Phosphates in detergents: Latest developments in the Danube River Basin

Joachim Heidemeier, ICPDR Pressures&Measures Expert Group

The Danube River Protection Convention 1994

Preamble of the Convention

...«urgent need for strengthened domestic and international measures to prevent, control and reduce significant adverse transboundary impact from the release of hazardous substances and of nutrients into the aquatic environment«...
The Danube River Protection Convention 1994

MoU ICPDR Black Sea (2001)

- The long-term goal in the wider Black Sea Basin is to take measures to reduce the loads of nutrients and hazardous substances discharged to such levels necessary to permit Black Sea ecosystems to recover to conditions similar to those observed in the 1960s.

- As an intermediate goal, urgent measures should be taken in the wider Black Sea Basin in order to avoid that the loads of nutrients and hazardous substances discharged into the Seas exceed those that existed in the mid 1990s.

P&M Expert Group

Phospates in Detergents
The current situation

Danube River Basin District: Risk of failure to reach the Environmental Objectives - Nutrient Pollution

LEGEND
- Danube River Basin District (DRBD)
- Danube
- Tributaries (river basins > 4,000 km², not classified)
- Lakes (surface area > 100 km², not classified)
- Black Sea Coastal Catchments
- Surface Water Bodies:
  - Water body at risk
  - Water body possibly at risk
  - Water body not at risk
- No data provided by country
- Canals
- National borders

Scale: 1:4,500,000
(1 cm = 14 km - Approximate paper format)

Data for Serbia and Montenegro is preliminary.

Prepared by FLUVIUS, Vienna
June 2005; The production of this map was financially supported by
Product of ICPDR, Vienna

P&M Expert Group
Phosphates in Detergents

This product includes geographical data licensed from European National Mapping Agencies. Enviromap® v2.0 (EuroBodemap) was used as the base geographic layer for DE, AT, CZ, IT, SI and HR. The data for the other countries is based on VMAP Level 0 data from NIMA. The outer border of the DRBD is based on national information from DE, AT, CH, CZ, SK, SI, HR, BA, CS, BG, RO, UA and MD. For PL, AL, MK and IT the data of the European Commission (Joint Research Centre) was used.

Prepared by P&M Expert Group, Vienna, June 2005. The production of this map was financially supported by ICPDR, Vienna.
preparation of action programs
analyses of sources and measures

Joint action program 2001

... phosphate free detergents can to a significant extent reduce the phosphate load in surface waters.

... The ICPDR shall take the initiative to approach the detergent industry an get its commitment to foster the use of phosphate free detergents ....
Objectives of the workshop

- sum up the present knowledge
- contribution of phosphates in detergents
- different regulatory approaches
- collect arguments of the stakeholders (water & chemicals management, science, detergent industry and »green« NGOs)

= enable the ICPDR to propose a strategy for inclusion in the POM