

1. Country/Organization:

Please indicate your name, organization and country.

Bohumir Dusek, Ministry of the Environment, Czech Republic

2. Title of the action committed to in 2011 (see the annex)

Guarantee of minimum environmental flow in streams

3. Overview of progress made

(a) *Has the action been implemented?*

Yes / In progress / No

The minimum environmental flow in streams is formulated, in the national legislation in the Act No 254/2001 Coll. on Water and Amendments to Some Acts (The Water Act) as amended, as "Minimum Residual Flow".

Minimum residual flow is such flow of surface water, which still allows for general surface water use and for ecological functions of the watercourse.

The water authority will stipulate the minimum residual flow when issuing permission for water use, which may result in reduction of the watercourse flow.

(b) *What challenges were encountered during the implementation of the action? What lessons were learned?*

The methodological guideline, dealing with the methods of determining the Minimum Residual Flow in watercourses and water reservoirs has been processed as well as the methodological guideline, dealing with the ways of measuring and measuring points of Minimum Residual Flow.

The Minimum Residual Flow values were set considering the hydrological variability and their impact on the biological components, particularly fish and macrozoobenthos.

The methodology serves as a background for Government Order processing, which will be used as a tool for water authorities in issuing the permission for water use. Completion of this regulation is expected by the end of 2013.

The water authority will stipulate the Minimum Residual Flow differently for water use which significantly changing the hydrological regime of the watercourse and for water use which does not significantly changing the hydrological regime of the watercourse.

(c) *What future steps, if any, are planned in relation to the action implementation/follow up?*

Complete and approve the upcoming Government Order for Minimum Residual Flow determination.

To pay attention to observance of permitted water uses and minimum flows while using various methods of water management.

4. Usefulness of the Astana Water Action

Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the following statements and provide an explanation, as appropriate.

(a) *The Astana Water Action was useful to strengthen political support related to sustainable water management issues:*

strongly agree / somewhat agree / somewhat disagree / strongly disagree

(b) *The Astana Water Action has helped my country to comply with its international obligations:*

strongly agree / somewhat agree / somewhat disagree / strongly disagree

(c) *Would your country be interested in continuing to submit and monitor new actions within the AWA framework in the future?*

Yes / No