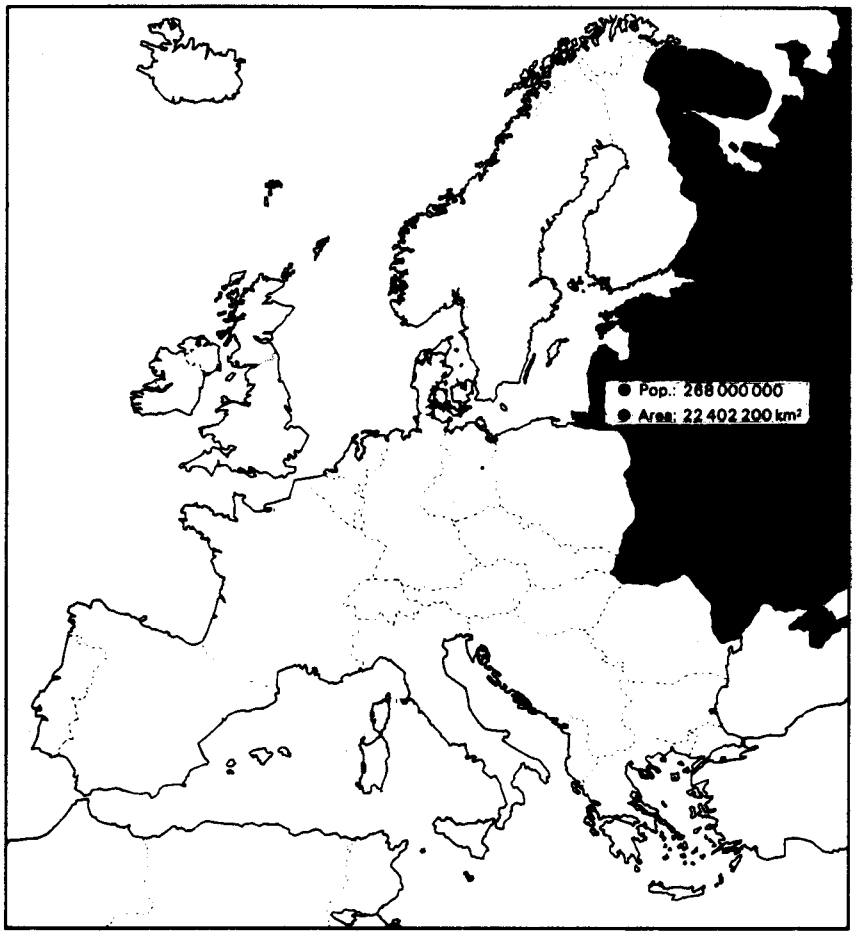


USSR

The USSR, which stretches from the Baltic Sea in the west to the Pacific Ocean in the east, and extends 4800 km from north to south, is the largest country in the world. Its western frontier runs from the Arctic Ocean in the north to the Black Sea in the south. The country is bordered in the west by Czechoslovakia, Finland, Hungary, Norway, Poland and Romania, in the south by Afghanistan, China, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mongolia and Turkey, and in the east by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Government and Basic Legislation

Under the 1977 Constitution, the USSR is a single federal State comprising 15 Union republics of equal status. Some of the Union republics contain autonomous republics, regions (*oblasts*) and *okrugs*. For example, the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR) has 16 autonomous republics and 5 autonomous *oblasts*.

The highest legislative organ is the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, which consists of two equal chambers, the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities. At a joint session the members elect the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet as the permanent working body. The Chairman of the Presidium is Head of State. The Supreme Soviet appoints the Council of Ministers, headed by a Chairman, which forms the supreme executive and administrative organ of state authority and is responsible to the Supreme Soviet.

Each of the Union republics has its own constitution and administrative and territorial structure, with a single-chamber Supreme Soviet and a Council of Ministers that deals with matters coming within the jurisdiction of a Union republic. The Supreme Soviets of the USSR and of the Union and autonomous republics are elected for a period of five years.

The 15 Union republics consist of 120 *oblasts*, 20 autonomous republics, 6 territories (*krajs*), 8 autonomous *oblasts* and 10 national *okrugs*. These are divided into 3117 districts (*rayons*). There are 2040 towns, 41 249 rural councils and 3784 urban-type settlements. Self-government is exercised in these administrative areas. Although they differ considerably in population and the area they cover, their structures, organization and responsibilities are all similar.

The local councils, comprising deputies elected every 2½ years, constitute the organs of state authority in these administrative units. The rights and responsibilities of the councils are prescribed by law. Within the limits of their powers, the local councils deal with matters of local importance, implement the decisions of higher state organs, take part in discussions on subjects of concern at the republic and Union levels, and put forward their own proposals.

Each council elects an executive committee from among the deputies. This committee is the executive and administrative organ of the council and implements its decisions. Each of the larger executive committees has departments and divisions that exercise direct control over the various services in a given area such as health, social security and education.

The USSR has a state system of health care. State policy for the protection of the health of the people was laid down in the Fundamental Principles of Health Legislation of the USSR and the Union republics, adopted by the Supreme Soviet of the USSR on 19 December 1969 (*IDHL*, **21**: 407). In accordance with this legislation, the health care of the population is an obligation of all state agencies, undertakings, institutions and

organizations. Their powers in respect of the health care of the population are determined by the legislation of the USSR and of the Union republics.

The Law of 19 December 1969 contains provisions relating to a wide range of environmental health subjects, including the elimination and prevention of environmental pollution. The Law specifically mentions measures that must be taken to prevent pollution of the atmosphere, bodies of water, groundwater and soil, and to suppress noise. It also provides for the sanitary surveillance of radioactive and poisonous substances, including pesticides for plant protection.

Although the Ministry of Health is the principal ministry for most aspects of environmental pollution, collaboration with other ministries at several governmental levels (see the Section on water), as well as inputs from a number of specialized commissions, is usually required.

The current regulations for the sanitary service were laid down in Decree No. 361 of 31 May 1968 of the Council of Ministers, which states that the sanitary and epidemiological service shall be directed by:

— the Chief State Medical Officer of Health of the USSR; and

— the chief state medical officers of health of the Union republics, the autonomous republics, *krajs,* regions, *okrugs,* towns, municipal and rural districts, rivers, ports and water transport sections.

The sanitary and epidemiological stations (*sanepids*) form the basic unit of the service in republics, regions, districts, towns, marine and river basins, and large industrial plants. These stations supervise measures relating to the health protection of the environment, and the prevention of communicable and occupational diseases. Their duties include, in addition to the usual medical laboratory services, measurements of pollutants in air and water, vibration, noise and radiation. The *sanepid* stations are the principal source of environmental measurements and provide the base for all inspection of environmental pollution. There are more than 4000 such stations, each equipped with its own hygiene and bacteriological laboratory and staffed by specialists in various disciplines such as public health physicians, epidemiologists, bacteriologists, biologists and engineers. These experts specialize in various branches of hygiene and environmental pollution. The chief physician of a *sanepid* is the deputy chief state medical officer of health of the corresponding territorial unit.

Each *sanepid* has an advisory council that operates according to a plan approved by the chief medical officer of health of the district in which the *sanepid* is based. The principal task of the council is to assist the *sanepid* to resolve problems relating to the improvement of its services. The councils are composed of experienced public health workers, together with specialists from establishments for medical treatment and prophylaxis, scientific research institutions, industry, trade unions, and social organizations.

Approval of environmental standards and rules that apply throughout the USSR lies with the Ministry of Health of the USSR.

The Ministry of Health of the USSR and the ministries of health of the Union republics examine and reach agreement on proposed standards and technical requirements relating to the quality of drinking-water and water used for other purposes, sewage treatment and levels of pollutants in discharges, air pollution, radioactivity, other radiation and noise, in addition to medical and food standards. These standards and technical requirements are subject to ratification by the Ministry of Health of the USSR, or by the ministries of health of the Union republics acting on its behalf.

Water

The Fundamental Principles of Water Legislation of the USSR and of the Union republics are presented in the Law of 10 December 1970 (*IDHL,* **23**: 882). The Decree of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Council of Ministers of the USSR on the intensification of nature conservation and the improved utilization of natural resources (1973/2) states that the Ministry of Soil Improvement and Water Economy of the USSR is primarily responsible for the protection of water from pollution, obstruction and depletion. The Ministry of Health of the USSR is called upon to exercise state control over the implementation of measures to prevent the pollution of surface water. The Ministry of Geology is responsible for the control of the prevention of depletion and pollution of subterranean water and controls the state record for water resources. The observance of the rules on the use of water by power stations is supervised by the Ministry of Energetics and Electrification, while the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control, attached to the Council of Ministers of the USSR, organizes a service for the observation and control of the level of water pollution, as well as the supervision of the state record of water resources. The exploitation of mineral water resources is controlled by the State Committee for Science and Technology at the Council of Ministers of the USSR. The State Committee of the Council of Ministers of the USSR for Science is charged with the elaboration, in co-operation with appropriate ministries and agencies, of plans for nature conservation. The USSR State Planning Commission confirms schemes for the integrated use of water and water balances which have Union-wide significance.[a]

All Union republics have enacted water codes. For example, the Law of 30 June 1972 of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic for the control of water pollution (*IDHL,* **26**: 433) requires prior approval for a large number of acts that would be expected to lead to water pollution.

Marine pollution is also the subject of a number of decrees. Decree No. 5590-VIII of 26 February 1974 intensifies previous control measures against the pollution of inland, maritime and territorial waters. Maritime

[a] **Ercman, S.** *European environmental law.* Berne, Bubenberg-Verlag AG, 1977, p. 446.

pilots are responsible for the surveillance of Soviet sea waters and the prevention of oil pollution. The USSR is a signatory to the 1974 Helsinki Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area (*IDHL*, **28**: 121).

Air

The Law approving the Fundamental Principles of Health Legislation, as already mentioned, gives the Minister of Health administrative power to make provision for and apply measures to prevent the pollution of the atmosphere. Other authorities with joint responsibility are: the Ministry of Energetics and Electrification, the Ministry of Chemistry and Processing, the Ministry of Machine Building, the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control, the State Committee for Science and Technology, and the State Planning Commission.

Maximum permissible concentrations of harmful substances in the ambient air of population centres have been given in the List of Standards of Chemicals in Air No. 1892-78, approved on 1 August 1978 by the Deputy Chief Medical Officer of Health of the USSR. At the regional levels proper planning of industrial areas and the establishment of habitation-free zones is relied upon to keep industrial air pollution within allowable limits.

The Law of 25 June 1980 on the protection of the atmosphere (*IDHL*, **31**: 577) lays down framework legislation regarding what must be done to reduce air pollution, and does not assign responsibilities at levels below the Council of Ministers of the USSR and of the Union republics. Existing regulations remain in effect until they are suspended.

Noise

The Law approving the Fundamental Principles of Health Legislation states that the executive committees of local Soviets are required to carry out measures aimed at preventing and suppressing noise in populated areas. Sanitary norms on admissible noise in houses, public buildings and on building sites were issued by the Chief Medical Officer of Health of the USSR as State Standard 12.1-003-76 in 1976.

Solid and Hazardous Waste

The Law approving the Fundamental Principles of Health Legislation assigns responsibility for waste disposal to the local level and gives the agencies of the sanitary and epidemiological service authority to prohibit or temporarily suspend the operation of establishments that by reason of their waste or refuse could have a prejudicial effect on human health.

There is no special law on toxic substances, but control is exercised over all chemical substances at all stages of their life cycles. Permission for the introduction of new substances is given by the Ministry of Health acting

with the State Bureau of Standards and the State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control. The Ministry of Chemistry and Processing also has its own toxicological laboratories.

The use of pesticides in agriculture and the fishing industry is controlled by the Ministry of Health of the USSR and is governed by special documents laying down codes of good practice in agricultural technology. The Ministry of Health of the USSR approves maximum permissible residues for pesticides in food products and methods of determining them. These standards are binding on farms and undertakings and within all ministries and departments. The documents currently in force lay down maximum residue levels for more than 160 pesticides in various food products of vegetable and animal origin.

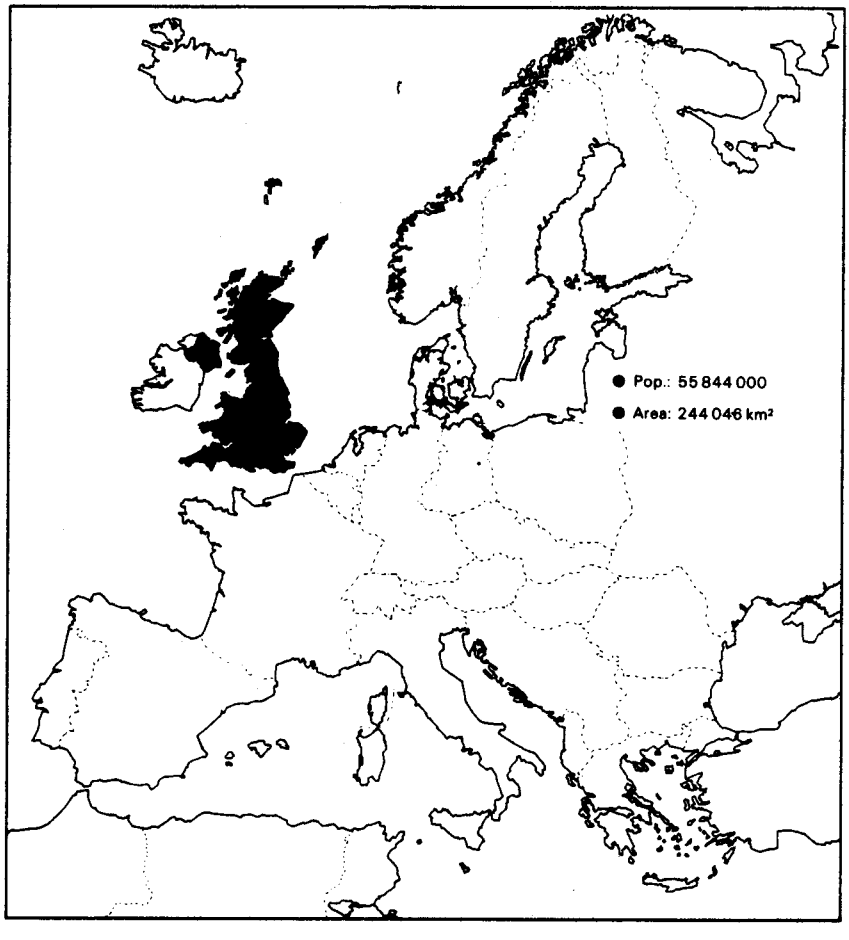
Radiation

Radiation Safety Standards NRB-76 of 1976 replace the standards of 1959, 1962 and 1969. They follow the *Recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection,* ICRP publications No. 6 and 9. The Standards apply both to workers and to individual members of the public; for the public maximum permissible doses are usually one tenth those for workers. Doses slightly in excess of the limit may be tolerated for short periods if there are no medical findings to the contrary. In the event of an accident that contaminates significant areas of the country a commission including the chief medical officer of the area and the safety engineer may set temporary local permissible levels for radiation.

Addresses

Ministry of Health of the USSR
Rahmanovskij pereulok 3
101431 GSP Moscow K-51

Ministry of Agriculture
Orlikov pereulok 1–11
Moscow



United Kingdom

The United Kingdom consists of the island of Great Britain and the north-eastern corner of Ireland, together with a number of islands off the northern coast. Great Britain is divided into England in the south, Wales in the west and Scotland in the north. The climate is temperate. The central counties of England, the Midlands, are heavily industrialized and there is a high population density in the London area.

Government and Basic Legislation

The United Kingdom is a constitutional and hereditary monarchy. The two-chamber Parliament, comprising the House of Commons and the

House of Lords, is the supreme legislative authority. Primary legislation may be initiated in either House; it is usually introduced in the House of Commons, but in any case requires the approval of both Houses. Executive responsibility rests with the Government, headed by the Prime Minister. Many government functions affecting Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland are carried out by the various departments of their respective Secretaries of State.

Local government is carried out by a diversity of local authorities. In England (except London) and Wales there are 53 counties subdivided into 369 districts. The Greater London area is divided into the City and 32 London boroughs. Each county and subdivision has its own elected council. Scotland has 9 regional councils, subdivided into 53 elected district councils and 3 all-purpose island councils. Northern Ireland is divided into 26 districts, each of which has an elected district council. In addition to these elected local councils, there are water authorities in England and Wales that follow river basins, local branches of some ministries such as the Department of Health and Social Security (DHSS), and special inspectorates such as the Alkali and Clean Air Inspectorate under the Health and Safety Executive.

The government of Scotland differs in many details from that in England. Ministries and departments have different names in some cases and their responsibilities and authority are not exactly the same as those of their English counterparts. The laws applying to Wales are more closely integrated with English law. Northern Ireland remained united with England, Wales and Scotland when Ireland (Eire) received its independence. The Assembly of Northern Ireland was dissolved in 1975 because of civil unrest and the province is governed at present by Parliament through the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. Some English departments, including the DHSS and the Department of the Environment (DOE) have their counterparts in Northern Ireland.

The Isle of Man and the Channel Islands are not part of the United Kingdom, but are direct dependencies of the Crown with their own legislative and taxation systems.

The first environmental protection edict is said to have been a prohibition on the burning of coal in London fireplaces at the time of Queen Elizabeth I. This prohibition was soon set aside and the first nationwide air pollution control act was the Alkali Act of 1863. The Public Health Acts of 1848, 1936 *et seq.* now include sections on water and sewage disposal as well as noxious fumes from trade and industry.

The comprehensive Control of Pollution Act, 1974 (*IDHL*, **26**: 627) has major sections dealing with: land, water, noise and air. This Act applies to Scotland as well as to England and Wales. As the various sections of the Act are implemented, earlier conflicting legislation is amended or repealed.

At the central government level most pollution problems are dealt with by the DOE in conjunction, as appropriate, with the Scottish and Welsh Offices. There is also a Department of the Environment in Northern Ireland

(DOE(NI)). The DOE is concerned with the pollution of rivers, lakes and underground water, air pollution, noise (except from motor vehicles and aircraft, and in the workplace) and the disposal of solid and radioactive waste.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is responsible (under the Radioactive Substance Act, 1960) for authorizing the discharge of radioactive waste from major nuclear establishments. The control of emissions and noise from civilian aircraft lies with the Department of Trade. Responsibility for the control of traffic and vehicle noise rests with the Department of Transport, while the Health and Safety Commission, answerable to the Secretary of State for Employment, is responsible for legislation on noise and pollution control. Pesticides are controlled in various ways, the most important being the control over marketing exercised through the Pesticide Safety Precautions Scheme, which is administered jointly by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Health and Safety Executive on behalf of the government departments and agencies responsible for agriculture, health and safety. The Health and Safety Commission has certain responsibilities for pollution control under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act, 1974 (*IDHL*, **26**: 622).

The Secretary of State for the Environment has general responsibility for coordinating the work of the Government on environmental pollution in England. The Secretaries of State for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland are responsible for the overall coordination of pollution control in their respective areas.

To a very large extent the implementation of environmental legislation is left to the competent elected local authorities (county and district councils and water authorities). Each case of pollution is dealt with on its own merits and there is great resistance to the imposition of uniform national standards. The general principles are:

— to make full use of the processes of natural purification inherent in the environment; and

— to make the polluter pay for any additional treatment necessary to protect against excessive levels of noxious substances.

No attempt is made to equalize the costs of pollution control among different areas, but there is a reluctance to implement laws that will lead to great expense for existing installations without allowing them time to adjust to the new requirements.

Planning has always been a local function but the Local Government Planning and Land Act, 1980 reforms overlapping planning functions to simplify regulations and abolish many local controls. The Act is an attempt to speed up the handling of planning applications to encourage new developments.

Water

The present system of water management dates from the Water Act, 1973 (*IDHL*, **25**: 638) which replaced nearly 1500 local bodies who were responsible for various aspects of water, sewage and rivers, with ten regional water authorities in England and Wales. Their boundaries follow river basins, with the exception of parts of the border between England and Scotland. In Scotland the corresponding reorganization in the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1973 gave authority for water to nine regional and three local councils. In Northern Ireland the DOE(NI) operates the water services. Water authorities are responsible for the water supply, including the protection and allocation of groundwater, the control of river flow and surface pollution, water treatment and distribution, the collection and treatment of sewage and the disposal of treated sewage and sludge. The Water Act, 1973 authorizes the continued existence of private water supply companies as agents of the regional water authorities. Guidance comes primarily from the DOE with significant inputs from the departments responsible for agriculture and fisheries. The powers of the water authorities to control pollution will be strengthened and extended when Part II of the Control of Pollution Act, 1974 is fully implemented.

Under the 1974 Act all discharges of trade or sewage effluent to fresh or coastal water or the land are subject to control by the water authorities and suitable restrictions may be applied. Dumping and other non-regular entries are not considered as discharges and severe penalties may be applied to such activities.

The largest proportion of effluent discharges to rivers comes from sewage treatment plants operated by the water authorities themselves. Discharge consents in this case cannot be approved by the authorities that cause the discharge, but must be authorized by the appropriate Secretary of State.

The water authorities have powers to prevent, forestall or remedy pollution and, if the pollution is caused by an illegal discharge, to send the bill to the polluter. If a farmer follows an agreed code of good agricultural practice he will normally be protected from charges for causing pollution. This protection may be withdrawn, however, if the Secretary of State is satisfied that serious pollution has been or may be caused by a particular agricultural practice.

The United Kingdom does not suffer from a deficient rainfall generally, although the driest areas are those with the greatest density of population. Thus, in the eastern part of England, rivers may be subject to a high degree of reuse to satisfy the demand for water. Greater London relies on surface water containing a substantial proportion of sewage effluent, although the head waters of the River Thames are maintained by groundwater outflows originating from rainfall towards the west. The advantages of having one comprehensive authority responsible for the entire water cycle (i.e. from

supply to disposal) were seen during the drought of 1976, when it was necessary to close locks on the River to divert the flow for water abstractions only.

There is no legal definition of wholesomeness in the context of public water supply but the responsibility for the supply of wholesome water was vested in statutory water companies by the Water Act, 1945. In addition the Public Health Act, 1936 made local medical officers of health responsible for ensuring that the public received water that was wholesome. Since 1974, the provision of a wholesome potable supply has been the responsibility of the regional water authorities or of statutory water companies acting on their behalf. When questions as to whether water is wholesome arise reference is made to the WHO *International standards for drinking-water,* published in 1971.

The National Water Council, which was established by the Water Act, 1973, has principally advisory functions related to England and Wales although its decisions may be influential in the rest of the Kingdom. Members of the Council include the chairmen of the 10 water authorities and 11 others appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. The Council is advised by a number of standing committees on various technical aspects of its work.

The Water Research Centre is a private company providing research and engineering development in the water field. It operates laboratories devoted to water supply, sewage treatment and disposal, and the engineering of water distribution and sewerage systems. The Centre is financially supported by the regional water authorities and various industries, and much of its research is directly related to their general needs. In addition it carries out contract work for individual customers and government departments.

Under the Dumping at Sea Act, 1974, the dumping of waste in United Kingdom waters or from United Kingdom vessels is prohibited except in accordance with a licence granted by the appropriate authority. In England this is the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; in Scotland and Wales the respective Secretary of State; and in Northern Ireland the Department of the Environment (Northern Ireland). This Act gives effect to the two conventions for the prevention of pollution of the sea by dumping (the Oslo and London Conventions) which have been ratified by the United Kingdom.

Air

The Alkali Act of 1863 took its name from the new alkali industry that grew up to provide chemicals for the increasing quantities of fabrics being manufactured in England. The first alkali process liberated large quantities of hydrogen chloride to the air. Although the Act was specifically aimed at this emission, a new process for producing chlorine bleach from hydrochloric

acid did more to abate the nuisance than did enforcement of the Act. The Act was extended subsequently to cover other processes until the legislation was consolidated in the Alkali etc. Works Regulation Act, 1906, which remained the governing statute until 1974 when it was partly subsumed by the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act, 1974.

Although certain portions of the Alkali Act were repealed when the relevant parts of the Control of Pollution Act, 1974 and the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act, 1974 were brought into effect, the Alkali and Clean Air Inspectorate in England remains an important agent for the control of industrial air pollution under the direction of the Health and Safety Executive. The corresponding agency in Scotland is Her Majesty's Industrial Pollution Inspectorate for Scotland. The Alkali Act sets specific emission limits for only four processes. In the case of other processes, the inspectorates work on the basis that the best practicable means should be used to control emissions. Methods and emission limits are continuously being revised to take account of developments in processes and products.

The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act, 1974 includes provisions to protect not only employees but other persons from dangers arising out of work. Employers must use the best practicable methods for preventing the emission of noxious or offensive substances. The Act established a Health and Safety Commission, appointed by the Secretary of State for Employment. The Commission in turn appoints the Health and Safety Executive which includes the Alkali and Clean Air Inspectorate. The secretaries of state responsible for the environment are answerable to Parliament for the adequacy of the measures taken by the Commission to control emissions and they have the power to make regulations on these matters. The Health and Safety Executive does not have jurisdiction over agriculture.

The Public Health Acts 1936 *et seq.* are the primary weapon against noxious emissions that do not come under the Alkali Act or other specific legislation. They are implemented in the form of regulations published and enforced by local authorities.

The Clean Air Acts of 1956 and 1968 replaced and extended the provisions relating to smoke nuisances in the Public Health Acts, and control certain emissions from industrial combustion processes not within the scope of the Alkali and Clean Air Inspectorate. These Acts empower local authorities to make smoke control orders that prohibit the emission of smoke from buildings, including dwellings, in any part of their districts. Householders who, as a result of a smoke control order, have to change their means of cooking and heating may claim from the local authority a grant of 70% or more of the reasonable cost of installing suitable domestic smokeless appliances. Well over one third of the premises in the United Kingdom, including nearly 95% of those in Greater London, are now believed to be covered by orders. Although the quality of air has greatly improved, there are some areas where work remains to be done to achieve the standards agreed in the European Communities Directive on smoke and sulfur dioxide. The limit

values for concentrations of these pollutants are based on the World Health Organization's evidence of their effects on health.

The Control of Pollution Act, 1974 extended the powers of local authorities to carry out investigations into air pollution from non-domestic sources. The Act gives the Secretary of State power to make regulations regarding substances that have countrywide application. The Secretary of State for Transport has issued statutory instruments (SIs) for sulfur in oil and lead in petrol that coordinate with European Communities directives. The Secretary of State for Transport also administers the Road Traffic Act, 1972, which provides for type-testing of motor vehicles for exhaust emissions. Roadside checks of heavy vehicles and other vehicles over three years old for smoke offences also come under the Secretary of State for Transport.

The planning of industrial developments is in the hands of local authorities but they can call on the services of the Alkali and Clean Air Inspectorate for advice in this process.

Noise

The noise provisions of the Control of Pollution Act, 1974 strengthened the powers of local authorities to control environmental noise. The earlier Public Health Acts and the Noise Abatement Act, 1960 were more limited and tended to work in favour of noise-makers. The 1974 Act makes provision, among other things, for local authorities to designate areas as noise abatement zones and also covers noise from construction sites. It does not deal with noise from road or air traffic.

The Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations, 1978, as amended, based on the Road Traffic Act, 1972 (*IDHL*, **24**: 616), set maximum permissible noise emission levels for different types of motor vehicle. They are coordinated with European Communities directives and provide for EEC type-approvals.

The Civil Aviation Acts, 1949, 1968, 1971, 1978 and 1980, the Airports Authority (Consolidation) Act, 1975 and the Air Navigation (Noise Certification) Order, 1980 all contain provisions relating to aircraft noise. The Civil Aviation Authority is responsible for administration under the Secretary of State for Trade. Local bye-laws regulate traffic patterns and flight times to minimize noise disturbances. The United Kingdom follows the standards drawn up by the International Civil Aviation Organization regarding the design of jet engines and other major sources of aircraft noise.

The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act, 1974, which is administered by the Health and Safety Commission and Executive, applies to the protection of the public as well as of workers from any noise which might endanger their health or safety. In view of the legislation described above, however, the Health and Safety Commission and Executive have concentrated on protecting the hearing of workers; a consultative document proposing comprehensive new regulations on this subject was published in 1981.

A DOE circular to local authorities on planning and noise (10/73) calls attention to the role of proper planning in avoiding new noise-sensitive development in areas subject to potentially high levels of noise.

The DHSS has a division responsible for the medical aspects of noise.

Solid and Hazardous Waste

Under the 1972 Local Government Act, county councils are responsible for waste disposal and district councils for collection. (This applies primarily to domestic waste, but includes some commercial waste. Industrial waste is largely dealt with by the private sector.) The disposal of controlled waste (i.e. household, industrial or commercial waste) is regulated by the Control of Pollution Act, 1974 and responsibility for granting licences to operate disposal sites rests with the county councils in England and the districts in Wales and Scotland. The purpose of the licensing system is to ensure the protection of water resources and public health. Additional controls over the transportation of particularly hazardous waste ("special waste") are provided in the Control of Pollution (Special Waste) Regulations, 1980 which came into force on 16 March 1982. The Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act, 1972 was repealed at the same time.

The Department of the Environment in England issues guidance circulars and provides technical advice; the Welsh Office and the Scottish Development Department have similar responsibilities. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland, give advice to farmers on good practice in the utilization and disposal of farm waste. If farms cause water pollution, redress lies with the water authorities.

A notifications scheme for new substances is being implemented under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act, 1974, following European Communities directives. Notification schemes for poisons already exist under the Poisons Rules, 1978 which is administered by the Home Office. The ministers and departments responsible for agriculture are responsible under the Farm and Gardens Chemicals Act, 1967 for the labelling of pesticides. A formally negotiated agreement between government and industry, in the form of the Pesticide Safety Precautions Scheme, requires notification of new pesticides to be made to the Health and Safety Executive or the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Certain European Communities directives on dangerous substances, particularly polychlorinated biphenyls and polychlorinated terphenyls, vinyl chloride aerosol propellant and tris (2,3-dibromopropyl) phosphate fire retardant, are implemented by SIs issued by the Department of the Environment and the Department of Trade in 1980. The Health and Safety Executive has issued a comprehensive document concerning the revision of regulations regarding the packaging and labelling of dangerous substances.

Radiation

The Radioactive Substances Act, 1960 (*IDHL*, **13**: 163) is concerned primarily with the safe disposal of radioactive waste. Under this act, disposal of radioactive waste from major nuclear sites is prohibited unless authorized by both the Secretary of State for the Environment and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, or their counterparts in other parts of the Kingdom. Other disposals, with certain specified exceptions, require the authorization of the Secretary of State alone. Except where specifically exempted, persons using radioactive materials must register their premises. The disposal of low-level radioactive waste takes place in the form of discharges of liquid and gaseous effluents and disposal of solid materials on land or into the deep ocean. An independent committee, the Radioactive Waste Management Advisory Committee, advises environment ministers on their responsibility for radioactive waste management policy. Proposals for comprehensive new ionizing radiation regulations, which would replace various pieces of existing legislation and would implement the relevant European Communities Euratom directive, are currently being developed.

Addresses

Department of the Environment
Room A3.20
Romney House
43 Marsham Street
London SW1 3PY
Tel. (01) 212 33 74

Department of Health and Social Security (DHSS)
Alexander Fleming House
Elephant and Castle
London SE1 6BY
Tel. (01) 407 55 22

Welsh Office
Health Services 1 Division
Pearl Assurance House
Greyfriars Road
Cardiff CF1 3JL
Tel. (0222) 441 51

Scottish Office
Dover House
Whitehall
London SW1A 2AG
Tel. (01) 233 30 00

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Great Westminster House
Horseferry Road
London SW1P 2AE
Tel. (01) 216 66 87

Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland
Chesser House
500 Gorgie Road
Edinburgh EH11 3AW
Tel. (031) 443 40 20

Scottish Development Agency
120 Bothwell Street
Glasgow G2 7JP
Tel. (041) 248 27 00

Northern Ireland Office for Home Affairs
Stormont Castle
Belfast BT4 3ST
Tel. (0232) 630 11

National Water Council
The Chief Executive
1 Queen Anne's Gate
London SW1

Tel. (01) 222 81 11

Health and Safety Executive
Baynards House
1 Chepstow Place
London W2 4TF

Tel. (01) 229 34 56

Alkali and Clean Air Inspectorate
Queen Anne's Chambers
27 Broadway
London SW1

Tel. (01) 273 30 00

Secretary of State for Transport
Department of Transport
2 Marsham Street
London SW1

Tel. (01) 212 34 34

Secretary of State for Trade
Department of Trade
1 Victoria Street
London SW1

Tel. (01) 215 78 77

Civil Aviation Authority
CAA House
43–59 Kingsway
London WC2

Tel. (01) 379 73 11

Department of Industry
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET

Tel. (01) 215 78 77

United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority
11 Charles II Street
London SW1

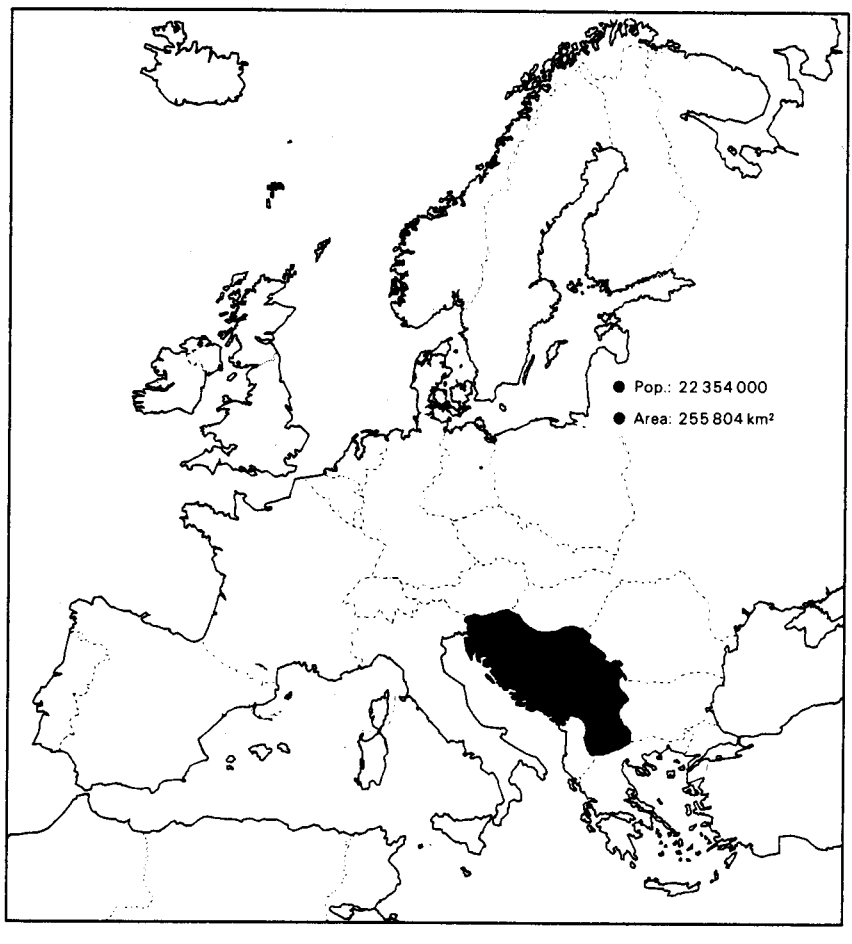
Tel. (01) 930 54 54

Atomic Energy Research Establishment
Harwell OX11 0RA

Tel. (0235) 241 41

The Water Research Centre
9 Dartmouth Street
London SW18 9BL

Tel. (01) 222 04 93



Yugoslavia

Yugoslavia is located in the south-east part of Europe. It has boundaries with Austria and Hungary in the north, with Italy in the west, with Bulgaria and Romania in the east and with Albania and Greece in the south. The Drava river forms part of the border with Hungary, the Danube with Romania, and the country has a long south-western coastline on the Adriatic Sea.

It has a moderate continental climate in the hilly interior, but in the coastal areas the climate is mediterranean, with frequent rainfall throughout the year.

Since the Second World War there has been a rapid development of industry and agriculture.

Government and Basic Legislation

The Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is a federal state in the form of a state community of voluntarily united republics. It consists of the Socialist Republics of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia, and the Socialist Autonomous Provinces of Vojvodina and of Kosovo which are constituent parts of the Socialist Republic of Serbia.

The Assembly of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has two chambers. The Federal Chamber consists of 30 delegates from each republic and 20 from each autonomous province; the Chamber of Republics and Autonomous Provinces consists of 12 delegates from the assemblies of each republic and 3 from the autonomous provinces. In the Federal Chamber, the Committee for Labour, Health and Social Welfare deals with problems related to health, social policy, labour relations, etc.

The Assembly of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is a body of social self-management and the supreme organ of power within the framework of federal rights and duties. The Assembly decides on amendments to the Constitution; discusses foreign policy; decides on war and peace; proclaims the election of the Presidency; adopts the social plan of Yugoslavia and the federal budget; and discharges other affairs specified by the present Constitution.

The Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has a collective Presidency whose rights and duties are laid down by the Constitution. The Presidency consists of one representative of each republic and autonomous province. This body exercises the rights and duties of the Head of State.

Each republic has its own Assembly of three chambers. Republics are subdivided into communes or municipalities, all of equal status. The Communal Assembly, in every commune, has three chambers: the sociopolitical chamber of directly elected representatives of the inhabitants; the chamber of associated labour, elected by employees of the economic, cultural and welfare organizations and a variety of other organizations; and the chamber of local communities, elected by the communities. A communal assembly can deal with all matters of interest to its population except those that have been assigned to other bodies. In municipalities with a number of villages, and in large cities such as Belgrade, local committees may be formed to discharge business of direct local concern.

As regards health, the Federation through its agencies adopts the social plans of Yugoslavia and regulates:

— the fundamentals of the system of social planning;

— the protection of the life and health of the people by combating contagious diseases that endanger the country as a whole;

— the marketing of medicines;

— the conservation and improvement of the human environment as it concerns the country as a whole and the international community;

— the sale and transport of explosives and radioactive and other dangerous substances and the transport of inflammable liquids and gases when this is in the interests of the country as a whole;

— the sale of poisons and the manufacture and sale of narcotics;

— the fundamentals of the system of water exploitation where it is of concern to two or more republics or autonomous provinces;

— standards, technical norms, and quality standards for products and services, ensuring the enforcement of relevant federal regulations when this is in the interests of the country as a whole and so specified by federal statute;

— the organization of the collection, recording, and processing of statistical and other data on the state of individual sectors of social life, demographic data, data on economic and other developments, data on health and other data of concern to the country as a whole; and

— the information system as a whole and particularly in the field of health.

All other matters relating to health and the environment (especially the organization and management of health services) are within the competence of republics, provinces and communes.

Major responsibility for the federal aspects of environmental health lies with the Federal Committee for Labour, Health and Social Welfare which also directs the Federal Institute of Public Health, the statute and affairs of which are regulated by a special law. The Federal Institute of Public Health analyses problems in the field of the protection of the human environment and their effect on the lives and health of the population within the framework of the rights and duties of the Federation. It is also authorized to examine water for noxious matter and to collect, record and process statistical data and information in the field of environmental health.

Water

The protection of inter-republican and international rivers, of international waters such as border lakes and the sea and of the coastal sea of Yugoslavia is regulated by the Law on fundamentals of the regime of water of concern to two or more republics or autonomous provinces and on interstate waters (*Official Register of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (SFRY)*, No. 2, 1974 and No. 24, 1976). On the basis of this Law, the Government of

Yugoslavia passed the Ordinance of 2 February 1978 on the classification of waters (*Official Register of the SFRY,* No. 6, 1978; *IDHL,* **29**: 890) and the Order on maximum permitted concentrations of radionuclides and noxious matters in these waters (*Official register of the SFRY,* No. 8, 1978).

Four classes of inter-republic and international waters were established by the Ordinance of 2 February 1978: I, water suitable in its natural state, or after disinfection, for drinking or food preparation and surface water suitable for salmonoid fish; II, water suitable for bathing, aquatic sports and cyprinoid fish or that can be treated to make it suitable for drinking or food preparation; III, water suitable for irrigation and industry (except food); IV, water that may be used for other purposes only after appropriate treatment. Water used only for navigation and saline waters in general are not included in the classification.

The coastal waters of Yugoslavia are also classified into four categories of water: I, for the breeding of oysters and other shellfish; II, for bathing and recreation; III, for fishing; IV, for the closed harbours of the Yugoslav sea coast.

The protection of other water (particularly its categorization, management, use and protection) is regulated by the republics and autonomous provinces.

The Federal Hydrometeorological Institute monitors qualitative and quantitative changes in inter-republic, international and coastal waters of Yugoslavia, while the Federal Institute of Public Health monitors these waters for noxious matter.

The Federation sets criteria for drinking-water safety (*Official Register of the SFRY,* No. 9, 1980 and No. 14, 1980) based on the Law on the health safety of food products and objects for general use (*Official Register of the SFRY,* No. 55, 1978), and for the quality of natural potable mineral water based on the Law on standardization (*Official Register of the SFRY,* No. 38, 1977).

The communes and cities are responsible for the removal of wastewater (sewage). Industrial and other organizations are obliged to purify their wastewater before discharge.

Air

The Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has agreed to the international Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution. In accordance with this Convention, a regulation on the protection of the air against pollution of concern to the whole country and the international community is in the course of preparation. At present, the protection of the air against pollution is ensured by a total of 42 republican and provincial regulations, covering the whole country.

Working people, citizens, and labour and other organizations are obliged to monitor the level of pollution and undertake appropriate measures to combat it through their organs and organizations. Labour and other

organizations have to monitor, either by themselves or through authorized institutions, the air pollution created by themselves.

The Federation determines the maximum allowed concentrations of harmful substances contained in the exhaust gases of internal combustion engines (Article 92 of the Regulation on accessories, equipment, dimensions and the total weight of road traffic vehicles, in the *Official Register of the SFRY,* No. 20, 1978 and No. 4, 1980).

Administrative organs responsible for sanitary inspections as well as other authorized bodies have the right to ban the location, construction, operation or functioning of objects or installations that pollute the air.

Air pollution at ground level is monitored by the health service, while that at higher levels is monitored by the meteorological service. Air pollution is monitored in Belgrade and the capital cities of the republics and provinces, as well as in other major cities and industrial centres.

Noise

The level of noise made by road traffic vehicles is regulated by the Federation (Article 97 and 98 of the Regulation on accessories, equipment, dimensions and the total weight of road traffic vehicles, in the *Official Register of the SFRY,* No. 20, 1978 and No. 4, 1980).

The level of noise and protection against noise in settlements and places for rest and recreation are the responsibility of the republics and provinces. A law on protection against noise in settlements has been passed only in the Socialist Republic of Slovenia.

A law or social compact that will solve the problem of protection against noise for the country as a whole is under consideration.

Solid and Hazardous Waste

The Federation has regulated the transport and traffic of poisons, radioactive substances, and inflammable and other related substances such as pesticides. The republics and provinces also regulate the traffic in waste, while the communes and cities are responsible for the collection and temporary and final disposal of waste.

Radiation

The Federation passed the Law on the protection against ionizing radiation (*Official Register of the SFRY,* No. 54, 1976; *IDHL,* **29**: 872) on the basis of which the Federal Committee for Labour, Health and Social Welfare issued a series of regulations on various matters concerning this protection.

A series of specific regulations issued on 11 April 1977 (*IDHL,* **29**: 875) sets standards for various aspects of radioactive materials, including exposure limits, use, storage and disposal, and the training of handlers. Republics and provinces have also passed laws and regulations on protection against

ionizing radiation and the monitoring of radioactivity in the biosphere. Microwave radiation has not yet been regulated. The competent agencies in the republics and autonomous provinces are responsible for supervising compliance with these laws. Separate provisions are made in the case of the Yugoslav People's Army and international trade in sources of ionizing radiation. The supervisory agencies have the following powers and duties.

1. To eliminate shortcomings in connection with work involving sources of ionizing radiation.

2. To suspend work involving sources of ionizing radiation and withdraw approval for the use of such sources.

3. To suspend the construction of establishments, premises and installations for whose site, construction or reconstruction no special authorization has been issued, until such time as authorization is granted or the prescribed conditions are met.

4. To prohibit the transportation of sources of ionizing radiation into, out of, or within Yugoslavia until such time as the prescribed conditions are met.

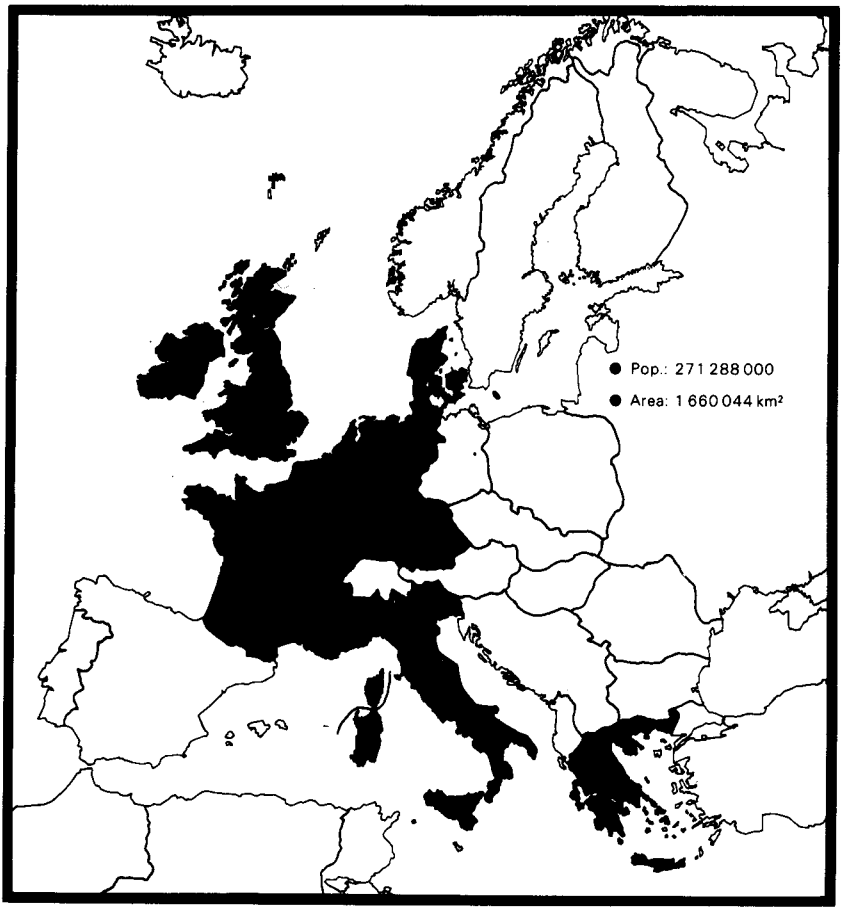
Addresses

Federal Committee for Labour, Health and Social Welfare
Bulevar Avnoj-a 104
11070 Belgrade
Tel. 66 25 55

Federal Hydrometeorological Institute
Birčaninova 6
11000 Belgrade
Tel. 64 65 55
Telex 11404; 11141

Federal Institute for Standardization
Slobodana Penezića-Krcuna 35
11000 Belgrade
Tel. 64 40 66

Federal Institute of Public Health
Slobodana Penezića-Krcuna 35
11000 Belgrade
Tel. 64 40 66; 64 43 50; 64 63 76



European Communities

Membership of the Communities consists of the countries of Belgium, Denmark, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. The unrelated United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) is reviewed in the last Chapter on international organizations.

Government and Basic Legislation

The European Economic Community (EEC), the European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) and the European Atomic Energy Community

(Euratom) operate under a single Council and a single Commission as established by the Treaty of Rome in 1957, with amendments up to 1977. The Communities can negotiate treaties on behalf of their Member States with other international bodies, such as the United Nations.

The environmentally related sections of the law of the European Communities are available in a loose-leaf format under the title *Environmental law of the European Communities,* compiled by Odile Seidel, and published by Erich Schmidt Verlag in Berlin in 1976 with later revisions. Most of the environmentally related acts issue from the EEC, although radiation questions are handled by Euratom.

The purpose of the European Communities (or the European Community as it is now known) is to improve living and working conditions and to promote the development of economic activities by developing a free trade zone, common agricultural policies, and the harmonization of national economic policies and regulatory systems in order to eliminate economic and political barriers between the Member States. From earlier concerns with consumer protection, occupational safety and common industrial standards in the Member States, the Commission has moved on in the last decade to promote common environmental legislation and research as well.

European Community laws are initiated and implemented by the Commission, but approval has to be obtained from the Council of Ministers. Although the Member States continue to pass their own national legislation and to exercise executive and regulatory functions, they are obliged as signatories to the Treaty of Rome to proceed only within the Community framework. The Commission itself, however, has no mechanism for policing the national implementation of its decisions, directives and regulations, but if the Member States fail to do so they can be called upon to appear before the European Court of Justice.

In order to formulate proposals to be put to the Council of Ministers for decisions, and for its own decision-making processes, the 14-member Commission has extensive consultation procedures with the Member States through expert and interest committees, making use as appropriate of the Economic and Social Committee, which is an advisory body of representatives of consumers, labour and industry. The Commission meets at least weekly and decisions are taken by majority vote.

The 10-member Council meets regularly at ministerial level to take final decisions. Propositions from the Commission are channelled through the Committee of Permanent Representatives, which is composed of the heads of the permanent national delegations to the Community and their staff. Many Council decisions are taken on a weighted majority vote but for matters regarded by any Member State as vital to its interest a unanimous vote must be sought.

Distinctions are made between Community *regulations* which have to be adopted as part of the law of Member States, *directives* which must be implemented but in the manner best suited to each Member State, *decisions*

which are binding on those to whom they are directed, and *recommendations* and *opinions* which have only an advisory and non-mandatory function.

A Declaration of the Council of 22 November 1973 set up a programme of action of the European Communities on the environment. The Declaration covers action not only to reduce pollution and nuisances but also to improve the environment and maintain a satisfactory ecological balance. It is recognized that the "polluter pays" principle must be used in such a way as to avoid any distortion of trade or investment. Among the administrative offices of the Commission is the Directorate General for Environment, Consumer Protection and Nuclear Safety.

Water

EEC directives dealing with water intended for human consumption include No. 75/440/EEC on the quality of surface water intended for drinking-water, No. 80/778/EEC on the quality of water intended for human consumption, and No. 80/777/EEC on natural mineral waters (*IDHL*, **31**: 905). Directive No. 80/68/EEC on the protection of groundwater against certain dangerous substances lists categories of industrial products but specifically exempts domestic effluents from isolated dwellings and other minor sources of pollutants (*IDHL*, **31**: 192). It amplifies the more general Directive No. 76/464/EEC on discharges to the aquatic environment (*IDHL*, **27**: 718).

Directives on water quality for special uses include those on bathing No. 76/160/EEC (*IDHL*, **27**: 709), freshwater fish No. 78/659/EEC and shellfish No. 79/923/EEC (*IDHL*, **31**: 186). To prevent pollution from detergents Directive No. 73/404/EEC sets a lower limit of 90% on biodegradability and Directive No. 73/405/EEC establishes test methods for biodegradability.

The Paris Convention of 1974 on the Prevention of Marine Pollution from Land-based Sources was signed by the Community as such and by the interested Member States according to Council Decision No. 75/437/EEC. The Berne Convention of 1963 for the Protection of the Rhine against Chemical Pollution was joined by the Community in Council Decision No. 77/586/EEC (*IDHL*, **28**: 957).

The Barcelona Convention of 1976 on the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution, and its different protocols, was concluded by the Community according to Council Decisions No. 77/585/EEC (*IDHL*, **28**: 957) and No. 81/420/EEC.

The standardization of methods for the analysis of water was formalized by Directive No. 79/869/EEC following Council Decision No. 77/795/EEC on the exchange of information on water quality between Member States (*IDHL*, **29**: 330).

Air

Quality limit values and schedules of measurements of sulfur dioxide and suspended particles in the atmosphere were set by Directive No. 80/779/EEC

(*IDHL*, **31**: 930). A common procedure for measurement was set up by Council Decision No. 75/441/EEC. The sulfur content of diesel fuel oils was standardized on two levels by Directive No. 75/716/EEC: Type A is for general use and Type B is for use where diesel oil is not an important source of sulfur dioxide pollution. The levels are to be progressively reduced. A similar directive, No. 78/611/EEC on the lead content of petrol, provides that Member States shall set maximum lead levels at or below 0.40 g/l but not lower than 0.15 g/l.

The Council Resolution of 15 July 1980 on transboundary air pollution from sulfur dioxide and suspended particles (*IDHL*, **31**: 935) implements Directive No. 80/779/EEC with the objective of reducing transboundary air pollution.

Member States are required to accept EEC type certification of spark ignition motor vehicles established by Council Directive No. 70/220/EEC, which was amended by No. 78/665/EEC according to Commission Directive No. 77/102/EEC (*IDHL*, **28**: 251). Diesel engine type-approval for exhaust emissions is similarly regulated by Directives No. 72/306/EEC and No. 77/357/EEC.

The use of chlorofluorocarbons was recognized as a potential hazard to the ozone layer in Council Resolution of 30 May 1978 on fluorocarbons in the environment (*IDHL*, **29**: 539) and Member States were required to take all appropriate measures to reduce chlorofluorocarbon emissions by Council Decision No. 80/373/EEC.

Noise

Council directives setting standards for motor vehicle noise started with No. 70/157/EEC, which has been amended by Council Directive No. 77/212/EEC (*IDHL*, **28**: 253) and Commission Directive No. 81/334/EEC (*IDHL*, **32**: 302).

General roadworthiness tests are dealt with by Council Directive No. 77/143/EEC. Motorcycle noise is dealt with by Council Directive No. 78/1015/EEC (*IDHL*, **30**: 164) and noise from wheeled tractors used in agriculture or forestry by Council Directive No. 74/151/EEC. Construction plant equipment, i.e. machinery used to perform work on civil engineering and building sites but not primarily intended for the transport of goods or persons, comes under Directive No. 79/113/EEC.

Noise certificates for subsonic aircraft as specified by the Convention on International Civil Aviation of July 1978 must be in order for planes operating in the Member States, according to Directive No. 80/51/EEC.

Solid and Hazardous Waste

The basic directive on waste is Directive No. 75/442/EEC, which encourages the prevention, recycling and processing of waste for the recovery of raw materials and energy. Disposal must not endanger human health or the

environment. Arrangements must be made for the inspection and supervision of waste disposal and the "polluter pays" principle is to be applied. The Directive does not apply to wastewater, gaseous emissions, mining waste or radiation, nor to substances specifically included in other Community rules. Directive No. 78/319/EEC (*IDHL*, **29**: 337) deals with toxic and dangerous waste and includes in an Annex a list of 27 categories of toxic and dangerous substances and materials. Member States may adopt more stringent rules than those issued by the Community. Emphasis in the Directive is on licensing, inspection and the accurate identification of waste.

Directives dealing with the disposal of specific substances include No. 75/439/EEC on waste oils, No. 76/403/EEC which deals with the disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and related compounds (*IDHL*, **28**: 221) and No. 78/176/EEC which deals with waste from titanium dioxide manufacturers (*IDHL*, **29**: 333).

The basic directive on the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances, No. 67/548/EEC, has been amended by No. 79/831/EEC (*IDHL*, **30**: 933). This last amendment provides for a system of notification before placing any new chemical substances on the market. PCBs, polychlorinated terphenyls and vinyl chloride, as an aerosol propellant, are prohibited by Directive No. 76/769/EEC (*IDHL*, **28**: 478). The manufacture and use of chlorofluorocarbons is discussed in the Section on air.

Rules for the classification, labelling and use of pesticides containing toxic substances are based on Directive No. 78/631/EEC (*IDHL*, **29**: 540) which includes detailed Annexes. Substances are classified in term of their acute toxicity, for instance LD_{50} is the dose that kills 50% of the test animals in a relatively short time.

Certain persistent toxic chemicals that may accumulate in the environment, such as mercury compounds and a number of chlorinated organic compounds, are prohibited by Directive No. 79/117/EEC except for certain special applications.

The Committee on Waste Management was established by Commission Decision No. 76/431/EEC (*IDHL*, **28**: 222) to advise the Commission on waste management policy and appropriate legal measures to implement that policy.

Radiation

The Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community was signed at the same time as the Treaty establishing the EEC in 1957. Amendments have been made to it up until 1973. The various EEC directives on waste (see the Section on solid and hazardous waste) all specifically omit radioactive waste from their definitions. Council Decision No. 75/406/Euratom established an experimental programme on the management and storage of radioactive waste. The Council Resolution of 18 February 1980 on the implementation of a Community plan of action in the field of

radioactive waste implemented Council Decision No. 80/237/Euratom establishing the Committee on the Reprocessing of Irradiated Nuclear Fuels.

Basic standards for the protection of the health of workers and the general public from the dangers of ionizing radiation were adopted by Council Directive on 2 February 1959, as amended up until 26 November 1966. General principles for radiation protection and specific dose levels were set out in Council Directive No. 76/579/Euratom (*IDHL*, **28**: 223) as amended by Directives No. 79/343/Euratom and No. 80/836/Euratom (*IDHL*, **31**: 936). In general, the recommended maximum dose levels are consistent with the recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP).

The basic principle of radiation safety adopted by the Communities is that all activities involving radioactive substances and processes must be registered and licensed by the Member States according to Community standards. Commission Regulation (Euratom) No. 3227/76 of 19 October 1976 codifies these regulations. The Commission Decision No. 79/520/Euratom set up an advisory group of high-level independent experts in the field of nuclear safety as a result of the nuclear reactor accident at Three Mile Island in the United States on 28 March 1979.

Addresses

Health and Safety Directorate
Commission of the European Communities
Jean Monnet Building
PO Box 1907
Avenue Alcide de Gaspari
L-2920 Luxembourg

Tel. 430 11

Directorate General
Environment, Consumer Protection and Nuclear Safety
200 rue de la Loi
B-1049 Brussels

Tel. 235 59 90

International organizations

A large number of international organizations are responsible for regulations, standards and directives that may influence environmental law or regulations in their member countries. The European Community is unique in that it has the power to make treaties on behalf of its Member States, and its regulations and Council directives must be implemented in the laws of the Member States. For that reason, the European Community is treated in this work on the same basis as if it were a federated nation (see the previous Chapter).

The World Health Organization (WHO)

The World Health Organization, one of the United Nations family, with its headquarters in Geneva, has six regional offices. The Regional Office for Europe serves the needs of 33 Member States.

The environmental health service of the Regional Office for Europe is divided into units covering (*a*) basic sanitation (water supplies, waste disposal, housing and settlements); (*b*) environmental pollution (air, water and radiation); (*c*) environmental systems management (toxicology, epidemiology and environmental health impact); (*d*) food safety (additives and contaminants); (*e*) occupational health; and (*f*) planning, services and training.

The Regional Office has executed major water supply and sewerage schemes in Algeria, Morocco, Turkey and Yugoslavia, and has acted as executing agency for a number of major projects concerning the legal, administrative and technical aspects of pollution control in, for example, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Romania and Spain. A number of intercountry projects are also under way or have been completed. Many of the major European pollution problems affect more than one country: a coordinated programme concerning the River Danube is at the preparatory stage and work is in progress on the possible health effects of transboundary air pollution. It has cooperated with local governments in Algeria and Turkey in establishing programmes for the disposal of municipal solid waste and has sponsored a working group on the microbial problems associated with the application of sewage sludge to land.

In cooperation with four of the other regional offices, the Regional Office for Europe organized a well attended international conference in Algiers on the reuse of sewage effluent in arid countries.

WHO headquarters in Geneva is cooperating with other international organizations to implement the United Nations International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, which runs from 1981 to 1990 and will entail the mobilization of very large resources for investment, involving the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme and many bilateral funding agencies, together with major financial commitments by the countries involved themselves.

A major milestone in the Decade programme will be the publication by WHO of *Guidelines for drinking-water quality,* Vol. 1. This work will replace the *International standards for drinking-water,* 3rd ed. published by WHO headquarters in 1971, which has served as a basis for many national laws and regulations throughout the world. A three-volume manual, *Examination of water for pollution control,* which represents the collaboration of over 300 scientists throughout the world, was sponsored by the Regional Office for Europe and published commercially by Pergamon Press in 1982. *Environmental health criteria* is a series of booklets published by WHO headquarters in Geneva. Most of the 20 current volumes deal with specific contaminants from the point of view of the whole body load, including intake from air, water and food. The reports represent the collective views of an international group of experts. There are publications by WHO and its regional offices on almost every aspect of environmental health services. Training programmes for environmental health engineers and scientists are also provided, with emphasis on trainees from developing countries.

Other United Nations Affiliated Organizations

The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) is one of the five regional economic commissions set up by the United Nations Economic and Social Council. In addition to all major European countries it also includes Canada, Cyprus and the United States. It has issued a Declaration of Policy on Prevention and Control of Water Pollution, including Transboundary Pollution of 23 April 1980 (*IDHL,* **31**: 967). It has also issued regulations on motor vehicles including the following.

— Uniform Provisions concerning the approval of Motor Cycles with regard to Noise. Addendum 40: Regulation No. 41. The date of entry into force as an Annex to the Agreement concerning the adoption of uniform conditions of approval and reciprocal recognition of approval for motor vehicle equipment and parts, done at Geneva on 20 March 1958, was 1 June 1980 (*IDHL,* **31**: 971).

— Uniform Provisions concerning the approval of Vehicles equipped with Diesel Engines with regard to the Emission of Pollutants by the Engine. Addendum 23: Regulation No. 24. Revision 1, incorporating the 02 series of amendments which entered into force on 11 February 1980. Annex to the Agreement concerning the adoption of

uniform conditions of approval and reciprocal recognition of approval for motor vehicle equipment and parts, done at Geneva on 20 March 1958 (*IDHL*, **32**: 157).

These regulations appear to be compatible with related EEC regulations.

The ECE cooperates with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), another member of the United Nations family, in the ECE Cooperative Programme on the Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe, and has prepared for ratification the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution of 13 November 1979 (*IDHL*, **30**: 965).

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was set up as a result of the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment held in June 1972. It is based in Nairobi, Kenya and administers a voluntary fund, part of which is devoted to environmental problems. Among these programmes is the UNEP initiative on environmental assessment called Earthwatch. Earthwatch has three main components: the International Referral Service for Sources of Environmental Information (IRS), the International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals (IRPTC), and the Global Environmental Monitoring System (GEMS). GEMS programmes include air and water pollution surveillance and biological and food monitoring. GEMS-AIR is carried out with cooperation from WMO and both the air and water programmes are carried out with cooperation from WHO.

UNEP has drawn up a programme to develop the Mediterranean, reduce pollution and protect its marine environment. The programme is in three parts, the first of which is a convention and two protocols signed in Barcelona, Spain in 1976, which became international law in February 1978. By September 1980 it had been ratified by 16 Mediterranean states (all except Algeria and Turkey). The second part is a diagnostic inventory of the Mediterranean being carried out over the next 10 years, and consists of five or six priority programmes including a long-term study of the development plans of the Mediterranean governments.

The World Bank (The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development) with headquarters in Washington, DC has many projects involving water supplies and sanitation in developing countries. It provides technical assistance and its publications are of value especially in Mediterranean countries.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) with headquarters in New York is the world's largest agency for technical cooperation. Its funds are distributed to developing countries to aid technical and financial development. Of greatest interest from an environmental point of view is its work to strengthen national and regional developmental planning.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) with headquarters in Paris has set up various forms of intergovernmental cooperation concerned with the environmental sciences and research on natural resources. Examples of these are the man and biosphere programme (MAB) which at present has 900 projects under way in 90 countries, using an interdisciplinary approach to solving practical problems of environmental resource management in such areas as arid lands, humid tropical zones, mountain ecosystems and urban systems, and the international hydrological programme (IHP), dealing with the scientific aspects of water resources assessment and management.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) with headquarters in Vienna is primarily concerned with the peaceful uses of atomic energy and ensuring that it is not used for military purposes. It is authorized to set standards for the protection of health from the use of atomic energy and it is devoting continuing attention to the handling and treatment of radioactive waste.

The International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP) located in Sutton, Surrey, in the United Kingdom is a commission of specialists from 19 countries. It serves as a consultant to WHO, IAEA, EEC, OECD, UNEP and other international organizations concerned with radiation protection. Its standards and limits find their way into national and international regulations.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) with headquarters in Rome is concerned with the beneficial uses of the environment. Its recommendations with regard to inland and coastal fisheries include control of polluting effluents. Its work with forests and forestry has an indirect but significant effect on the environment. It is also concerned with the proper use of pesticides to maximize production while controlling their adverse health and environmental effects.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations with headquarters in London. It acts as depositary for most of the international conventions for protection of the sea, including the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil, 1954, as amended in 1962 and 1969; the International Convention relating to Intervention on the High Seas in cases of Oil Pollution Casualties, 1969; the Convention on International Compensation Fund for Oil Pollution Damage, 1971; and the International Convention on Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973. A number of other agreements are listed in the introductory Chapter, in the Section on water.

Other European Organizations

The European Communities are dealt with in the previous Chapter.

The Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) with headquarters in Moscow includes Cuba, Mongolia and Viet-Nam in addition to seven Eastern European countries. It has a Permanent Commission on Public Health and a Standing Conference of Chiefs of Water Resources Authorities. Its Institute of Standardization serves as a source for standard methods. It has sponsored among others *Standard methods for the water quality examination for the member countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance,* published in Prague in 1968 and in Moscow in 1973. Because the CMEA is based on the principles of the sovereign equality of all member countries, its standards, though widely used, are purely voluntary and need not be adopted by its member countries.

The Council of Europe in Strasbourg, with 21 members in western and southern Europe, now devotes most of its attention to problems of human rights. It is active in the fields of the conservation of nature and natural resources and has sponsored conferences on the protection of international waters against pollution, environmental protection, and regional planning. It now confines its environmental activities essentially to education, but it was responsible for an agreement on the restriction of the use of certain detergents in working and cleaning products.

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris includes Canada, Japan and the United States in addition to the countries of western and northern Europe. It has an active Environment Committee, which has dealt with such useful subjects as the "polluter pays" principle and its implementation; the long-range transport of air pollutants; eutrophication; detergents; environmental impact assessment procedures; and the control of certain chemicals. Work is continuing in most of these areas as well as on other subjects such as transfrontier pollution, environmental impacts of energy production, and traffic restraint. Many of the Environment Committee's studies are published and are available to the general public. A recent decision of the OECD Council concerns the mutual acceptance of data on the toxicity assessment of chemicals (*IDHL,* **32**: 533) which deals among other things with OECD Test Guidelines and OECD Principles of Good Laboratory Practice. It also prepared a report on *The cost and effectiveness of automotive exhaust emission control regulations,* published in Paris in 1974 (*IDHL,* **32**: 210) and sponsors the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA).

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) with headquarters in Brussels established the Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society in 1969 for the purpose of undertaking international studies of specific problems of the human environment. The objective was to stimulate the exchange of experience and technical knowledge and to put the findings into practice. Studies are normally carried out under the leadership of one or

more member countries. Studies have been initiated over a wide range of environmental problems including the disposal of hazardous waste; coastal water pollution; inland water pollution; air pollution; and advanced waste-water treatment. It has also sponsored educational programmes on the technical control of pollution at NATO Advanced Study Institutes.