

Desk Review of the Legal and Institutional Framework of Environmental Protection in Bosnia and Herzegovina

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FOREWORD

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1. CONSTITUTIONAL SETTING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY IN BIH

The Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), an annex to the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina (the Dayton Agreement) adopted in 1995, defines BiH as a sovereign state with a decentralized political and administrative structure, and several levels of political governance:

- Government at the level of the state of Bosnia and Herzegovina (legislative power: the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH, executive power: the Presidency of BiH and the Council of Ministers of BiH, judiciary power: the Constitutional Court of BiH and the Court of BiH)
- The two Entities:
 - The Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (legislative power: the Parliament of FBiH, executive power: the President of FBiH and the Government of FBiH, judiciary power: the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court). The Federation of BiH is further decentralized into 10 Cantons with their own governments, parliaments and courts.
 - The Republic of Srpska (legislative power: the People's Assembly of Republic of Srpska, executive power: the President of RS and the Government of RS, judiciary power: the Constitutional court, the Supreme Court). The Republic of Srpska is centralized and it has two levels of governance: the republican and local – municipal level.

The Brčko District is a self-governing administrative unit, under the sovereignty of Bosnia and Herzegovina and formally a part of both Entities. Legislative power lies with the Assembly of the District, executive power with the Government of the District and judiciary power with the courts of the District.

Environmental protection issues are not one of the ten items defined in the Constitution as competencies of State institutions, therefore they fall under the following provision: "All governmental functions and powers not expressly assigned in this Constitution to the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall be those of the Entities" (Article III, Paragraph 3).

The Constitution of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina stipulates competencies of this Entity and the constituent Cantons in terms of environmental protection, as follows:

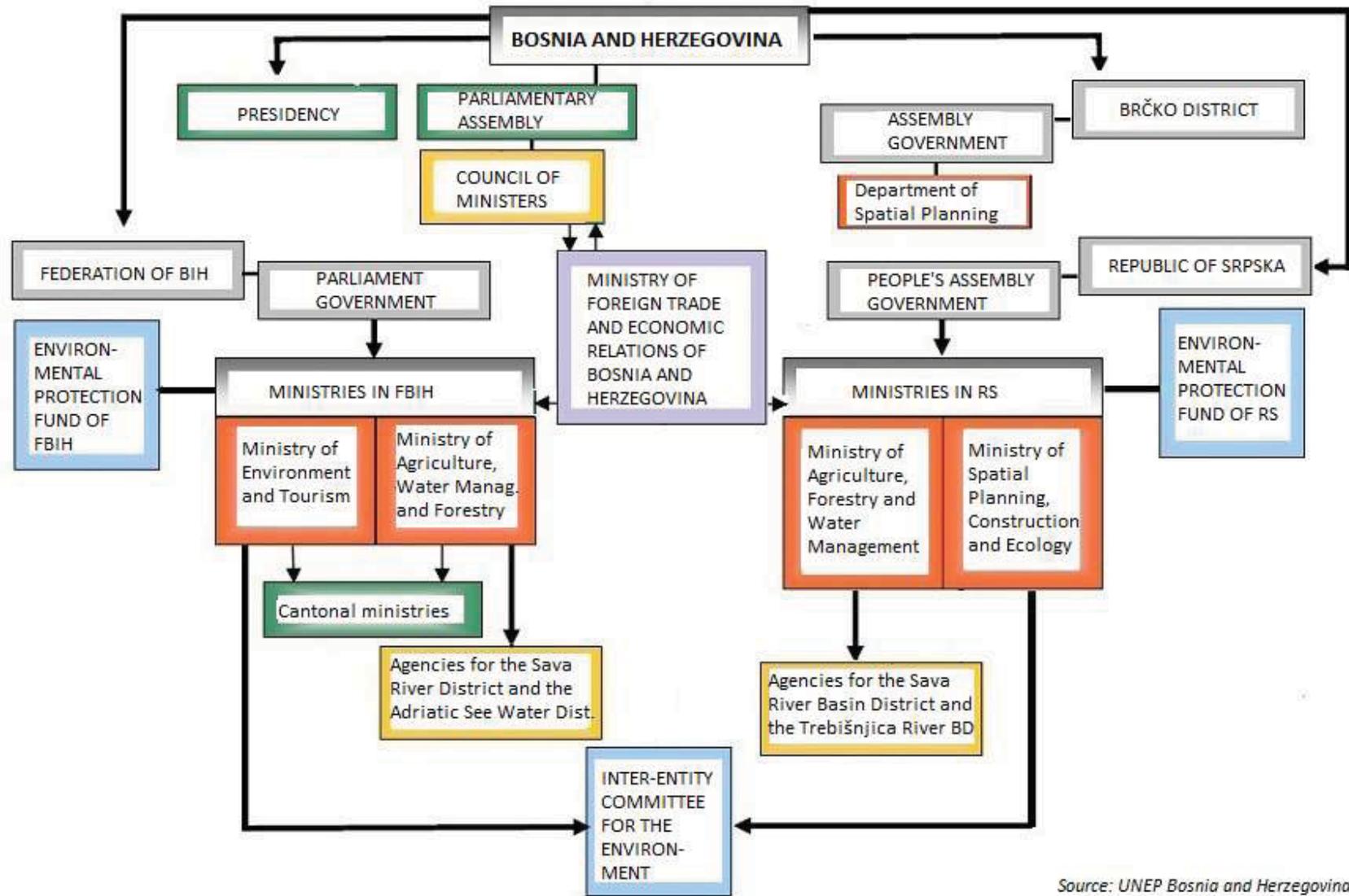
- The Federation is exclusively competent for the "economic policy, including planning and reconstruction, and land use policy at the federal level" (Article III.1c – Amendment VIII) as well as for the "energy policy, including inter-cantonal distribution matters and for providing and maintaining the needed infrastructure" (Article III.1g – Amendment VIII).
- the Federation and the Cantons are jointly competent for, e.g., health, environmental policy, tourism and use of natural resources (Article III.2). These competencies "may be exercised jointly or separately, or by the Cantons as coordinated by the Federation Government." (Article III.3)

- “The Cantons shall have all competencies not expressly granted to the Federation Government”, such as policy making in connection to the regulation and provision of public services, regulation of local land use and local power production facilities, establishment and implementation of Cantonal tourism policy and development of tourism resources. (Article III.4)

The Constitution of the Republic of Srpska explicitly makes reference to the environment in Chapter II under Human Rights and Freedoms: “Everyone shall have the right to a healthy environment. Everyone shall be bound, in accordance with the law and within his possibilities, to protect and improve the environment” (Article 35). This Entity “shall protect and encourage... the rational use of natural resources with a view to protect and improve the quality of life and protect and rehabilitate the environment for the general benefit.” (Article 64). According to Article 68 of its Constitution, the Republic of Srpska is responsible for regulating and ensuring environmental protection as well as for the main objectives and directions of economic, scientific, technological, demographic and social development, the development of agriculture and the village, the use of space, policies and measures for directing development and goods. Some of the municipal competencies in this Entity are to “enact a development program and an urban development plan” and to “ensure that the needs of citizens related to culture, education, health and social protection, sports, information, entrepreneurship, tourism and catering, environmental protection and needs related to other areas are met.” (Article 102)

The highest law of the Brčko District in Bosnia and Herzegovina is the Statute of the Brčko District, which is based on the General Framework Agreement for Peace, the Final Award of the Arbitration Tribunal for the Dispute over the Inter-Entity Boundary Line in Brčko Area, and the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Article 9 of the Statute lists environment as one of the competencies of the public authorities in the District, but this field is not elaborated in details.

GENERAL SCHEME OF ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



Source: UNEP Bosnia and Herzegovina

2. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

2.1. State Level Institutions

The Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina (MoFTER) was delegated certain competencies in environmental protection by virtue of the Law on Ministries and Other Administrative Bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Official Gazette of BiH No. 5/03), as stipulated in Article 9: "The Ministry shall be competent for carrying out tasks and discharging duties which are within the jurisdiction of BiH and relate to defining policy, basic principles, co-ordinating activities and harmonising plans of the Entity authorities and bodies at the international level in the fields of agriculture, energy, environmental protection, development and use of natural resources." One of the eight sectors within this Ministry is the Sector for Natural Resources, Energy and Environmental Protection, which is comprised of five departments: Department for Water Resources, Department for Tourism, Department for Primary Energy and Policy, Department for Secondary Energy and Projects, Department for Environmental Protection and Department for Project Implementation.

Bosnia and Herzegovina Authority for Plant Health Protection was established by virtue of the decision of the Council of Ministers dating back to 2004 (Official Gazette of BiH No. 23/04), as an administrative organization within the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations and its head office is located in Sarajevo. This Authority is a national body for plant health protection, which is competent for coordination and liaison with regard to plant protection issues and for provisions arising from the International Plant Protection Convention (Official Gazette of BiH No. 8/03), ratified by BiH in 2003, as well as from local legislation. The Authority is comprised of three departments: Department for Plant Health Protection, Department for Phytopharmaceutical Substances and Mineral Fertilizers and the Department for Seeds and Planting Materials for Agricultural Crops and Variety Protection.

The Veterinary Medicine Office of BiH was established by virtue of the decision of the Council of Ministers dated 18 December 2000. The Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina is directly competent for this state body. The Veterinary Medicine Office enacts the competencies it was delegated under the law in a harmonized manner and in line with operational activities of the Entity veterinary medicine services and in line with the activities of the Brčko District Veterinary Medicine Service, all for the purpose of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the overall service system in Bosnia and Herzegovina and of maintaining the status of an international recognized state veterinary medicine service. The Office is comprised of the following departments: Department for Animal Health and Welfare, Department for Food Safety and Conditions in Facilities, Department for Veterinary Medicine Inspection, Agency for Animal Identification. The Veterinary Medicine Office of Bosnia and Herzegovina partially regulates the field of environmental protection by way of preventive veterinary medicine

based on the Law of Veterinary Medicine of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Official Gazette of BiH No. 34/02).

Bosnia and Herzegovina Agency for Statistics (BHAS) is a body competent for processing, distributing and defining the statistical data of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH Law on Statistics, Official Gazette of BiH No. 26/04); it conducts international representation and performs international obligations of Bosnia and Herzegovina regarding statistics; it defines statistical standards for carrying out Statistics Research Programmes, thereby taking into consideration the statistical legal acts of the European union comprised in the *Statistical requirements compendium*, international recommendations and other principles as well as best practices that guide the operations of statistical institutions. One of the ten sectors with the Bosnia and Herzegovina Agency for Statistics is the Sector for Agriculture, Environment and Regional Statistics, which is comprised of two Departments: Department for Environment, Energy and Regional Statistics and Department for Agriculture. The relations between Entity Institutes and the BiH Agency for Statistics are governed by the BiH Law on Statistics (Article 18) and the Agreement on the application of unique methodologies and standards for developing BiH statistical data.

Bosnia and Herzegovina Ministry of Communications and Transport (MKT BiH) has the following competencies as defined by the Law on Ministries and Other Administrative Bodies of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Official Gazette of BiH No. 5/03):

- policy and regulation of joint and international communication devices, international and inter-entity transport and infrastructure;
- preparation of contracts, agreements and other documents in the field of international and inter-entity communications and transport;
- relations with international organizations in the field of international and inter-entity communications and transport;
- preparation and drafting of strategic and planning documents in the field of international and inter-entity communications, transport, infrastructure and information technology;
- control of unhindered transport within international transport ; civil aviation and supervision of air transport (this Ministry also comprises the BiH Directorate for Civil Aviation, an administrative organization, the rights and duties of which are defined by a special law).

*The Inter-Entity Coordination Body for the Environment*¹ established in 2006, deals with all environmental protection issues which require a harmonized approach of both Entities and is competent for harmonizing environmental laws, regulations, standards and actions plans, international treaties addressing environmental issues and their implementation;

¹ Also known as the Inter-Entity Committee for the Environment

participation in international processes and cooperation with international organizations; monitoring of the environment, information systems and information exchange as well as transboundary and inter-entity environmental issues. This Committee consists of eight members, four nominated by the Government of the Republic of Srpska and four nominated by the Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, who meet at least six times a year.

The Inter-Entity Advisory Commission for the Coordination of Water Management (also known as the Inter-Entity Water Committee) was established in early 2000, but ceased to exist due to amendments to the Law on Water in 2006 (see Section 3).

The Designated National Authority of Bosnia and Herzegovina for Implementing Clean Development Mechanism Projects of the Kyoto Protocol of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was established by virtue of the decision of the BiH Council of Ministers dated 13 December 2010 (Official Gazette of BiH No. 102/10), thus solving the issue of establishing this Designated National Authority (DNA BiH), which is necessary for including Bosnia and Herzegovina into the activities of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). It is anticipated in the said Decision that DNA BiH shall comprise the Executive Board of DNA, Entity secretariats, the Brčko District Secretariat and Expert Councils (Expert Panels). The Republic of Srpska Ministry of Spatial Planning, Construction and Ecology shall preside over the Executive Board as the institution nominated to implement the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Other important state institutions that, amongst other things, deal with environmental issues are:

- *The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of BiH*, competent for preparing bilateral and multilateral agreements and contracts
- *The Directorate for European Integrations of Bosnia and Herzegovina* is a permanent body within the Council of Ministers of BiH, which overtook the role of the former Ministry of European Integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2002. The Directorate is competent for the following:
 - Co-ordination of activities on the alignment of the BiH legal system with the EU accession standards (*acquis communautaire*),
 - Verification of the coherence of all draft laws and regulations submitted to the Council of Ministers by all ministries and administrative organizations with directives of the "White Paper – Preparation of Associated States of Central and Eastern Europe for Integration into the Internal Market of the Union",
 - Harmonization of the activities of the authorities and institutions of BiH in the field of the EU integration,

- Co-ordination of enforcement of decisions passed by relevant authorities and institutions of BiH, Entities and of the Brčko District of BiH in regard to all activities necessary in the field of the EU integration,
- Acting as the central operational partner of the institutions of the European Commission in the process of stabilization and association,
- Co-ordination of the EU assistance,
- Participation in activities on drafting laws, regulations and guidelines concerning the inclusion into the European integration processes.

2.2. Entity Level Institutions

The main institutions that are responsible for environmental issues at the Entity and District level in Bosnia and Herzegovina are:

- The Ministry of Environment and Tourism of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

This Ministry performs “administrative, professional and other tasks falling under the competence of the Federation of BiH pertaining to: *air, water and soil protection, drafting an environmental protection strategy and policy, drafting air, water and soil quality standards, environmental monitoring and control of air, water and soil*; drafting of development strategies and policies for tourism and the catering industry; monitoring of tourist flows and trends in local and international markets; directing the long-term development of tourism within the economic system and other tasks as set out in the law (Article 20a of the Law on Modifications and Amendments to the Law on Federal Ministries and Other Bodies of the Federal Administration, Official Gazette of FBiH No. 8/06). There are five sectors within this Ministry: Sector for the Environment, Sector for Licensing, Sector for Tourism, Sector for Project Implementation and Sector for Legal, Financial and General Affairs. This Ministry acts as the National Focal Point² of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the European Environment Agency (EEA).

- The Ministry of Spatial Planning, Construction and Ecology of the Republic of Srpska

This Ministry is competent for carrying out “administrative activities and professional tasks related to: integral planning and spatial planning; drafting and implementing the Spatial Plan of the Republic in accordance with the Spatial Plan of Bosnia and Herzegovina; revision, administrative supervision and approval of regional plans for towns, municipalities and special territories and urban development plans; revision of spatial planning documentation, development programs, investment and technical documentation of special interest to the Republic; urban planning and building; development of construction land; production of construction materials; development and services

² Bosnia and Herzegovina is a cooperating country to EEA

pertaining to construction; housing and the financing thereof; housing cooperatives, housing relations and obtaining ownership of residential buildings and state - owned apartments; maintenance and management of buildings and apartments; utilities; *overall protection of the quality of the environment and the improvement thereof through research, planning management and protection measures; protecting assets of general interest, natural resources, natural and cultural heritage; inspection supervision in the field of urban planning, construction, utilities and environmental protection*, cooperation with relevant ministries and institutions of the Federation of BiH; providing information about its work through the media and other means of information dissemination and performance of other tasks in accordance with the law and other regulations of the RS and BiH” (Article 15 of the Law on Ministries of RS, Official Gazette of RS 70/02). There are five sectors within this Ministry: Secretariat of the Ministry, Sector for Urban and Spatial Planning, Sector for Construction, Sector for Environmental Protection, Sector for Project Coordination, Development and European Integration.

- *The Department for Spatial Planning, Property Rights Matters of the Brčko District Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina*

This is one of the twelve departments in the Brčko District government. The Department is competent for “spatial and urban planning, issuing development permits, *environmental protection and environmental permits*, legalizing illegally built structures, property rights matters and protection of cultural, historical and natural heritage from the aspect of issuing development permits and for defining procedures for the list of protected structures” (Article 21 of the Law on Public Administration of the Brčko District, Official Gazette of BD 19/07). Next to the stated, this Department carries out other environmental protection activities such as issuance of permits for importing and exporting hazardous and non-hazardous waste in line with legal provisions concerning environmental protection and other regulations pertaining to the environment; it also prepares laws, other regulations and general documents; organizes activities for the purpose of preventing or mitigating adverse effects on the environment; participates in the drafting of programs and plans pertaining to the use natural resources; participates in the drafting and implementation of a specialized plan for environmental protection issues and it monitors the environment. The Department is composed of a Sub-Department for Spatial Planning, Urban Planning and Environmental Protection and a Sub-Department for Property Rights Matters. The first Sub-Department has a special Office for Spatial Planning, Urban Planning and Environmental Protection.

Other relevant institutions at the Entity level of governance in Bosnia and Herzegovina are:

- *The Federal Ministry of Spatial Planning* carries out tasks related to spatial planning and development in the Federation, drafting, enforcing and applying the Spatial Plan of the Federation and harmonizing spatial plans of cantons with the Federal Spatial Plan, land use at the Federal level, long-term planning of natural resources use, geological survey and protection of national monuments and areas of profound building, cultural and historical significance.

- *The Advisory Council for the Environment of FBiH*, appointed in 2006 by the Government of FBiH in accordance with Article 41 of the FBiH Law on Environmental Protection, is responsible for providing scientific and expert support in the environment sector to the Ministry of Environment and Tourism of FBiH and the Federal Government and the Council is centred on improving the coordination between the Federal and cantonal authorities in this sector. This Advisory Council consists of 13 members, 10 of which are proposed by the relevant cantonal ministries, whilst the remaining three members are proposed by the said Federal Ministry, Academy of Sciences and Arts of BiH and REC BiH.
- *The Foundation for Sustainable Development of the FBiH Government (OdRaz)*, established in 2001 to the effect of implementing various government projects concerning reconstruction, development and transition, all of which are to support a sustainable development of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- *The Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry*, together with the relevant sectors for water management, agriculture and veterinary medicine and the Sector for Forestry which includes the Federal Forestry Authority.
- *The RS Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management*, together with its sectors for agriculture, agricultural policy and international cooperation, veterinary medicine, food industry and water management. The Agency for the Sava River Basin District, the Agency for the Trebišnjica River Basin District, the Agency for Forests and the Republic Hydrometeorological Institute are, amongst others, the administrative organizations of this Ministry;
- *The Federal Ministry of Health*, together with the Department for Public Health, Monitoring and Evaluation, which has the relevant competence in public health and sanitary inspections. The role of the public health service is to preserve the population's health through organized comprehensive activities of the society directed towards preventing the occurrence of risk factors that lead to diseases, which also pertains to the preservation of the environment;
- *RS Ministry of Health and Social Protection* has relevant competencies in monitoring and supervising the health safety of water, foodstuffs and general use items and in sanitary inspection supervision ;
- *The Federal Ministry of Energy, Mining and Industry*, has relevant competencies in the utilization of natural resources and in energy policies. This Ministry participates in, amongst other things, preparing and carrying out environmental protection programmes and fulfilling the obligations set out in the Energy Community Treaty, which includes "promotion and improvement of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources";
- *RS Ministry of Industry, Energy and Mining*, has relevant competencies in the utilization of natural resources and in energy policies. This Ministry performs administrative and other professional tasks relating to, amongst other things, exploitation of resources for the purpose of producing electric energy, promotion of renewable electric energy sources, production and promotion of biofuel use etc.

There is also a certain number of expert public institutions that deal with environmental issues either within ministries or under direct authority of Entity governments. Their duties encompass providing expert services (such as statistics, hydrometeorology...), supervision and control of activities that affect the state of the environment (i.e. inspections), planning and carrying out activities for the purpose of safeguarding people, goods and the environment from natural disasters, extraordinary events and large scale incidents (i.e. civil protection management). Such institutions are:

- *The Environmental Protection Fund of the Republic of Srpska* was established by virtue of the Law on the Environmental Protection Fund (Official Gazette of RS Nos. 51/02 and 53/07) to the effect of financing, preparing, implementing and developing programmes, projects and similar activities in the field of preservation, sustainable use, protection and improvement of the environment. The proceeds of the Fund are used for financing environmental protection, especially for: protecting, preserving and improving water and air quality, rehabilitating landfills, protecting and preserving bio- and geo-diversity, inducing sustainable use of natural resources, inducing sustainable development of rural areas, inducing educational, research and development studies, programmes and projects and other activities, including advertising activities.
- *The Environmental Protection Fund of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina* was established by virtue of the Law on the Environmental Protection Fund (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 33/03). The activities of the Fund comprise fund raising, inducement and financing of programme preparation, implementation and development and other similar activities in the field of preservation, sustainable use, protection and improvement of the state of the environment and use of renewable energy sources, especially: professional and other activities in relation to obtaining, managing and utilizing the proceeds of the Fund, liaising with regard to environmental protection financed from funds of other countries, international financial institutions and bodies, domestic and foreign legal and natural persons; providing expert services in terms of financing environmental protection; maintaining databases of programmes, projects and other similar activities in the field of environmental protection and of the necessary and available funds for the implementation thereof; inducing, establishing and achieving cooperation with international and domestic financial institutions and other legal and natural persons to the effect of financing environmental protection in line with: the Federal Strategy for Environmental Protection, environmental protection plans adopted on the basis of the Strategy, international agreements to which Bosnia and Herzegovina is a party and other programmes and documents relating to environmental protection.
- *The Federal Authority for Inspection Activities* encompasses ten inspectorates including the Urban Planning and Ecology Inspection which performs inspection supervision of the enactment of laws and regulations relating to environmental protection, spatial planning and construction (the competencies of the Authority include, amongst other things, supervision of spatial development, environmental

protection and protection of natural resources, development and harmonization of spatial planning documents and the implementation thereof, environmental protection, protection of cultural and historic monuments and of natural heritage sites, water protection, control of used water and wastewaters and implementation of water pollution prevention plans, nature protection, renewal and improvement of ecological quality etc.) Other inspectorates relevant for the environment within this Authority are the Agricultural Inspectorate, Forestry Inspectorate and Water Management Inspectorate.

- *The Republic Authority for Inspection Activities of the Republic of Srpska* comprises twelve inspectorates of which the Urban Planning, Construction and Ecology Republic Inspection supervises the application of regulations concerning urban planning and construction, environmental protection and spatial development, waste management and surveying activities. Other relevant inspectorates within this Authority are the Agricultural Inspection, the Forestry and Hunting Inspection and the Water Inspection.
- *The Agency for the Adriatic Sea Water District* was established in accordance with the Law on Water (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 70/06) and it became the legal successor of the rights and obligations of the Public Company for the Adriatic Sea Basin District on 01 January 2008. Its activities cover the Adriatic Sea basin district - the Neretva, Cetina and Krka river basins within the borders of the Federation of BiH. The head office of the Agency is located in Mostar.
- *The Agency for the Sava River District* was also established by virtue of the Law on Water (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 70/06). Its head office is located in Sarajevo and it administers the water district that encompasses a part of the international Danube river basin (a part of the international Sava river sub-basin) on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, that is, the Federation of BiH.

Both Agencies for water districts have the same duties as stipulated in the Law on Water: preparing analyses of water district characteristics; preparing overviews of the affect of human activities on the state of surface and ground waters; preparing economic analyses of water use; establishing a registry of protected areas..., as well as of areas under special protection as defined by the decision of the Government of the Federation of BiH; establishing a registry of water bodies that are already used or anticipated to be used for abstraction of water intended for human consumption; preparing a classification of the ecological, chemical and quantitative state of water bodies; preparing programmes and organizing the monitoring of the state of water; preparing a water management plan and programme of measures.

- *The Agency for the Save River Basin District* is the legal successor of the Republic Water Directorate established in 1993 as a republic administrative organization that performs the following tasks in the Republic of Srpska: organizing the work and operations of the water management in the river basin district as well as of the work of water authority offices of the basin, proposing long-term and middle-term water management development plans and programmes, providing necessary funds and

defining the manner in which funds will be used, monitoring the implementation of water management development plans and programmes, controlling the use of dedicated funds, proposing rates of fees, proposing the annual work programme and financial plan, proposing criteria and norms for directing and allocating funds, and it performs other tasks in line with the law.

- *The Agency for the Trebišnjica River Basin District* is competent for the Trebišnjica River basin district. Within the district for which it is competent, the Agency organizes the gathering, management and distribution of water resource data – monitoring, hydrological state, quality state, ecological state and the state of ground waters, it prepares river basin management plans for its district as well as plans, analyses and projects for preventing and mitigating adverse effects on water, it undertakes urgent measures to prevent and mitigate adverse effects on water, it issues water management documents in line with the law, it promotes, organizes and supports research in the field of water resources and sustainable management thereof, it organizes activities to raise public awareness about water resources, it cooperates on issues concerning the development and implementation of water management plans with other similar bodies in the Federation of BiH, that is, with international bodies competent for international river basins, it consults such bodies or similar bodies in the RS and FBiH, it also performs other tasks defined by the law and put under its competence or assigned to it by the competent authority.
- *The Public Health Institute of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina* is a health institution that deals with public health service on the territory of the Federation. In line with the Law on Health Care, the Parliament of FBiH is the founder of the Institute, which was established as a particularly important institution for implementing the secondary and tertiary levels of public health service. The activities of the Institution are directed at preserving and improving public health, which includes: promoting health care and disease prevention, controlling contagious diseases, health and the environment, public health planning and programming and research. According to Article 17 of the Law on Health Care of FBiH (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 01-02-430/10), one of the core functions of public health service is public health supervision; research and control of public health risks and threats, which encompasses, amongst other things, effects of environmental risk factors (water, air, food, soil, noise, high and low temperatures, mines etc.) and passing measures to prevent such factors from affecting public health.
- *The Public Health Institute of the Republic of Srpska* is, in line with Article 68 of the Law on Health Care (Official Gazette of RS No. 106/09), a public health institution that deals with public health service at the Entity level and provides medical, hygiene, ecological, epidemiological and microbiological health services and it is competent for, amongst other things, monitoring, evaluating and analyzing the state of public health, monitoring and investigating into health issues and public health risks, performing bacteriological, parasitological, virological, serological, chemical and toxicological inspections and testing concerning the production and circulation

of foodstuffs, water, air and general use items as well as for partial diagnosis of contagious and non-contagious diseases within the field of public health, for establishing the necessary measures in the event of natural and other large scale disasters and for implementing such measures in cooperation with other institutions, for controlling ionizing and non-ionizing radiation sources, dosimetry control for occupationally exposed personnel and laboratory radiation control, controlling radionuclides in air, soil, water and foodstuffs etc. According to Article 39 of the above stated Law, public health is a special form of health protection for the population, which implies organized and comprehensive activities of the society with a view to preserve physical and mental health, that is, to protect the environment and to suppress risk factors relating to disease occurrence and injuries, all of which are achieved by applying medical technologies and measurements intended to promote health, prevent diseases and improve quality of life.

- *The Federal Office of Statistics* is responsible for statistics and is obliged to gather, produce, file, protect, analyse and disseminate statistical data for FBiH. Statistical research programmes are either quadrennial (Program) or annual (Work Plan) and these represent one of the core tasks of the Federal Office for Statistics apart from its main task of producing and disseminating data for the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Department of Industry, Construction, Agriculture, Forestry and Environmental Protection Statistics within the Business Statistics Sector of the Office is responsible for environmental statistics.
- *Republic Srpska Institute of Statistics* is a republic administrative organization, the core task of which is to produce official statistical data for all categories of users from the Government and other authorities to business systems, science institutions, media, the general public and individuals. The Institute implements the regular and introduces new environmental statistics research in accordance with the annual Plan and the quadrennial Work Programme; one of the sectors of the Institute is the Sector of Labour, Prices, Living Standard and Environmental Statistics together with the Department of Labour and Environmental Protection Statistics.
- *The Federal Hydrometeorological Institute* is an independent federal administrative organization that performs professional and other tasks pertaining to permanent monitoring in the field of meteorology, hydrology, environmental quality, seismology and astronomy; it conducts research into the atmosphere, water resources, environmental quality (air, water, soil), seismic processes and astronomical phenomena; it gathers, process, analyses and issues data referring to its scope of operation for the territory of the Federation of BiH; it issues weather bulletins and forecasts on a daily basis and actively cooperates with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), thereby applying its data exchange and service improvement standards.
- *The Republic Hydrometeorological Institute, Banja Luka* is an administrative organization within the RS Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water

Management, the tasks of which are defined in the Law on Meteorological and Hydrological Activities (Official Gazette of RS No. 20/2000). The Institute performs tasks pertaining to the development and operation of meteorological, hydrological and seismic activities regarding research into atmospheric phenomena and processes, climate, water resources, air and water quality, seismic processes and gathering, processing and issuing data referring to its scope of operation in line with the law and the regulations of the World Meteorological Organization. The Republic Hydrometeorological Institute, Banja Luka and the Federal Hydrometeorological Institute have been nominated for the National Reference Centre for Water and Air Quality in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

- *The Republic Institute for Protection of the Cultural, Historical and Natural Heritage of the Republic of Srpska* is an administrative organization within the RS Ministry of Education and Culture, which performs professional and other tasks pertaining to: record keeping, research and evaluation of property, movable property and natural areas put under preliminary protection; maintenance of a central registry of protected resources; approving expert analyses for carrying out conservation and restoration works on protected resources and for refurbishing and revitalizing such resources; drafting of expert analyses on protecting and using resources during the development of spatial and urban development plans; granting approval for temporarily taking protected resources abroad; approvals for archaeological and other research; defining conditions for using protected resources, expert supervision over the work of protection organizations; performing other tasks related to protecting and using the cultural, historical and natural heritage and to information exchange with all relevant institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Europe.

2.3. Stakeholders at the Cantonal and Local Level

Environmental governance at the local level in Bosnia and Herzegovina is quite a complex matter. As mentioned above, the Federation of BiH is composed of ten Cantons, the competencies of which are set out in the Constitution of FBiH. Each Canton has its own government and adopts its own laws (harmonized with the FBiH legislation). There is no unique form of organization or policy for ministries dealing with environmental issues at the Cantonal level.

LIST OF CANTONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MINISTRIES IN FBIH

No.	Name of the Canton	Name of the competent Ministry
1	Una-Sana Canton	Ministry of Construction, Spatial Planning and Environmental Protection
2	Posavina Canton	Ministry of Transport, Communications, Tourism and Environmental Protection

3	Tuzla Canton	Ministry of Urban Planning, Spatial Planning and Environmental Protection
4	Zenica-Doboj Canton	Ministry of Spatial Planning, Transport and Communications and Environmental Protection
5	Bosnian Podrinje Canton	Ministry of Urban Planning, Spatial Planning and Environmental Protection
6	Central Bosnia Canton	Ministry of Spatial Planning, Reconstruction and Return <i>(it also deals with the environment)</i>
7	Herzegovina-Neretva Canton	Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Environmental Protection
8	West Herzegovina Canton	Ministry of Spatial Planning, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection
9	Sarajevo Canton	Ministry of Spatial Planning and Environmental Protection
10	Canton 10 (West Bosnia Canton)	Ministry of Construction, Reconstruction, Spatial Planning and Environmental Protection

Cantonal authorities for inspection activities, which comprise the urban planning and ecology inspectorate that is responsible for supervising the enactment of environmental protection regulations, have been established in the following Cantons:

1. Tuzla Canton
2. Sarajevo Canton
3. Una – Sana Canton
4. Zenica – Doboj Canton
5. Bosnian Podrinje Canton
6. West Herzegovina Canton

Cantonal authorities for inspection activities have not been established in other cantons as of yet.

Cantons are composed of 79 municipalities in total. The scope of work and competencies of municipalities are regulated by the Law on Principles of Local Self-Government in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 49/06). Article 8 of this Law lists the wording and implementation of spatial planning and environmental policies, water management, waste management and municipal natural resources management as some of the local self-government competencies which cannot be restricted or refused by Federal or Cantonal authorities, except in cases and to the extent defined by the law.

There are 63 municipalities in the Republic of Srpska and the Law on Local Self-Government (Official Gazette of RS No. 101/04) regulates their competencies. As stated in Article 12 of this Law, municipalities in RS have independent competencies in public services such as environmental protection and water management. Specific competencies of local self-government regarding protection of the environment and natural resources listed in Article 22 are the following:

- Protection and development of agricultural land
- Identification of erosion areas and anti-erosion measures
- Defining requirements and manners of development of pastureland
- Management of natural lakes, springs, public wells and fountains
- Water supply management
- Protection, development and improvement of areas with natural healing properties
- Prescribing emission limit values for hazardous substances as stipulated by law
- Publishing data on air quality and improving air quality as necessary
- Noise pollution prevention and noise measurement
- Protection of municipal natural heritage and values
- Veterinary medicine issues
- Livestock farming and bee-keeping

Municipalities in both Entities usually exercise their competencies in environmental protection through different municipal departments such as those for utilities, spatial planning, urban planning, development, inspections etc.

3. LEGAL FRAMEWORK

3.1. Environmental Laws

The first set of environmental laws in Bosnia and Herzegovina was prepared with the financial and technical assistance of the EU Community Assistance, Reconstruction, Development and Stabilization Programme (CARDS). The intention was to develop laws that would be compliant with the relevant EU Directives and harmonized for both Entities and the Brčko District.

This set of laws was considered and approved by the Inter-Entity Environmental Steering Committee³ and it comprises the following laws:

- The Framework Law on Environmental Protection
- The Law on Air Protection
- The Law on Water Protection
- The Law on Waste Management
- The Law on Nature Protection
- The Law on the Environmental Fund

These laws were adopted in the Republic of Srpska in 2002, in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2003 and in the Brčko District in 2004. The contents of such laws are not identical for both Entities and the Brčko District, but are very similar and there are no

³ This Committee was operational from 1998 until 2006, when replaced by the Inter-Entity Committee for the Environment.

critical differences between them. However, the Law on Water Protection is no longer in force and has been replaced in both Entities by a new Law on Water in 2006 (see 3 and 4).

The complete list of laws, relating either directly or indirectly to the environment, adopted so far in Bosnia and Herzegovina, both Entities and the Brčko District are listed below. The laws in grey are no longer in force.

3.1.1 Environmental Laws at the Level of Bosnia and Herzegovina

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	
Full name of the law	Official Gazette of BiH No.
Law on Concessions	32/02
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments to the Law on Concessions 	56/04
BiH Law on Veterinary Medicine	34/02
Law on Plant Health Protection	23/03
Law on Genetically Modified Organisms	23/09
Law on Protection and Welfare of Animals	25/09
Law on Agriculture, Food and Rural Development of BiH	50/08
Law on Radiation and Nuclear Safety	88/07
BiH Law on Phytopharmaceutical Substances	49/04

3.1.2 Environmental Laws in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

FEDERATION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	
Full name of the law	Official Gazette of FBiH No.
Law on the Requirements for and Manner of Carrying out Woodcutting Activities	27/97
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on the Requirements for and Manner of Carrying out Woodcutting Activities 	25/06
Law on Water	18/98
Law on Protection against Ionizing Radiation and Radiation Safety	15/99
Law on Veterinary Medicine	46/00
Law on Forests ⁴	20/02

⁴ The Constitutional Court of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina having decided upon the request, made by the Heads of the Municipality of Konjic and the Alliance of Municipalities and Towns of the Federation of BiH, for protecting local self-governance rights as defined in the Law on Forests, at its session

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on forests 	29/03, 37/04
Law on Concessions	40/02
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Concessions 	61/06
Law on Spatial Planning	52/02
Law on Waste Management	33/03
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Waste Management 	72/09
Law on Air Protection	33/03
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Air Protection 	4/10
Law on Water Protection	33/03
Law on Environmental Protection	33/03
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Environmental Protection 	38/09
Law on Nature Protection	33/03
FBiH Law on the Environmental Protection Fund	33/03
Law on Freshwater Fishing	64/04
FBiH Law on Inspections	69/05
FBiH Law on Spatial Planning and Land Use	2/06
Law on Supplement to the FBIH Law on Spatial Planning and Land Use	13/10
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the FBIH Law on Spatial Planning and Land Use 	72/07, 32/08, 4/10, 13/10
Law on Hunting	4/06
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Hunting 	8/10
Law on Water	70/06
Law on Agriculture	88/07
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on 	4/10

held on 14 april 2009, passed Verdict No. U-26/08 (Official Gazette of the Federation of BiH No. 36/09) establishing a violation of local self-governance rights by the Law on Forests (Official Gazette of the Federation of BiH Nos. 20/02, 29/03 and 37/04). The Constitutional Court granted the Parliament of the Federation of BiH a period of six months, as from the publication date in the Official Gazette of the Federation of BiH, to align the provision of the Law on Forests with the European Charter on Local Self-Governance and the Law on Principles of Local Self-Governance in the Federation of BiH. Since the Parliament of the Federation of BiH did not act upon the verdict of the Constitutional Court of the Federation of BiH, the Law on Forests was made null and void on 27 November 2009. Forestry in the Federation of BiH is currently regulated by the Decree on Forests (Official Gazette of the Federation of BiH Nos. 83/09, 26/10, 33/10 and 38/10) passed by the Government of the Federation of BiH.

Agriculture	
Law on Una National Park	44/08
Law on Agricultural Land	52/09
Law on Geological Survey	9/10
FBiH Law on Mining	26/10
Law on Seeds and Planting Materials for Forest and Horticultural Trees and Bushes	71/05, 8/10
Law on Health Protection	46/10

3.1.3 Environmental Laws in the Republic of Srpska

REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA	
Full name of the law	Official Gazette of RS No.
Law on Water	10/98, 51/01
Law on Water Protection	53/02
Law on Forests	19/94
Law on Environmental Protection	53/02
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Environmental Protection • Law on Amendments to the Law on Environmental Protection 	109/05, 29/10 41/08
Law on Environmental Protection (Revised text ⁵)	28/07
Law on Nature Protection	50/02
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Nature Protection 	34/08, 59/08
Law on Nature Protection (Revised text)	113/08
Law on Air Protection	53/02
Law on Hunting	4/02
Law on Waste Management	53/02
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Waste Management 	65/08
Law on the Environmental Protection Fund	51/02
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments to the Law on the Environmental Protection Fund 	53/07
Law on Spatial Planning	84/02
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on 	14/03, 112/06, 53/07

⁵ A revised text of a law or act includes solely the integral text of that law/act.

Spatial Planning	
Law on Hunting	4/02
• Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Hunting	34/08
Law on Concessions	25/02
• Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Concessions	91/06, 92/09
Law on National Parks	21/96
• Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on National Parks	74/05
Law on Agricultural Land	14/04
Law on Organic Food Production	75/04
• Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Organic Food Production	71/09
Law on Geological Survey	51/04
Law on Protection against Ionizing Radiation	2/05
Law on Water	50/06
• Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Water	92/09
Law on Agriculture	70/06
• Law on Supplements to the Law on Agriculture	20/07
• Law on Amendments to the Law on Agriculture	86/07
• Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Agriculture	71/09
Law on Agricultural Land	93/06
• Law on Supplements to the Law on Agricultural Land	86/07
• Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Agricultural Land	14/10
RS Law on Veterinary Medicine	42/08
Law on Forests	75/08
Law on Genetically Modified Organisms	103/08
Law on Animal Protection and Welfare	111/08
Law on Nature Protection (revised text)	113/08
Law on Chemicals	25/09
RS Law on Plant Health Protection	25/09
Law on Biocides	37/09
Law on Energy	49/09
Law on Hunting	60/09
Law on Fishing	4/02
• Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Fishing	58/09
Law on Plant Protection Products	52/10

Law on Beekeeping	52/10
Law on Spatial Planning and Construction	55/10
Law on Forest Reproductive Materials	60/09
RS Law on Meteorological and Hydrological Activities	20/00
Law on National Parks	75/10
Law on Mining	107/05
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Mining 	75/10

3.1.4 Environmental Laws in the Brčko District

BRČKO DISTRICT	
Full name of the law	Official Gazette of BD No.
Law on Air Protection	25/04
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments to the Law on Air Protection • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Air Protection 	19/07 1/05, 9/09
Law on Nature Protection	24/04
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments to the Law on Nature Protection • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Nature Protection 	19/07 1/05, 9/09
Law on Concessions	41/06
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Concessions 	19/07, 2/08
Law on Spatial Planning and Construction	29/08
Law on Freshwater Fishing	35/05
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Freshwater Fishing 	19/07
Brčko District BiH Law on Forests	14/10
Brčko District BiH Law on Water Protection ⁶	25/04, 19/07
Law on Waste Management	25/04
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments to the Law on Waste Management • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Waste Management 	19/07 1/05, 2/08, 9/09
Law on Environmental Protection	24/04

⁶ A new Law on Water is underway and when it is adopted the Law on Water Protection will become null and void.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments to the Law on Environmental Protection 	19/07
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments and Supplements to the Law on Environmental Protection 	1/05, 9/09
Law on Agricultural Land	32/04
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law on Amendments to the Law on Agricultural Land 	20/06, 19/07

The first table shows that the environmental legislation of Bosnia and Herzegovina is very limited and that the state level environmental sector is poorly regulated. The state Law on Environmental Protection has still not been adopted although this is one of the requirements for the European integration of BiH (see section 1.4) and was also one of the environmental priorities in the Bosnia and Herzegovina Mid-Term Development Strategy – Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP). A task force for drafting this law was established in August 2008 but the law has not entered into the parliamentary procedure as of yet, due to the complexity of its technical details and disagreements between different levels of governance in BiH regarding the unification of the environmental sector in BiH. Other laws related to the environment have not been adopted (e.g. the Law on Noise Pollution Prevention and the Law on Land Protection), not only at the state level, but in both Entities as well.

The existing legislation is not harmonized vertically (there are many gaps between state and Entity level laws and between laws at the level of Cantons and the Federation of BiH), let alone horizontally (environmental legislation differs in the two Entities and all relevant laws in both Entities and the Brčko District have not been adopted).

3.2. Overview of Subordinate Legislation Governing the Environment

One of the issues of environmental legislation in BiH is that certain bylaws, which have been prescribed by the above mentioned environmental laws, are lacking and it is also necessary to adopt a large part of the subordinate legislation to implement the prescribed measures. The Governments of both Entities issue four types of subordinate legislation: decrees, decisions, orders and conclusions. The most important issues governed by the Government, relations regarding law enforcement, establishment of expert and other departments of the Governments are regulated by decrees and the principles of the internal organization of Entity authorities are defined by decrees. Individual issues or prescribed measures of the Government are regulated, approvals are issued, acts of other authorities or organizations are certified and other issues not encompassed by decrees are agreed on the basis of decisions. Nominations or release from duty and other individual issues under the authority of the Government are regulated by orders. Opinions on issues important for implementing a defined policy are regulated, internal relations within the Government are regulated and tasks of state/Entity authorities and of departments within the Government are agreed on the basis of conclusions.

Apart from laws passed by the Government, bylaws in the form of rulebooks, which are passed by the competent minister and which additionally regulate laws, i.e., issues significant for the environment, are also applied.

3.2.1 Subordinate Legislation Governing the Environment in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Law on Environmental Protection (Official Gazette of FBiH Nos. 33/03 and 38/09)

1. Rulebook on plants and facilities that require an environmental impact assessment and on plants and facilities that can be constructed and commissioned only if an environmental permit has been issued (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 19/04);
2. Rulebook on drafting annual/semi-annual inspection programmes for environmental protection;
3. Rulebook on the contents of the report on the state of safety, content of information about safety measures and contents of internal and external intervention plans (SEVESO);
4. Rulebook on the requirements for applying for the issuance of an environmental permit for plants and facilities for which permits were issued before the Law on Environmental Protection came into force;
5. Rulebook on the deadlines for submitting environmental permit applications for plants and facilities for which permits were issued before the Law on Environmental Protection came into force;
6. Rulebook on the requirements and criteria that project leaders in charge of developing the Environmental Impact Study must meet and on rates of fees and other costs incurred during the environmental impact assessment (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 68/05);
- Rulebook on amendments to the Rulebook on the requirements and criteria that project leaders in charge of developing the Environmental Impact Study must meet and on rates of fees and other costs incurred during the environmental impact assessment (Official Gazette of FBiH No.92/07);
7. Rulebook on registries of plants and pollution (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 82/07);
8. Rulebook on passing the best available techniques (BAT) for achieving environmental quality standards (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 92/07);
9. Rulebook on ecolabels and on the manner of governing ecolabelling (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 92/07)

Law on Air Protection (Official Gazette of FBiH Nos. 92/0733/03 and 4/10)

1. Rulebook on monitoring the emission of polluting substances into the air;
 2. Rulebook on the requirements for the operation of waste burning plants;
 3. Rulebook on the emission of vaporizing organic compounds;
 4. Rulebook on air quality limit values;
 5. Rulebook on monitoring air quality;
 6. Rulebook on emission limit values;
 7. Rulebook on limit values for combustion plant emission;
- (all published in the Official Gazette of FBiH No. BiH 12/05)

8. Rulebook on limiting emissions from biomass combustion plants into the air (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 34/05);
9. Rulebook on gradual exclusion of ozone-depleting substances (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 39/05)

Law on Waste Management (Official Gazette of FBiH Nos. 33/03 and 72/09)

1. Rulebook on categories of waste together with lists;
2. Rulebook on issuing permits for activities of small business enterprises dealing with waste management;
3. Rulebook on the necessary requirements for assigning rights from manufacturers and vendors to system operators for waste gathering;
4. Rulebook defining the handling of hazardous waste not included in the list of waste materials or containing an unknown substance;
5. Rulebook on the contents of the plan for adjusting waste management in terms of existing waste treatment or deposition plants and on activities undertaken by the competent authority.
(all published in Official Gazette of FBiH No. BiH 9/05)
6. Decree on financial guarantees for insuring transboundary waste transport (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 9/05);
7. Decree on the mandatory submission of the annual report on meeting the requirements set out in the water management permit (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 31/06)
8. Decree on selective gathering, packaging and identifying waste (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 38/06)
9. Decree on financial and other guarantees for covering costs related to risks of possible damages, rehabilitation and processes after closing down landfills (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 39/06)
10. Rulebook on the form, contents and process of notification, carried out by the manufacturer, of important product characteristics and packaging (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 6/08)
11. Rulebook on medical waste management (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 77/08)
12. Rulebook on animal waste and other non-hazardous natural materials that can be used in agriculture (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 8/08);
13. Rulebook on packaging and packaging waste management (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 83/10)

Law on Nature Protection (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 33/03)

1. Rulebook on establishing a system of deliberate keeping and killing of protected animals (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 46/05)
2. Rulebook on establishing and managing an information system for protecting nature and monitoring (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 46/05)
3. Rulebook on the contents and manner of drafting protected areas management plans;
4. Rulebook on new measures for research and preservation for the purpose of preventing significant negative impact on animal species either by capture or killing
(all published in Official Gazette of FBiH No. 65/06)
5. Rulebook on the contents and manner of maintaining registries of protected areas;

6. Rulebook on the requirements for accessing protected areas (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 15/06)

Law on Water (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 70/06)

1. Rulebook on limit values of hazardous and harmful materials in technological wastewaters before they are released into the public sewer system or other recipient (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 50/07)
2. Rulebook on limit values of hazardous and harmful materials in waters that are released, after treatment, from the public sewer system into natural recipients (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 50/07)
3. Rulebook on the contents, form, requirements, manner of issuance and maintenance of water acts (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 6/08)
4. Rulebook on the requirements for defining sanitary protection zones and protection measures for water sources that are used or are planned to be used for drinking (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 51/02)
5. Rulebook on the contents and manner of maintaining logs and on submission of data about quantities of abstracted water (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 83/08);
6. Rulebook on the manner of defining boundaries of water resources and on the process of determining whether a cadastral plot belongs to public water resources (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 26/09)
7. Rulebook on the manner and requirements for limiting rights to use public water resources (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 26/09)
8. Rulebook on procedures and measures in the event of water and coastal water accidents (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 71/09);
9. Rulebook on determining areas subject to eutrophication and sensitive to nitrates (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 71/09);
10. Rulebook on monitoring areas subject to eutrophication and sensitive to nitrates (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 71/09);
11. Rulebook on establishing and managing a water information system (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 77/09);
12. Rulebook on requirements that must be met by referenced, that is, authorized laboratories for testing water and on the contents and manner of granting authorizations (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 14/10);
13. Decree on the types and contents of protection plans against harmful effects of water (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 14/10);
14. Decree on the classification of waters and coastal sea water of Yugoslavia within the water boundaries of SR BiH (Official Gazette of SR BiH No. 18/80⁷)
15. Decree on the classification of waterflow (Official Gazette of SR BiH 42/67⁸)

⁷ This Decree shall be applied during a transitional period as a federal regulation on the entire territory of FBiH, until the Government of FBiH passes a bylaw on classification of waters on the territory of FBiH.

⁸ This Decree shall be used temporarily as a federal regulation until a new bylaw on water classification is passed.

16. Decree on harmful and hazardous substances in water (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 43/07)
17. Rulebook on the manner of calculating, procedures and deadlines for calculating, paying and controlling the settling of liabilities based on general water fees and special water fees (Official Gazette of FBiH Nos. 92/07 and 46/09)
18. Decision on boundaries of river basins and water districts on the territory of FBiH (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 41/07)
19. Decision on the rate of special water fees (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 46/07)
20. Rulebook on the requirements and criteria that must be met by a specialized and authorized legal person for implementing measures for the purpose of eliminating or preventing water pollution in the event of unexpected pollution or danger of unexpected water pollution and on the manner of granting such authorization (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 06/11)

Law on the Environmental Protection Fund (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 33/03)

1. Rulebook on the procedure for issuing calls for proposals and on selecting beneficiaries of the proceeds of the Environmental Protection Fund of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
2. Rulebook on the criteria for evaluating applications for allocating proceeds of the Fund, i.e. programs, projects and similar activities;
3. Rulebook on the manner of monitoring the use of dedicated funds and contractual rights and obligations
(all published in Official Gazette of FBiH No. 73/10)
4. Rulebook on the requirements that beneficiaries of the proceeds of the Environmental Protection Fund of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina must meet;
5. Rulebook on the requirements and manner of allocating credits, loans and other proceeds of the Fund (all published in Official Gazette of FBiH No. 75/10)

Other subordinate legislation relevant to environmental issues in the Federation of BiH:

- Decree on a unique methodology for drafting water spatial planning documents (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 64/04)
- Decree on structures and operations relevant to FBiH and on structures, activities and operations which may significantly impact the environment, life and population's health in FBiH and for which the Federal ministry of Spatial Planning issues urban planning permits (Official Gazette of FBiH Nos. 85/04 and 29/08)
- Decree on forests (Official Gazette of FBiH Nos. 83/09, 26/10 and 38/10)
- Decree on using renewable cogeneration energy sources (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 36/10)
- Rulebook on the form, contents and manner of maintaining the fishing registry (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 63/05)
- Rulebook on the lists of harmful organisms, lists of plants, plant products and regulation structures (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 69/09)
- Rulebook on growing, using, gathering and transport of secondary forest products (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 66/05)

- Rulebook on the manner of selecting, allocating and cutting trees or cutting areas (Official Gazette of FBiH No. 62/02)

3.2.2 Subordinate Legislation Governing the Environment in the Republic of Srpska

Law on Environmental Protection (Official Gazette of RS Nos. 28/08, 41/08 and 29/10)

1. Decree on projects for which an environment impact assessment is underway and on the criteria for deciding on the obligation to conduct an environment impact assessment and on the scope thereof (Official Gazette of RS No. 7/06);
2. Decree on plants that can be constructed and commissioned only if an environmental permit has been issued (Official Gazette of RS No. 7/06);
3. Manual on the contents of the environment impact study (Official Gazette of RS No. 118/05);
4. Rulebook on the requirements that legal persons must meet to perform operations in the field of environmental protection (Official Gazette of RS No. 15/07 and 36/08);
5. Rulebook on the requirements for applying for the issuance of an environmental permit for plants and facilities for which permits were issued before the Law on Environmental Protection came into force (Official Gazette of RS No. 24/06);
6. Rulebook on the deadlines for submitting environmental permit applications for plants and facilities for which permits were issued before the Law on Environmental Protection came into force (Official Gazette of RS No. 24/06);
7. Rulebook on the best available techniques (BAT) for achieving environmental quality standards (Official Gazette of RS No. 22/08);
8. Rulebook on ecolabels and on the manner of governing ecolabelling (Official Gazette of RS No. 22/08);
9. Rulebook on the methodology and manner of managing registries of plants and pollutants (Official Gazette of RS No. 92/07);
10. Rulebook on the contents, identification and manner of enforcing management measures for protected areas (Official Gazette of RS No. 56/09);

Law on Waste Management (Official Gazette of RS Nos. 53/02 and 65/08)

1. Rulebook on the contents of the plan for adjusting existing plants and waste management devices and on activities undertaken by the competent authority (Official Gazette of RS No. 39/05);
2. Rulebook on types of waste and waste management operations that require a permit (Official Gazette of RS Nos. 39/05 and 3/07);
3. Rulebook on categories of waste together with a catalogue (Official Gazette of RS no. 39/05);
4. Rulebook on categories of waste, characteristics for identifying hazardous waste, component recovery operations and waste disposal (Official Gazette of RS no. 39/05);
5. Rulebook on transport of hazardous waste (Official Gazette of RS no. 86/05);
6. Rulebook on financial guarantees for insuring transboundary waste transport (Official Gazette of RS no. 39/05);

7. Rulebook on the necessary requirements for assigning rights from manufacturers and vendors to the legal person responsible for the waste gathering system (Official Gazette of RS no. 118/05);

Law on Air Protection (Official Gazette of RS no. 53/02)

1. Decree on emission limit values of polluting substances into the air (Official Gazette of RS No. 39/05);
2. Decree on gradual exclusion of ozone-depleting substances (Official Gazette of RS No. 94/05);
3. Rulebook on monitoring the emission of polluting substances into the air (Official Gazette of RS No. 39/05);
4. Rulebook on monitoring air quality (Official Gazette of RS No. 39/05);
5. Rulebook on air quality limit values (Official Gazette of RS No. 39/05);
6. Rulebook on limiting emissions from biomass combustion plants (Official Gazette of RS No. 85/05);
7. Rulebook on limit values of emissions from biomass combustion plants (Official Gazette of RS No. 39/05);
8. Rulebook on the emission of vaporizing organic compounds (Official Gazette of RS No. 39/05);
9. Rulebook on the requirements for the operation of waste burning plants (Official Gazette of RS No. 39/05).

Law on Nature Protection – refined text (Official Gazette of RS No. 113/08)

1. Rulebook on establishing a monitoring system for deliberate keeping and killing of protected animals (Official Gazette of RS No. 85/05);
2. Rulebook on establishing and managing an information system for protecting nature and monitoring (Official Gazette of RS No. 85/05);
3. Decision to put under preliminary protection the newly discovered speleological structures – caves located at quarry Kozaraputevi a.d. in Ljubučev, Banja Luka (Official Gazette of RS No. 35/05);

Law on Water (Official Gazette of RS No. 50/06)

1. Rulebook on the requirements for discharging wastewater into the public sewer (Official Gazette of RS No. 44/01);
2. Rulebook on the requirements for discharging wastewater into surface waters (Official Gazette of RS No. 44/01);
3. Rulebook on protection measures, manner of defining and maintaining sanitary protection zones and strips, areas with springs as well as water facilities and water intended for human use (Official Gazette of RS No. 7/03);
4. Decree on rates of special water fees (Official Gazette of RS No. 22/08);
5. Decision on defining boundaries of river basin districts and basins on the territory of the Republic of Srpska (Official Gazette of RS No. 98/06);
6. Decree on the manner of calculating, procedures and deadlines for calculating and paying special water fees (Official Gazette of RS No. 74/09);

7. Decree on the classification of water and categorization of waterflow (Official Gazette of RS No. 42/01);
8. Decree on the manner in which the general public participates in water management (Official Gazette of RS No. 35/07);
9. Rulebook on the manner of and methods for defining the pollution level of wastewater as a basis for defining the water fee (Official Gazette of RS No. 44/01);
10. Rulebook on the requirements that must be met by water management laboratories acting as legal persons or acting within legal persons that conduct certain types of surface, ground and wastewater testing (Official Gazette of RS No. 44/01);
11. Rulebook on the treatment and drainage of wastewater in town and residential areas lacking a public sewer system (Official Gazette of RS No. 68/01);
12. Rulebook on the manner of maintaining river beds and water grounds (Official Gazette of RS No. 9/00)

Law on the Environmental Protection Fund (Official Gazette of RS Nos. 51/02 and 53/07)

1. Rulebook on the manner of and criteria for allocating funds for environmental protection programmes and projects (Official Gazette of RS No. 96/08)

Law on Forests in the Republic of Srpska (Official Gazette of RS No. 75/08), and
The Law on Forest Reproductive Material (Official Gazette of RS No. 60/09)

1. Rulebook on the registry of performed protection operations, silviculture operations and of growing and using (cutting) forests (Official Gazette of RS No. 47/09);
2. Rulebook on the forest and forest land cadastre (Official Gazette of RS no. 47/09);
3. Rulebook on the manner of developing, maintaining and submitting data from the hunting registry (Official Gazette of RS No. 107/09);
4. Rulebook on the manner of proclaiming, identifying, financing and managing protected forests and special purpose forests (Official Gazette of RS No. 57/09);
5. Rulebook on the contents of and procedure for drafting a forest fire protection plan (Official Gazette of RS No. 107/09);
6. Rulebook on inventory of forests over large areas (Official Gazette of RS No. 13/09);
7. Rulebook on the requirements, deadlines and manner of notification of pest occurrence and damage to forests and forest land (Official Gazette of RS No. 98/09);
8. Rulebook on establishing a forest plant gene bank (Official Gazette of RS No. 107/09)

3.3. Multilateral Environmental Agreements

Bosnia and Herzegovina became a Party to the following conventions by succession, as a successor state of Former Yugoslavia:

MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT	PLACE AND YEAR OF ADOPTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION (by succession)	OFFICIAL GAZETTE NO. ⁹
Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat	Ramsar, 1971	2001	Notification of succession ¹⁰
Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution	Geneva, 1979	6 March 1992	SFRJ 11/86 R BiH 13/94
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protocol on Long Term Financing of the Co-operative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP) 	Geneva 1984	1 September 1993	SFRJ 2/87 R BiH 13/94
Convention on the International Maritime Organization	Geneva, 1948	16 July 1993	
Convention on International Civil Aviation Annex 16 - Aircraft Noise	Chicago, 1944	13 January 1993	
Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer	Vienna, 1985	1 September 1993	SFRJ: 2/87 R BiH 13/94
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer 	Montreal, 1987	1 September 1993	SFRJ: 16/90
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Amendment to the Montreal Protocol Agreed by the Second Meeting of the Parties 	London, 1990	11. August 2003*	BiH: 8/03
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The amendment to the Montreal Protocol Agreed by the Fourth Meeting of the Parties 	Copenhagen, 1992	11. August 2003*	BiH: 8/03
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Amendment to the Montreal Protocol Agreed by the Ninth Meeting of the Parties 	Montreal, 1997	11 August 2003*	BiH: 8/03
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The amendment to the Montreal Protocol agreed by the Eleventh Meeting of the Parties 	Beijing, 1999	Not yet adopted	
UN Convention on the Law of the Sea	Montego Bay, 1982	12 January 1994	R BiH: 15/95

⁹ If available/familiar

¹⁰ Source: NEAP BiH

* The agreements marked with an asterisk in this table were not adopted by succession, but are a part of agreements previously adopted by succession and thus left here as an integral part thereof.

Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea Against Pollution	Barcelona, 1976	1 March 1992	SFRJ: 12/77 R BiH: 25/93
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protocol for the Prevention of Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Dumping from Ships and Aircraft 	Barcelona, 1976	1 March 1992	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protocol Concerning Co-operation in Combating Pollution of the Mediterranean Sea by Oil and Other Harmful Substances in Cases of Emergency 	Kuwait, 1978	1 March 1992	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protocol for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution from Land-Based Sources (LBS) 	Athens, 1980	22 October 1994	SFRJ: 1/90 R BiH: 13/94
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protocol Concerning Mediterranean Specially Protected Areas 	Geneva, 1982	22 October 1994	SFRJ: 9/85 R BiH: 13/94
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean Sea 	Barcelona, 1995	12 December 1999 ^o	
Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage	Paris, 1972	12 July 1993	R BiH: 25/93
Convention Concerning the Use of White Lead in Painting	Geneva, 1921	2 June 1993	
European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR)	Geneva, 1957	1 September 1993	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protocol amending article 14 of the European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) 	New York, 1975	1 September 1993	
Convention on The Physical Protection of Nuclear Material	Vienna, 1979	30 June 1998	
Convention on Fishing and Conservation of the Living Resources of the High Seas	Geneva, 1958	12 January 1994	

^o The agreements marked with an asterisk in this table were not adopted by succession, but are a part of agreements previously adopted by succession and thus left here as an integral part thereof.

Convention on the Territorial Sea and the Contiguous Zone	Geneva, 1958	1 September 1993	
Convention on the Continental Shelf	Geneva, 1958	12 January 1994	
Convention on High Seas	Geneva, 1958	1 September 1993	
Convention Concerning The Protection Of Workers Against Occupational Hazards in the Working Environment due to Air Pollution, Noise And Vibration	Geneva, 1977	2 June 1993	
Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil thereof	London, Moscow, Washington D.C., 1971	15 August 1994	
Treaty on the Non-Proliferation Of Nuclear Weapons	New York, 1968	15 August 1994	
Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident	Vienna, 1986	30 June 1998	
Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency	Vienna, 1986	30 June 1998	
Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons, and on Their Destruction	London, Moscow, Washington D.C., 1972	15 August 1994	
International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships	London, 1954.	1994	SFRJ: 60/73 i 53/74, R BiH: 13/94
International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships	London, 1973.	1994	SFRJ: 2/85 R BiH: 13/94

In accordance with the State Law on the Procedures for the Conclusion and Implementation of International Agreements (Official Gazette of BiH No. 29/00), the following environmental conventions and agreements have been ratified so far:

MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT	PLACE AND YEAR OF ADOPTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION	OFFICIAL GAZETEE BIH NO. ¹¹
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change	Rio de Janeiro, 1992.	2000	19/00
• Kyoto Protocol	Kyoto, 1997.	2008	3/08
International Plant Protection Convention	Rome, 1951.	2003	8/03
Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal	Basel, 1989.	2000	31/00
UN Convention on Biological Diversity	Rio de Janeiro, 1992.	2002	12/02
• Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	Cartagena, 2000	2008	12/08
UN Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa	Paris, 1994	2002	12/02
Convention on Protection and Sustainable Use of the Danube River	Sofia, 1994	2005	65/05
Convention for the Establishment of the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation	Paris, 1955	2005	
UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters	Aarhus, 1998	2008	8/08
• Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR)	Kiev, 2003	2003 ^o	
Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants	Stockholm, 2001	2010	1/10
Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context	Espoo, 1991	2009	8/09
• Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment	Kiev, 2003,	2003 ^o	
Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats	Bern, 1979	2008	8/08
Framework Agreement on the Sava River Basin	Kranjska Gora, 2002	2003	
Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and	Helsinki, 1992	2009	8/09

¹¹ If available/familiar

^o Simple signature

International Lakes			
• Protocol on Water and Health	London, 1999	2010	
• Amendments to Articles 25 and 26 of The Convention On The Protection And Use Of Transboundary Watercourses And International Lakes	Madrid, 2003	2010	
• Protocol on Civil Liability and Compensation for Damage Caused by the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents on Transboundary Waters	Kiev, 2003.	2003 ^o	
Convention on the Transboundary Effects of Industrial Accidents	Helsinki, 1992	Ratification pending	
Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society	Faro, 2005	2009	
Energy Charter Treaty	Lisbon, 1994	2001	
• Energy Charter Protocol on Energy Efficiency and related Environmental Aspects	Lisbon, 1994	2001	
Convention on Safety and Health in Mines	Geneva, 1995	2010	
Convention on Safety and Health in Agriculture	Geneva, 2001	2010	
Convention Concerning Work in the Fishing Sector	Geneva, 2007	2010	
Convention Concerning The Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents	Geneva, 1993	2010	
European Landscape Convention	Florence, 2000	2010 ^o	
Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction	Oslo, 1997	1998	
Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade	Rotterdam, 1998	2006	14/06
Convention On International Trade in Endangered Species Of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)	Washington D.C., 1973	2008	11/08
• Amendment to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered	Bon, 1979	2009	

^o Simple signature

Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (Art. XI)		
European Outline Convention on Transfrontier Co-operation between Territorial Communities or Authorities	Madrid, 1980	2008
Convention concerning International Carriage of Goods by Rail	Bern, 1980	1996

4. EUROPEAN INTEGRATION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a potential candidate country for EU accession following the Thessaloniki European Council of June 2003. On 16 June 2008 the EU and Bosnia and Herzegovina signed the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) which entered into force once its ratification process had been completed. This agreement creates a framework for cooperation between the EU and BiH, and is crucial for political, economic, trade and human rights reform in the country. These “policies and other measures shall be designed to bring about sustainable economic and social development of Bosnia and Herzegovina; these policies should ensure that environmental considerations are also fully incorporated from the outset and that they are linked to the requirements of harmonious social development” (Article 82, paragraph 2 of SAA).

One of the cooperation policies specifically described in the Title VIII of the Agreement is Environment (Article 108): “The Parties shall develop and strengthen their cooperation in the environmental field with the vital task of halting further degradation and start improving the environmental situation with the aim of sustainable development. The Parties shall, in particular, establish cooperation with the aim of strengthening administrative structures and procedures to ensure strategic planning of environment issues and coordination between relevant actors and shall focus on the alignment of Bosnia and Herzegovina's legislation to the Community *acquis*. Cooperation could also centre on the development of strategies to significantly reduce local, regional and transboundary air and water pollution, including waste and chemicals, to establish a system for efficient, clean, sustainable and renewable production and consumption of energy, and to execute environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment. Special attention shall be paid to the ratification and the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol.”

Since March 2002, the European Commission has reported regularly to the Council and European Parliament on progress made by the countries of the Western Balkans region, the environment being one of the areas covered. This progress report describes relations between the country and the Union, analyses situation in the country in terms of political and economic criteria for membership and reviews country's capacity to implement European standards. *Bosnia and Herzegovina 2009 Progress Report* includes Environment as a part of its Sectoral policies area within the European standards section and concludes that “Bosnia and Herzegovina's preparations in the field of the environment remain at an

early stage. Bosnia and Herzegovina needs to strengthen its environmental protection institutions, in particular at State level. It also needs to mainstream environmental concerns in other sectors. Establishment of a harmonised legal framework for environmental protection, of the State Environmental Agency and of a functioning environmental monitoring system would be significant steps forward. Bosnia and Herzegovina needs to step up its efforts with regard to its obligations under international conventions.” In Commission’s *2010 Progress Report* for Bosnia and Herzegovina the chapter on Environment does not look much brighter – “Progress in the field of environment remained limited. There has been some progress in horizontal legislation... Little progress can be reported on air quality... There has been little progress in the area of waste management... There has been little progress in the area of water quality... No progress has been made on nature protection... There has been some progress in the area of genetically modified organisms (GMO)... Bosnia and Herzegovina’s administrative capacity in the environment sector remains overall weak... A State-level environmental law providing for harmonised environmental protection and an adequate legal and institutional framework were not adopted. A State-level Environmental Protection Agency, which is a European Partnership priority, needs to be established. Environmental institutions do not have the capacity to implement and enforce legislation at Entity, Canton and local levels. Integration of environmental concerns in other sectors remains weak. *Overall*, preparations in the field of environment remain at an early stage. Establishment of a harmonised legal framework for environmental protection, of the State Environmental Protection Agency and of a functioning environmental monitoring system remain priorities.”

The Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina established in 2009 eight working groups for European integration of BiH and harmonization of the domestic laws with *Acquis Communautaire*. One of them is the Working Group for Transport, Environment, Energy and Rural Development which has 25 members appointed by different State and Entity institutions. This body is also responsible for drafting the Law on Environmental Protection at the State level.

Other progress made in the European integration of BiH is shown in the chronology below.

Progress	Year
Regional Approach. The EU Council of Ministers establishes political and economic conditions for development of bilateral relations. BiH is granted autonomous trade preferences and from 1996, assistance under the Phare and Obnova programmes.	1997
EU Declaration. Establishment of the EU/BiH Consultative Task Force (CTF), a joint vehicle for technical and expert advice in the field of administration, the regulatory framework and policies.	1998
Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP). The SAP offers a clear prospect of integration into EU structures to BiH and another four countries of the region.	1999
Agreement reached on the Stability Pact, a political document with the strategic goal of stabilisation in South-East Europe through bringing the countries in the region closer to Euro-Atlantic integration and through strengthening of regional cooperation.	1999

Publication of the EU Road Map. This document set out 18 essential steps to be undertaken by BiH before work on a Feasibility Study for the opening of negotiations on a Stabilisation and Association Agreement could be started.	2000
The Council of Europe adopts Regulation 2666/2000, on Community Assistance for Reconstruction, Development and Stabilisation (CARDS), designed for the SAP countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro.	2000
The European Commission announces that most of the guidelines in the EU Road Map have been fulfilled.	2002
The European Commission adopts a proposition of the Report on the readiness of Bosnia and Herzegovina for initiation of negotiations with the European Union on the Stabilisation and Association Agreement.	2003
The first European Partnership for Bosnia and Herzegovina.	2004
Negotiations on the Stabilisation and Association Agreement have officially started in Sarajevo on November 25.	2005
First meeting of the Reform Process Monitoring (RPM), which replaced the Consultative Task Force.	2006
Introduction of the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA), designed for all pre-accession activities and financed by the European Commission.	2007
Technical negotiations on the SAA finalised. SAA initiated on December 4.	2007
Framework Agreement on Rules of Cooperation in the Implementation of Financial Assistance from the European Commission to B&H within the IPA.	2008
Stabilisation and Association Agreement signed on June 16. Interim Agreement comes into effect in July.	2008
2009-2011 Multi-Annual Indicative Planning Document (MIPD) for Bosnia and Herzegovina was adopted	2009
The European Commission allocated to the country a total of € 89.1 million under the 2009 Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA) programme	2009
Bosnia and Herzegovina joined its first Community programme - the 7th Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration activities (FP7).	2009
Bosnia and Herzegovina undertakes the implementation of the Roadmap for the Visa Liberalisation	2010
Council decides on lifting short-stay visa for travel to Schengen countries	2010

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- Federal Institute for Statistics
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- Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Water Management and Forestry
- FBiH Environmental Protection Fund
- RS Environmental Protection Fund
- RS Public Health Institute
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- BiH Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations
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