

### EU DRINKING WATER DIRECTIVE IN NORTH MACEDONIA

Natasha Dokovska

Journalists for Human Rights

6th meeting of the Expert Group on Equitable access to water and sanitation

### HAS THE ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM FOR ENSURING DELIVERY OF SAFE DRINKING WATER (DW) BEEN DEFINED?

- Start with proposals to update/revised the Rulebook of Drinking Water, Spring Water and Bottled Water Safety (Official Gazette of RM No. 46/08) (leading role has Food and Veterinary Agency and PWSE, as well other stakeholders)
- The new Rulebook will be fully harmonized with the Revised EU Directive

# HAS A DRINKING WATER MONITORING PROGRAMME BEEN INTRODUCED?

- Regular monitoring is done through the IPH and network of CPHs (10) with their laboratories in the Republic of N.Macedonia
- There are **six accredited laboratory** in the IPH, and in the CPHs in Tetovo, Kochani, Kumanovi, Bitola and Skopje (ISO 17025), and 5 certified by the Ministry of Health (in process of accreditation for ISO 17025). They are sufficient to handle all the analyses needed under the Directive 98/83. There is a accredited laboratory under the premises of the Public Water Supply Enterprise "Vodovod i kanalizacija"-Skopje and they perform laboratory investigations from the water supplying network in Skopje, according to the Law on Accreditation
- Parameters totally comply with the Directive ones
- Sampling frequency totally comply with DWD

## IS THE FAILURE TO MEET A DRINKING WATER STANDARD IMMEDIATELY INVESTIGATED?

- PWSE are obliged to take remedial measures as soon as possible when failure occurs
- If there are improper results of DW, the water consumption is prohibited by notice from the CPHs/IPH to the Food and Veterinary Agency
- Consumers are informed promptly by the CPHs/IPH and Food and Veterinary Agency related to the possible health risk, though public media and by PWSE
- RWS Articles 44, 46, 48 explain the way of fulfilling the obligations of relevant authorities
- Consumers are informed by Food and Veterinary Agency in cooperation with CPHs/IPH through the Public Media with assistance of Crisis Management Center

#### Thank you