

Opinion
of
the European Union Affairs Committee of the Senate of the Republic of Poland
concerning the proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council
amending Directives 2000/60/EC and 2008/105/EC as regards priority substances in the
field of water policy
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1. The European Union Affairs Committee of the Senate of the Republic of Poland (EUAC) supports the initiative of the European Commission to ensure more effective protection of the environment and human health against the adverse effects of priority substances.
2. The EUAC nevertheless takes the view that the legislative proposal entails high costs both for public administrations (especially in connection with the new requirements associated with the monitoring of surface waters) and enterprises. The activities resulting from the extension of the list of priority substances will increase the costs of conducting many types of economic activities. This will translate into higher prices of products and services and thus will have a negative impact on the financial situation of many companies.
3. The EUAC would like to point out that the measures proposed by the European Commission are not accompanied by any detailed calculations of costs broken down by Member State. In the opinion of the EUAC, it is necessary to determine the total costs which the Member States will have to incur in connection with the extension of the list of priority substances.
4. The EUAC is against the transfer to the European Commission of the power to decide on the so-called watch list by means of delegated acts, because - in the opinion of EUAC - the Member States should also be involved in determining the content of that list.