

Submission Report

This material is submitted for government discussion on the basis of Government of the Slovak Republic Resolution No. 556/2010, via which the government approved the draft principles, rules and framework conditions for assuring flood prevention, lowering flood risks, drought risks and other extreme natural events and integrated river basin management and at the same time the material is submitted pursuant to the approved principles for incorporation into the inter-departmental economic Landscape Revitalisation and Integrated River Basin Management Programme for the Slovak Republic. In the interests of a more dynamic and more complete approach to the execution of flood protection measures, an integral part of the Landscape Revitalisation and Integrated River Basin Management Programme for the Slovak Republic also includes the execution project for the programme. In this phase, which represents the activation of the programme, the execution project will cover 2010 and 2011 and after the execution of related legislative and institutional changes this phase will also relate to the complex execution of the programme in 2012.

The programme itself is based on the shared responsibility for protecting the territory of the Slovak Republic from flooding, international trends and the current requirements set by the European Union for applying integrated river basin management principles and processes.

The goal of the programme is to create, activate and secure long term conditions for the civic utility and macroeconomic effective functionality of a complete and integrated system of measures to secure flood prevention, to lower the risk of drought and to lower the consequences of other negative impacts on the landscape.

The programme places emphasis on the complete revitalisation and restoration of damaged landscapes and its focus brings a change in the approach towards the use and management of the landscape from a more exploitative approach to a more ecologically balanced approach with emphasis on landscape revitalisation and restoration.

One priority of the programme and its dominant element is the retention of rain water, slowing down its flow rates thereby allowing it to be absorbed. The programme will result in the construction of a water-retention system with a total rain water capacity of 250 million m³ that composes the following:

- Protection from floods, drought and other risks of extreme natural events,
- The construction of effective and complete flood protection and protection against other risks for the entire territory of the Slovak Republic including a decrease in the risk of damage to property, cultural treasures, human health and lives,
- New, high-quality water sources and/or increases in their yields and quality,
- Jobs created during the construction of water-retention systems and technical solutions in forested and agricultural areas and in the urban, developed areas of cities and villages,
- Multiplication of the economic effects by improving human resources via innovation through the introduction of new technologies and new goods, products and services and providing an impulse for desirable economic growth and a long-term employment increase,
- A safe environment for life in which it is possible to safely work, do business and live.

The submitted programme will impact the state budget; the execution of the measures proposed in the programme should be positively reflected in improvements to the environment and the programme should also have a positive impact on employment via the creation of new jobs during its execution.

The material was submitted for the meeting of the Economic and Social Council of the Slovak Republic (HSR) held on 25 October 2010. The HSR did not reach agreement due to dissenting statements from the Federation of Employer Associations of the Slovak Republic (AZZZ) and

the Ministry of Agriculture, the Environment and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic. The Confederation of Trade Unions of the Slovak Republic (KOZ), the National Union of Employers (RÚZ) and the Slovak Association of Cities and Towns (ZMOS) all took the material under consideration.

37 comments were delivered, with 12 of these being fundamental comments, within the inter-departmental commenting process. These fundamental comments to the material were applied by the following branches: the Ministry of Agriculture, the Environment and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic, the Ministry of Transport, Post and Telecommunications, the Ministry of Economics and Construction of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic. All fundamental conditions, apart from one comment of a general nature brought by the Minister of Agriculture, the Environment and Regional Development, were eliminated at separate dispute proceedings or were removed via adaptation of the text (Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Slovak Republic).

The material is submitted for government discussion with a single dispute of a general nature.