

## **Submission report**

The document “Draft Bill amending Act No. 326/2005 Coll. on Forests as amended and on Amendments to Certain Acts” is submitted by the Forestry and Wood Processing Section under the plan of legislative tasks of the Slovak Government for 2013.

The aim of the submitted bill is to harmonize the wording of the Act with the requirements of forest owners, forest managers and state forest management authorities, to specify and adjust some concepts and procedures in the application of the Forest Act and to remove ambiguities in its application. The scope of the proposed amendments does not affect the basic philosophy of the original Forest Act, but only specifies and adjusts the individual provisions.

The submitted bill also includes a bill to amend Act No. 145/1995 Coll. on Administrative Fees, as amended, Act No. 455/1991 Coll. on Trade Licensing (Trade Licensing Act), as amended, and Act No. 138/2010 Coll. on Forest Reproductive Material, as amended, in order to harmonize certain provisions, or unify the wording of the cited Acts with the proposed amendment to the Forest Act.

The assessment of the bill impacts on the public administration budget, business environment, social impacts, environment and social informatization is published in the clause on selected impacts.

The bill is in accordance with the Constitution of the Slovak Republic, generally binding legal regulations and international treaties by which the Slovak Republic is bound.

The document was subject to the comment procedure, the evaluation of which is included in the document. The conflict was not resolved in the comment procedure with the Government Plenipotentiary for Civil Society in two areas, namely the complete deletion of the provision on the consent of the forest land owner to organize events on their land, which was regulated only by reference to another Act and also the definition of the decision-making party, which is regulated by the Act on Administrative Procedure and it was not possible to resolve the conflict with the representatives of the public concerning the consent of the forest land owner with entry on its land.

The submitted bill was discussed by the Legislative Council of the Slovak Republic, the comments of which are included in the document.