

Public health sector, capacities and potential contribution in chemical substances management in Ukraine

Summary

The Ukrainian public health sector of Ukraine deals with health impact from chemical substances regardless of the specific economy sector (industry, agriculture, or mining), as well as with the life cycle stage this impact occurs at (production, utilization, or disposal).

To this date, the public health sector deals with the following fields of concern in the chemical substances management as stipulated by the national law:

- 1) HR and post-degree training;
- 2) research and development in the field of chemical substances health impact and communicating data to policymakers and the public.

The document also describes sanitary-epidemiological examination procedure the relevant Commissions at the healthcare research institutes conduct;

sanitary standardization ensured by the specialised Commissions at the Hygienic Regulations Committee of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine;

occupational health and safety role in identifying harmful and hazardous chemical substances;

approvals and marketing authorisations for industrial chemicals and chemical products; registers and information exchange on chemical substances.

Moreover, the document describes actions and procedures to prevent and control emergencies involving chemical substances, including through medical assistance to victims. The document provides detailed analysis and describes cross-sector coordination, as well as structural and institutional arrangements.

Public health sector capabilities in chemical substances management:

measures to harmonize national legislation on chemical substances management with that of the European Union;

establishing Poison Control Center;

designating authority in charge of chemical substances management;

implementing public health risk assessment system;

fulfilling international obligations and conventions (Stockholm Convention, Minamata Convention on Mercury).
