001)*
- *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on early notification of nuclear accidents, Exchange of information and cooperation in the field of nuclear safety and radiation protection (signed on 3 October 2003)*
- *Technical protocol between the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Latvia and the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Lithuania on Cooperation in Managing the International River Basin Districts (signed on 24 October 2003)*

With Belarus:

- *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Belarus on Cooperation in the field of environmental protection (signed on 21 February 1994)*

- *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Belarus on basic principles for transboundary cooperation (signed on 16 May 1998)*

With Estonia:

- *Agreement among the Government of the Republic of Latvia, the Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on Cooperation in the field of environmental protection (signed on 21 July 1995)*
- *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Latvia and the Government of the Republic of Estonia on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (signed on 14 March 1997)*
- *Agreement between the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia and the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia on Management of Nature Conservation in Transboundary Context (signed on 27 January 2000)*
- *Agreement between the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Latvia and the Ministry of the Environment of the Republic of Estonia on co-operation in protection and sustainable use of transboundary water courses (signed on 24 October 2003)*

As regards informing and public involvement and participation in water management issues, public is regularly informed about the general quality both of drinking water and bathing water quality by means of mass media periodically covering “hot” issues as well as by yearly reports freely available on internet homepage of competent authority. Public is involved in the management of bathing water quality having possibility to suggest bathing sites to be monitored and to submit its own observations to the state competent authority.

PART FIVE: INFORMATION ON THE PERSON SUBMITTING THE REPORT

The following report is submitted on behalf of ___ ___ Ministry of Health of The Republic of Latvia Department of Health Policy Planning, Head of the Division of Coordination for Senior Specialists and Strategic Council. [name of the Party or the Signatory] in accordance with article 7 of the Protocol on Water and Health.

Name of officer responsible for submitting the national report:
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Name and address of national authority:
Ministry of Health of The Republic of Latvia
Brivibas street 72, Riga, LV-1011, Latvia

Signature:

Date:

Submission

Parties are required to submit their summary reports to the joint secretariat, using the format outlined in these guidelines, by **31 March 2010**. Submission of the reports ahead of this deadline is encouraged, as this would help facilitate the preparation of analyses and syntheses to be made available to the second meeting of the Parties.

Parties are requested to submit, to the two addresses below, an original signed copy by post and an electronic copy either on a diskette or CD-ROM or by e-mail. Electronic copies should be available in word processing software, and any graphic elements should be provided in separate files.

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