Phosphates in detergents: Latest developments in the Danube River Basin

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The Danube River Protection Convention 1994

Preamble of the Convention

... «urgent need for strengthened domestic and international measures to prevent, control and reduce significant adverse transboundary impact from the release of hazardous substances and of nutrients into the aquatic environment«...



The Danube River Protection Convention 1994

MoU ICPDR Black Sea (2001)

- ► The long-term goal in the wider Black Sea Basin is to take measures to reduce the loads of nutrients and hazardous substances discharged to such levels necessary to permit Black Sea ecosystems to recover to conditions similar to those observed in the 1960s.
- As an intermediate goal, urgent measures should be taken in the wider Black Sea Basin in order to avoid that the loads of nutrients and hazardous substances discharged into the Seas exceed those that existed in the mid 1990s.

The current situation





preparation of action programs

analyses of sources and measures

Joint action program 2001

... phosphate free detergents can to a significant extent reduce the phosphate load in surface waters.

. .

The ICPDR shall take the initiative to approach the detergent industry an get its committement to foster the use of phosphate free detergents



Objectives of the workshop

- sum up the present knowlegde
- contribution of phosphates in detergents
- different regulatory approaches
- collect arguments of the stakeholders (water & chemicals management, science, detergent industry and »green« NGOs)

⇒enable the ICPDR to propose a strategy for inclusion in the POM

