Directive 2008/105/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on environmental quality standards in the field of water policy, amending and subsequently repealing Council Directives 82/176/ EEC, 83/513/EEC, 84/156/EEC, 84/491/EEC, 86/280/EEC and amending Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council

[^{F1}Article 3

Environmental quality standards

1 Without prejudice to paragraph 1a, Member States shall apply the EQS laid down in Part A of Annex I for bodies of surface water, and shall apply those EQS in accordance with the requirements laid down in Part B of Annex I.

1a Without prejudice to the obligations arising under this Directive in the version in force on 13 January 2009 and in particular the achievement of good surface water chemical status in relation to the substances and the EQS listed therein, Member States shall implement the EQS laid down in Part A of Annex I as regards:

- (i) the substances numbered 2, 5, 15, 20, 22, 23, 28 in Part A of Annex I, for which revised EQS are set, with effect from 22 December 2015, with the aim of achieving good surface water chemical status in relation to those substances by 22 December 2021 by means of programmes of measures included in the 2015 river basin management plans produced in accordance with Article 13(7) of Directive 2000/60/EC; and
- (ii) the newly identified substances numbered 34 to 45 in Part A of Annex I, with effect from 22 December 2018, with the aim of achieving good surface water chemical status in relation to those substances by 22 December 2027 and preventing deterioration in the chemical status of surface water bodies in relation to those substances. For this purpose, Member States shall, by 22 December 2018, establish and submit to the Commission a supplementary monitoring programme and a preliminary programme of measures covering those substances. A final programme of measures in accordance with Article 11 of Directive 2000/60/EC shall be established by 22 December 2021 and shall be implemented and made fully operational as soon as possible after that date and not later than 22 December 2024.

Article 4(4) to (9) of Directive 2000/60/EC shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the substances listed in points (i) and (ii) of the first subparagraph.

2 For the substances numbered 5, 15, 16, 17, 21, 28, 34, 35, 37, 43 and 44 in Part A of Annex I, Member States shall apply the biota EQS laid down in Part A of Annex I.

For substances other than those referred to in the first subparagraph, Member States shall apply the water EQS laid down in Part A of Annex I.

3 Member States may opt, in relation to one or more categories of surface water, to apply an EQS for a matrix other than that specified in paragraph 2, or, where relevant, for a biota taxon other than those specified in Part A of Annex I.

Member States that make use of the option referred to in the first subparagraph shall apply the relevant EQS laid down in Part A of Annex I or, if none is included for the

matrix or biota taxon, establish an EQS that offers at least the same level of protection as the EQS laid down in Part A of Annex I.

Member States may use the option referred to in the first subparagraph only where the method of analysis used for the chosen matrix or biota taxon fulfils the minimum performance criteria laid down in Article 4 of Directive 2009/90/EC. Where those criteria are not met for any matrix, Member States shall ensure that monitoring is carried out using best available techniques not entailing excessive costs and that the method of analysis performs at least as well as that available for the matrix specified in paragraph 2 of this Article for the relevant substance.

3a Where a potential risk to, or via, the aquatic environment from acute exposure has been identified as a result of measured or estimated environmental concentrations or emissions and where a biota or sediment EQS is being applied, Member States shall ensure that monitoring in surface water is also carried out and shall apply the MAC-EQS laid down in Part A of Annex I to this Directive where such EQS have been established.

3b Where, pursuant to Article 5 of Directive 2009/90/EC, the calculated mean value of a measurement, when carried out using the best available technique not entailing excessive costs, is referred to as 'less than limit of quantification', and the limit of quantification of that technique is above the EQS, the result for the substance being measured shall not be considered for the purposes of assessing the overall chemical status of that water body.

4 For substances for which an EQS for sediment and/or biota is applied, Member States shall monitor the substance in the relevant matrix at least once every year, unless technical knowledge and expert judgment justify another interval.

5 Member States shall include the following information in the updated river basin management plans produced in accordance with Article 13(7) of Directive 2000/60/EC:

- a a table presenting the limits of quantification of the methods of analysis applied, and information on the performance of those methods in relation to the minimum performance criteria laid down in Article 4 of Directive 2009/90/EC;
- b for the substances for which the option in paragraph 3 of this Article is used:
 - (i) the reasons and basis for using that option;
 - (ii) where relevant, the alternative EQS established, evidence that those EQS would offer at least the same level of protection as the EQS laid down in Part A of Annex I, including the data and methodology used to derive the EQS, and the categories of surface water to which they would apply;
 - (iii) for comparison with the information referred to in point (a) of this paragraph, the limits of quantification of the methods of analysis for the matrices specified in Part A of Annex I to this Directive, including information on the performance of those methods in relation to the minimum performance criteria laid down in Article 4 of Directive 2009/90/EC;
- c justification for the frequency of monitoring applied in accordance with paragraph 4, if monitoring intervals are longer than one year.

5a Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that the updated river basin management plans, produced in accordance with Article 13(7) of Directive 2000/60/ EC, containing the results and impact of the measures taken to prevent chemical pollution of surface water, and the interim report describing progress in the implementation of the planned programme of measures in accordance with Article 15(3) of Directive 2000/60/EC, are provided through a central portal which is accessible to the public electronically in accordance with Article 7(1) of Directive 2003/4/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2003 on public access to environmental information⁽¹⁾.

6 Member States shall arrange for the long-term trend analysis of concentrations of those priority substances listed in Part A of Annex I that tend to accumulate in sediment and/or biota, giving particular consideration to the substances numbered 2, 5, 6, 7, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 26, 28, 30, 34, 35, 36, 37, 43 and 44 listed in Part A of Annex I, on the basis of the monitoring of surface water status carried out in accordance with Article 8 of Directive 2000/60/EC. Member States shall take measures aimed at ensuring, subject to Article 4 of Directive 2000/60/EC, that such concentrations do not significantly increase in sediment and/or relevant biota.

Member States shall determine the frequency of monitoring in sediment and/or biota so as to provide sufficient data for a reliable long-term trend analysis. As a guideline, monitoring should take place every three years, unless technical knowledge and expert judgment justify another interval.

7 The Commission shall examine technical and scientific progress, including the conclusions of risk assessments as referred to in points (a) and (b) of Article 16(2) of Directive 2000/60/EC and information from the registration of substances made publicly available in accordance with Article 119 of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006, and, if necessary, propose that the EQS laid down in Part A of Annex I to this Directive be revised in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 294 TFEU in line with the timetable provided for in Article 16(4) of Directive 2000/60/EC.

8 The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 10, where necessary in order to adapt point 3 of Part B of Annex I to this Directive to scientific or technical developments.

8a In order to facilitate the implementation of this Article, technical guidelines on monitoring strategies and analytical methods for substances, including sampling and monitoring of biota, shall be developed, to the extent possible, by 22 December 2014, as part of the existing implementation process of Directive 2000/60/EC.

In particular, the guidelines shall cover:

- a the monitoring of substances in biota as provided for in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article;
- b in the case of newly identified substances (numbered 34 to 45 in Part A of Annex I) and substances for which stricter EQS are established (numbered 2, 5, 15, 20, 22, 23 and 28 in Part A of Annex I), analytical methods compliant with the minimum performance criteria laid down in Article 4 of Directive 2009/90/EC.

8b In the case of substances for which technical guidelines have not been adopted by 22 December 2014, the deadline of 22 December 2015 referred to in point (i) of paragraph (1a) shall be extended to 22 December 2018, and the deadline of 22 December 2021 referred to in that point shall be extended to 22 December 2027.]

Textual Amendments

F1 Substituted by Directive 2013/39/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 August 2013 amending Directives 2000/60/EC and 2008/105/EC as regards priority substances in the field of water policy (Text with EEA relevance).

Status: EU Directives are being published on this site to aid cross referencing from UK legislation. After IP completion day (31 December 2020 11pm) no further amendments will be applied to this version.

(**1**) [^{F1}OJ L 41, 14.2.2003, p. 26;]

Textual Amendments

F1 Substituted by Directive 2013/39/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 August 2013 amending Directives 2000/60/EC and 2008/105/EC as regards priority substances in the field of water policy (Text with EEA relevance).