

# environment e) planning

## editorial

### Climate Change and Slovenia

Awareness that human activities cause greenhouse gas emissions, and subsequently an increase in average global temperature and climate change, resulted in the adoption of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol. In December, an important event will be held - the first Conference of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, which came in force on February 16. It will be held in Montreal, along with the 11th Conference of Parties to the Convention.

In recent years there has been a great emphasis on responses to climate change. At first, efforts were directed at reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and therefore of climate change i.e. at reduction of the negative impact of emissions, and later on, at the response to climate change itself. Recently, a consensus has been reached that both are necessary: with adaptation alone the problems will not be solved but only appeased or delayed, while reduction of emission will not prevent the damage which is being caused by the climate change which is already here.

One of the most important issues will be what will need to be done after the year 2012 when the first target period of the Kyoto Protocol ends. The European Union proposes gradually to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions to the extent that global temperature would not increase by more than 2° C and catastrophes would therefore be avoided. In order to attain this objective, emissions should be reduced by both developed countries and developing countries, which legitimately demand that developed countries make an effort first before requesting a similar effort from them.

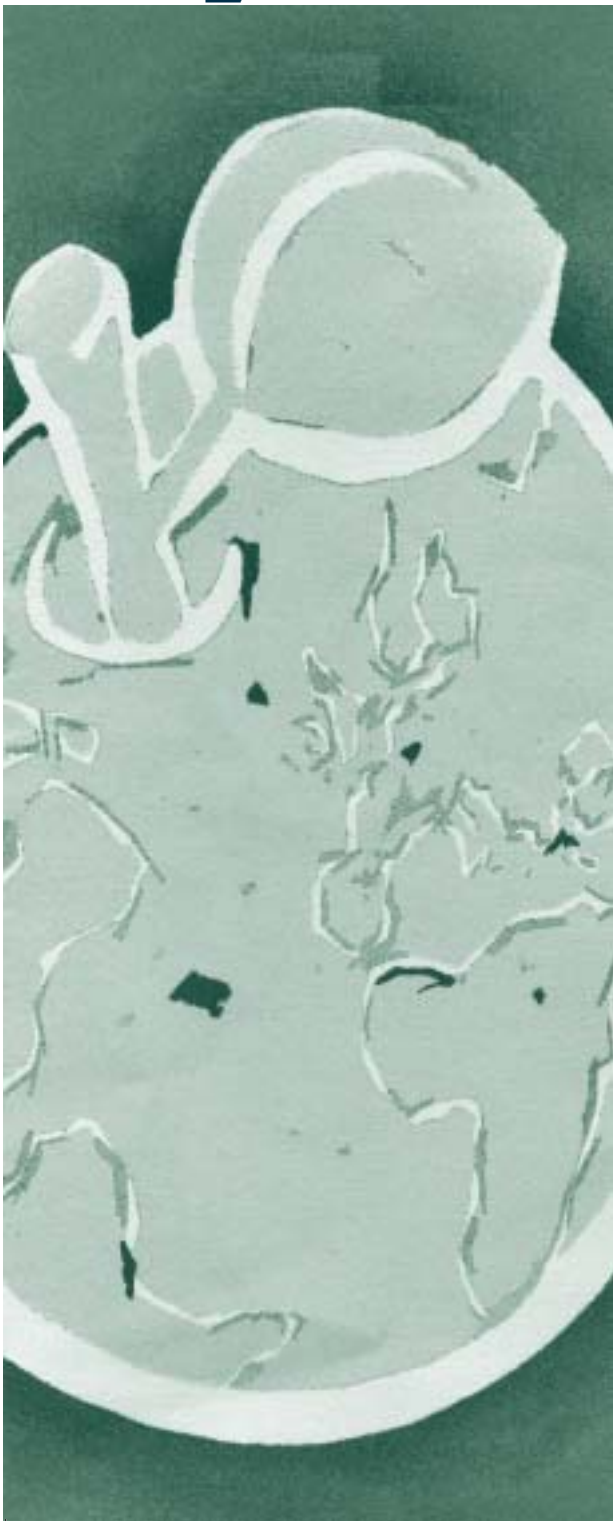
National reports of the Parties to the Convention will also be discussed. By the end of the year, Annex I countries such as Slovenia have to prepare their 4th report. Preparation of Slovenia's report has been in progress for several months and we expect that it will be completed on time. We shall report a 1.3 % reduction of emission in 2003 with regard to the previous year 2002 that is also a 1.9 % reduction with regard to the reference year 1986; our report will also include the introduction of EU emission trade, planned measures for further reduction of emission etc.

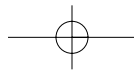
Slovenia is committed to contribute proportionally in the solving of climate change issues. Our obligation of 8% reduction of emission in the period 2008-2012 with regard to 1986 is a difficult task. It will be made slightly easier by permitted carbon dioxide sinks, represented mostly by forests. However, we must not consider the efforts and costs necessary for attainment of this objective as merely a burden, but also as an opportunity for faster introduction of new technologies and more rational use of energy, which will improve the competitiveness of our economy.

Besides, we are aware of a realistic threat that climate change represents to Slovenia. We have to be ready for it, if we want to minimise the damage. In January next year we shall start a substantial three-part study to assess the vulnerability of Slovene regions to climate change, the needs and capacities to respond to foreseeable climate change, and draft measures for better and cost effective responses. We estimate that the body in charge, the Agency of RS on the Environment, will need two years to prepare the study.

Janez Podobnik,  
Minister of the Environment and Spatial Planning

*J. Podobnik*





## 2 Government

### **Regulation Adopted on the Location Plan for the Impact Area of the Strug Landslide close to the Village of Koseč in the Municipality of Kobarid**

On October 6 the Government of RS adopted a position on observations and proposals resulting from public presentation of the draft location plan for the impact area of the Strug landslide above the village of Koseč in the Municipality of Kobarid, and the resulting Regulation on the Location Plan for the Impact Area of the Landslide. The adopted regulation represents the basis for the preparation of project and technical documentation required for construction permits and for dividing up land plots in the impact area. A location plan is a spatial document within the National Spatial Planning System, which identifies detailed solutions with regard to water, transport, communal and environmental spatial management as well as urban planning, architectural and landscape design.

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### **Government has Selected Concessionaires for Use of Water for Electricity Production**

On October 13 the Government issued 91 decrees giving concessions for use of water in electricity production on the basis of the Regulation on Concession for Use of Water in Electricity Production in power plants not exceeding 10 MW of power and having a valid operation permit.

The Regulation provides for attribution of concessions to legal and physical persons that now need a concession for the use of existing power plants not exceeding 10 MW of power, and have applied for the concession, presenting a description of the method of use of water and a valid operation permit for the plant and the facility (power plant).

The Government granted concessions for the use of existing power plants without a public call, on sections of surface water bodies that are identified in the Annex to the Regulation. Concessions are in force for a period of 30 years.

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### **On October 13 Government Adopted a Resolution on the National Programme on Treatment of Radioactive Waste and Waste Nuclear Fuel**

The Resolution sent by the Government to the National Assembly of RS is an

independent sub-programme of the National Environmental Protection Programme. The technical foundations for preparation of the Resolution were prepared by the Agency of RS on Radioactive Waste.

The Ministry prepared the Programme for the period until year 2013 and based its contents on the current status in the field of radioactive waste and waste nuclear fuel in Slovenia, whilst considering international practice in this field and ensuring compliance with domestic regulations, in particular with regard to protection from ionising radiation. The proposal for technical measures has been submitted and deadlines have been defined for timely fulfilment of criteria for safe treatment of radioactive waste and waste nuclear fuel; necessary funding was also identified for the implementation of the Programme. The Agency on Radioactive Waste will use the National Programme as a foundation for the preparation of action plans for treatment of radioactive waste and waste nuclear fuel, which the Government will adopt every four years.

The principal topics of the long-term national programme are as follows: treatment of low- and medium level radioactive waste from the Krško Nuclear Plant, decommissioning of the Krško Nuclear Plant, and disposal of waste fuel from this plant. All other treatment of radioactive waste will have to comply with this programme, chronologically and technically.

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### **On October 13 Government Increased Earmarked Assets of the Housing Fund of RS**

The Government achieved this by a cost-free transfer of state-owned land plots in the cadastre community of Trnovsko suburb to the Housing Fund of RS. The total surface of these land plots is 2902 m<sup>2</sup>, and their value is estimated at SIT 107.7 million. They are suitable for construction and planned for market sale. With transfer of ownership the Fund will be able to activate these land plots for housing construction, which is in compliance with the strategic targets of the active land policy in the National Housing Programme and with the agreed Work Programme of the Fund. Land plots will allow for construction of approximately 2400 m<sup>2</sup> of housings or approximately 38-40 apartments with 56 garages and 10 parking places.

The cost-free transfer of real estate to the Fund was proposed because the original intention of the State with regard to these plots has changed. Also, the State as the

creator of the Fund is obliged to ensure that the Fund receives funding and actual property so that it can implement the measures planned in the active land policy and the general housing policy. In implementation of the active housing policy, a lack of construction plots is a key issue causing delays in housing construction at national and local level, and is the reason why housing offered by the Housing Fund and municipal housing funds cannot satisfy the demand, in particular in the most urbanised centres. The Fund can implement measures of national housing and land policy by acting as a co-investor and partner, and therefore helping local communities to ensure a sufficient number of land plots which are equipped and suitable for housing construction. The increase of the Fund's earmarked property by the transfer of State-owned real estate will act as a boost for the construction sector and growth in this branch will have a multiplying impact on the entire economy. GDP, employment and tax income may all increase owing to this initiative.

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### **Government has Appointed Ivo Trošt as the Manager of the Public Institute Kozjanski Park**

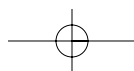
On January 1 next year the new manager will start to work with a four-year mandate. Until the end of the year Marjan Drogenik will be the acting manager. In June the Ministry published information on the vacancy in the Official Gazette of RS. By the set deadline eight applications for the manager's position had been submitted, of which one was incomplete. A special commission examined all complete applications and conducted interviews with all the candidates. The selected candidate for the manager of the Institute was also given positive approval by the Institute's Board.

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### **On October 27 Government Decided on the Optimal Variant of the Layout of Mobile Gasworks R25D**

The Government has acknowledged variants of the layout for mobile gasworks R25D for the section that extends from the branch of principal gasworks M2 at Šentrupert to the Šoštanj Power Plant. As the most suitable solution the variant was selected that combines several variants by particular sections.

Geoplin Gasworks Ltd. is bound as the gas supply public service contractor to create



conditions for increased supply i.e. a new supply station in the Slovene gas network. Owing to development of electricity production by the Šoštanj Plant in the next three years there will be an increased demand for gas in Šoštanj. The new gasworks will include a connection for the factory of Gorenje - Interior Equipment Ltd. and will be so designed that retail supply will also be provided for the Municipalities of Braslovče, Šmartno ob Paki, Mozirje and Nazarje.

The procedure for preparation of a national location plan for mobile gasworks included a study of 15 sections, 9 of which by variants. The most suitable variant ended up being the one aligning sections A1-B-C1-D-E1-F2-G-H2-I-J1-K-L2-M1-N-O1.

Variants were compared from functional, environmental and economic points of view as well as for their acceptability in the local environment.

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### **On October 27 Government Adopted Preliminary Partial Programme of Recovery from Damage Caused by This Year's Floods and Hail Storms**

In July and August floods and storms caused great damage in Slovenia. The Government has allocated SIT 499.5 million in the national Budget Reserves for implementation of a rehabilitation programme. A preliminary partial programme has been adopted based on a preliminary assessment of damage, reports prepared by concerned municipalities, on-site inspections and a review of documentation submitted by municipalities.

This funding allocated by the Government will cover measures which have already been implemented, and implementation of urgent measures including water supply, waterworks, access to facilities and prevention of further sliding of land near housing units. The urgent measures will be implemented by the end of the year.

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### **Real Estate Market Inventory System - a Case of Good Practice in the State Administration**

The real estate market inventory system integrates several tasks of the Administration. The system allows for real estate agencies to establish and maintain an inventory of their real estate transactions. It allows for direct input of data into a common database, or for data transfer according to the standard exchange protocol. Data input enables automatic data transfer from two basic real estate inventories (Land Cadastre and Building Cadastre) and the Register of Spatial Units. The common database on real estate transactions is planned to be transformed into a real estate market inventory in compliance with provisions of the Act on Real Estate Assessment.

The greater part of the system has been unified and made useful for several purposes. The solution is original as it integrates the tasks of several administrative bodies, introduces cooperation between public and private sectors and uses existing distribution system infrastructure and therefore simplifies operations and reduces costs. The real estate market inventory system will be presented at the conference entitled Good Practice in Slovene State Administration 2005 that will be held on November 23 in Ljubljana. The Surveying and Mapping Authority of RS, Ministry of Finance of RS and Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning will receive an award by the Minister in charge of administration.

*Martin Smodiš, Mapping and Surveying Authority of RS, Zemljemerska 12, Ljubljana, tel.: 01 478 4810*

### **International conference Nuclear Inter Jura 2005**

On October 9-13 an international conference was held in Portorož entitled Nuclear Inter Jura 2005, which is organised biannually by the International Nuclear Law Association - INLA.

INLA is an international association of legal and other experts on the peaceful use of nuclear energy whose principal purpose is to support and increase knowledge and development of legal expertise and research in this field. INLA includes approximately 480 experts from 43 countries. In 2003 at the meeting of the Board of the Association Prof. Peter Grilc (Ljubljana Faculty of Law) was elected President of the Board, and the candidature of Slovenia for organisation of the 2005 INLA conference was unanimously

accepted. The conference in Portorož was organised by the Milan Čopič Training Centre on Nuclear Technology at the Jožef Stefan Institute, the Organisation Committee was chaired by Head of the Centre Prof. Igor Jenčič, and the Programme Committee was chaired by Prof. Peter Grilc.

This year's conference programme was determined to a great extent by the traditional approach from previous years. However, considering the number of participating countries and participants it was probably the greatest international event in this field of legal expertise.

Participants were addressed by short speeches by the President of INLA, State Secretary at the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning Marko Starman, MA, General Manager of the Directorate on Energy at the Ministry of Economy Djordje Žebeljan, MA and the Manager of the Nuclear Safety Authority of RS Andrej Stritar, PhD. The invited lecturer was head of Legal Services at the IAEA Johan Rautenbach; he spoke about legal aspects of peaceful use of nuclear energy and the maintenance of nuclear safety.

Six sections with over 40 papers then offered an excellent insight into current issues in fields considered by INLA. Detailed presentation of papers would be too long; interested readers can access summaries of all papers at the website <http://www.icjt.org/INLA2005/index.htm>.

The international conference in Portorož without a doubt justified the INLA Board's decision to entrust Slovenia with its organisation. Besides the sponsors special thanks should also be given for excellent work to both Chairs, of the Programme and of the Organisation Committees. Without their efforts the conference would not have been so highly acclaimed by the attendees.

*Aleš Škraban, Nuclear Safety Authority of RS, Železna cesta 16, Ljubljana, tel.: 01 472 1128*

### **Workshop on Implementation of EU Legislation on Trade in Wild Animal and Plant Species**

 On October 25-27 a workshop was held in the English town of Chesham on the implementation of EU legislation on trade in endangered wild animal and plant species.

The European Union is one of the largest global markets for endangered wild animal and plant species, their parts and related products. In the

# calendar

**November 28 – December 9 Montreal:** 11<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 11) and 1<sup>st</sup> Conference of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (COP/MOP 1). Slovene delegation will be chaired by the Minister Janez Podobnik.  
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period 1996–2002 the EU imported 6 million live birds, 1,6 million live reptiles and over 10 million reptile skins, 21 million orchids and almost 600 tons of Caspian caviar. Most of this trade is strictly monitored by the CITES Convention regime and EU legislation, yet an important part of the trade remains illegal. EU enlargement has brought about an increase of organised crime in this field.

The principal purpose of the workshop was to improve cooperation and exchange of information among monitoring authorities and administrative bodies in the Member States. Following introductory presentations by the representatives of the European Commission, Interpol, the World Customs Organisation and the Secretariat of the CITES Convention, attendees discussed new assignments caused by EU enlargement and the consequent enlargement of the common European market and the increased number of monitoring countries. Issues were identified at first and then attendees divided into working groups and discussed solutions. They identified obstacles to efficient implementation of legislation and cooperation among authorities in Member States; they discussed how to improve the efficiency of the Enforcement Group and how to improve use of existing data (such as Interpol and WCO databases, special investigation methods etc.).

The final result of the workshop was a coordinated document that includes a draft action plan for the period 2005–2010, with detailed identification of assignments for the European Commission and its working group as well as for authorities in charge in Member States. Great Britain, currently president of the EU, will submit the document to the EU Council. Slovenia was represented at the workshop by officials of the Customs Authority, Criminal Police Authority, the

Environment and Spatial Planning Inspectorate, and the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning.

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## PUBLICATIONS

### Environmental Collection Flupi

The Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning has published an environmental collection Flupi aimed at children from 3 to 10 years old. The material provides ample opportunity for autonomous work by children and pupils in smaller groups. Flupi can also be used as a teaching tool in environmental education in nurseries and primary schools as well as at home as a dynamic environmental tale about water and air. More information on the collection is accessible at <http://www.sigov.si/mop/publikacije/dru-go/flupi/main.htm>

The collection can be ordered at the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Dunajska 48, 1000 Ljubljana (Andrej Vuga, [andrej.vuga@gov.si](mailto:andrej.vuga@gov.si), tel.: 01 478 7330, fax: 01 478 7415)

### eNatura Newsletter

The electronic newsletter eNatura brings brief news on Natura 2000; informs on events, public calls, projects (Life, Phare, communication projects) in Slovenia and news from the EU; announces events; and informs on new publications and websites. The newsletter is 2–3 pages long, has no attachments and goes out once or twice monthly. Previous issues (44 of them) are accessible at [www.natura2000.gov.si](http://www.natura2000.gov.si) in the rubric Publications.

*If you wish to receive it, write to the editor: [breda.ogorelec@gov.si](mailto:breda.ogorelec@gov.si).*

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## contents

editorial 1

### Government

Regulation Adopted on the Location Plan for the Impact Area of the Strug Landslide close to the Village of Koseč in the Municipality of Kobarid .....2  
Government has Selected Concessionaires for Use of Water for Electricity Production .....2  
On October 13 Government Adopted a Resolution on the National Programme on Treatment of Radioactive Waste and Waste Nuclear Fuel .....2  
On October 13 Government Increased Earmarked Assets of the Housing Fund of RS ....2  
Government has Appointed Ivo Trošt as the Manager of the Public Institute Kozjanski Park ..2  
On October 27 Government Decided on the Optimal Variant of the Layout of Mobile Gasworks R25D .....2  
On October 27 Government Adopted Preliminary Partial Programme of Recovery from Damage Caused by This Year's Floods and Hail Storms .....3

### feature

Real Estate Market Inventory System – a Case of Good Practice in the State Administration .....3  
International conference Nuclear Inter Jura 2005 .....3  
Workshop on Implementation of EU Legislation on Trade in Wild Animal and Plant Species .....3

### PUBLICATIONS

Environmental Collection Flupi .....4  
eNatura Newsletter .....4