



Republic of Armenia

Environmental Protection and Mining Inspection Body

**Policies and tools for enforcement of environmental compliance –
a regional seminar with Eastern Partner countries**

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Environmental Protection and Mining Inspection Body

According to the RA Prime Minister's decision No. 733-L of June 11, 2018 .

- ✓ **EPMIB is a state body subordinated to the Government, performing other functions defined by law, which, in accordance with the law, applies liability measures in the field of nature and entrails, acting on behalf of the Republic of Armenia.**
- ✓ **The aim and purpose of the inspection body is to ensure compliance with the requirements of the legislation in the field of environment, safety in the subsoil, and in cases defined by law.**



Environmental Protection and Mining Inspection Body

✓ **EPMIB** deals with the following issues:

- 1) Management of risks in the fields of nature protection, subsoil, implementation of control over the observance of the requirements of the legislation of the Republic of Armenia, as well as organization of preventive measures within the framework of the implemented control.**
- 2) Implementation of measures to prevent or reduce negative impacts on the environment, irrational use of natural resources.**



EPMIB has 195 employees within the following departments

- 1) Water, Atmosphere, Soils, Wastes and Hazardous Substances Supervision Department**
- 2) Subsoil Supervision Department**
- 3) Biodiversity Supervision Department**
- 4) Quality Assurance Department**
- 5) Risk Assessment and Analysis Department**
- 6) Legal Assistance and Document Flow Department**
- 7) Division of Awareness and Public Affairs**
- 8) Division of Laboratory Examination**
- 9) 10 Territorial Divisions**



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EPMIB's directions of control

- 1) atmospheric air protection**
- 2) usage and protection of water resources**
- 3) land use and protection**
- 4) subsoil use and protection**
- 5) state expertise**
- 6) hazardous materials, production and consumption waste**
- 7) environmental tax and nature use fees**
- 8) statistical reports**



EPMIB's Basic legislation

- **RA Law on Inspection Bodies (17.12.2014)**
- **RA Law on Environmental Control (11.04.2005)**
- **RA Law on Organization and Conduct of Inspections (17.05.2000)**
- **RA Subsoil Code (28.11.2011)**
- **RA Water Code (04.06.2002)**
- **RA Land Code (02.05.2001)**
- **RA Forest Code (24.10.2005)**
- **RA Code on Administrative Offenses (06.12.1985)**
- **RA Law on Atmospheric Air Protection (11.10.1994)**
- **RA Law on Fauna (03.04.2000)**
- **Methodology and General Description of Criteria Determining Risks-based decree on the risk assessment conducted by the Environmental Protection and Mining Inspection Body of RA (22.08.2019)**



RA Law on Organizing and Performing Inspections

This law defines the system of risk-based inspections in the Republic of Armenia and inspection planning according to which:

- ✓ **The risk-based inspection system is a set of measures taken by inspection bodies to plan inspections.**
- ✓ **Through a system of risk-based inspections, the inspection body targets the areas and the objects of control that are most at risk.**

With the aim to plan the inspections:

- **The inspection body, examining its area of control, develops the criteria for determining the degree of risk of the activities of the economic entities in the given field, which should include the risk of the business entity's field of activity and (or) the sum of individual risks of the economic entity.**



Methodology and General Description of Criteria Determining Risks-based decree on the risk assessment conducted by the Environmental Protection and Mining Inspection Body of RA

- **According to this methodology, the Inspection Body maintains a database, which includes information on the assessment of all economic entities operating in its area of control by criteria that determine the degree of risk.**
- **The purpose of the database is to determine and to classify the risk of economic entities controlled by the inspection body on the basis of available information and based on established criteria.**
- **The database is regularly updated, supplemented and serves the purposes of the risk-based inspection system by the inspection body.**



Challenges

- 1) Implement legislative reforms with policy-making authorities**
- 2) create and introduce an electronic system of environmental control, based on the principles defined by the RA Law on Inspection Bodies,**
- 3) carry out continuous training of specialists by exchanging best practices,**
- 4) Implement capacity building, purchase of modern laboratory equipment**



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Priorities for the way forward.

Overcoming these challenges will enable the formation of a new civilized culture and approach to environmental control in Armenia.

That is:

- **Environmental compliance assurance**
- **Strengthening of Compliance Assurance Systems, Instruments, and Tools**
- **Conducting effective management of public resources (human, material and financial)**
- **Developing existing and required administrative capacity in the environmental field**
- **Improving risk-based control**
- **Improving the inspector-economic relations**



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Thank You for Your attention!