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Mr. Marcos Orellana

The United Nations Special Rapporteur on toxics and human rights

Subject: Input on Pollution Information Portals

Dear Sir,

In response to "Call for Inputs - Pollution Information Portals and the right to know: Strengthening access to information on releases of hazardous substances", I am providing information about Polish National Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (PRTR).

The Polish National Pollutant Release and Transfer Register was established in 2007 due to Kyiv Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (Poland ratified the Kiev Protocol in 2012) and Regulation (EC) No 166/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 January 2006 concerning the establishment of a European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register and amending Council Directives 91/689/EEC and 96/61/EC. The protocol aim is to enhance public access to information by setting up coherent, nationwide pollutant release and transfer registers. The protocol sets minimum requirements for pollutants and facilities, and parties are free to include additional element. PRTR is part of the European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR) which is an integrated register of pollutant releases and transfers at the Community Union level. These portals are provided in the form of a publicly accessible electronic database. The European and Polish PRTR shall include information on releases of pollutants to air, water and land, off-site transfers of waste, releases of pollutants from diffuse sources as required by the Regulation (EC) No 166/2006.

The Polish National Pollutant Release and Transfer Register is conducted by the Chief Inspector of Environmental Protection. The operators of the installation, by March 31 of the year following the reporting year, are required to provide the information about pollutant releases and transfers to the Polish National Pollutant Release and Transfer Register. By November 30 of the reporting years Chief Inspector of Environmental Protection submits a report to the European Commission containing information on releases and transfers which are used by the E-PRTR database. The biggest challenge in running the portal is to reach as many members of the public as possible who will use the collected data.

Kind regards

Mateusz Wiśniewski Zastępca Dyrektora / – podpisany cyfrowo/