

REC Statement at MoP-2 PRTR Protocol

3 (c) Communication tools and materials

The REC, sharing the lessons from the earlier mentioned projects, underlines that when developing electronic tools such as web portals, linkages should be ensured to the PRTR databases showing real PRTR data online, using also GIS or other maps for the presentation of information, rather than providing static data in form of documents, tables or lists. In the mentioned project funded by Germany, the web portal developed in the FYR of Macedonia already includes such links and presents the available data at the Ministry, establishing a link with the PRTR database which is being populated with data as the reporting procedure is progressing this year. In Serbia the web portal is still being finalized as the historic data is being exported to the PRTR database from other databases. It is important to emphasize that the information on the web portals should be presented in a user-friendly and easily understandable way. The involvement of environmental and health experts could be useful as well as discussions with the representatives of the NGOs and operators what information could be of most interest to the public, and what form of presentation could work best. For example, information about the potential health effects of the different substances could be among the relevant information which should be provided as public interest information in an easily understandable way.