



MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND TERRITORIAL PLANNING
Institute of Waste

**DRAFT DECREE-LAW
ON BATTERIES AND ACCUMULATORS AND
BATTERY AND ACCUMULATOR REFUSE**

**Article 1
(Purpose and scope)**

1. This statute incorporates Council Directive no. 91/157/EEC of 18 March 1991, Commission Directive 93/86/EEC of 4 October 1993 and Commission Directive 98/101/EC of 22 December 1998 into [Portuguese] legislation.
2. It establishes the principles and rules applicable to the management of batteries and accumulators and used batteries and accumulators, the first priority of which is to prevent production of this waste and, further, to recycle them and carry out other forms of re-use, so as to reduce the quantity of waste for disposal, and to improve, in terms of the environment, the performance of all economic operators involved during the life cycle of the batteries and accumulators.
3. This statute shall apply to all batteries and accumulators placed on the national [Portuguese] market and to all used batteries and accumulators.

**Article 2
(Definitions)**

1. For the purposes of this statute, the following definitions shall apply:
 - a) Battery: any source of electrical energy obtained by the direct conversion of chemical energy, made up of one or more primary cells (not rechargeable);
 - b) Accumulator: any source of electrical energy obtained by the direct conversion of chemical energy, made up of one or more secondary cells (rechargeable);
 - c) Used battery or accumulator: any battery or accumulator that cannot be re-used, according to the definition of waste adopted in the current applicable legislation on this matter;



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- d) Industrial accumulators and accumulators for vehicles: any accumulator used in vehicles or for industrial purposes, e.g. as a source of energy for emergency lighting, backup and traction;
- e) Producer: any entity which manufactures and markets batteries or accumulators under its own name or which resells, under its own name, equipment produced by other suppliers;
- f) Importer: any entity which imports, on a professional basis, batteries and accumulators or equipment which incorporate them;
- g) Economic operators: producers and importers, distributors and traders, public bodies and authorities with applicable powers, in particular, local authorities;
- h) Recycling: the reprocessing, in a production process, of the waste arising from batteries and accumulators for an initial purpose or for other purposes, excluding the re-use of energy;
- i) Re-use: Any of the applicable operations specified under current law;
- j) Disposal: Any of the applicable operations specified under current law;
- l) Collection: any operation involving picking up, sorting and/or regrouping used batteries and accumulators;
- m) Deposit: system by which the purchaser of batteries or accumulators pays the vendor a sum of money which will be reimbursed by the latter, in return for the delivery [i.e. the return] of any used battery or accumulator.

Article 3
Management principles

The fundamental principles of the management of batteries and accumulators and used batteries and accumulators are the prevention of the production of this waste, as well as the creation of recycling systems and other forms of re-use, or disposal, of used batteries and accumulators, in particular, through the implementation of special programmes of action, to be drawn up in collaboration with the economic operators concerned under the terms of this statute.



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Article 4
Management responsibilities

1. The economic operators shall be jointly responsible for the management of batteries and accumulators and used batteries and accumulators, under the terms of this statute and other applicable legislation.
2. Requirements governing the protection of the environment and consumer health and safety, as well as the protection of industrial and commercial property rights shall be taken into account in the management of batteries and accumulators and used batteries and accumulators.
3. Local authorities shall be responsible, under current legislation, for the collection of urban waste; they shall receive the financial benefits arising from the application of the integrated system specified in this statute, in order to ensure the selective collection and sorting of the used batteries and accumulators contained in urban waste.
4. Producers and importers of batteries and accumulators shall be responsible for providing the financial benefits specified in the previous point [3].
5. Producers and importers of batteries and accumulators shall be responsible for the re-use, if technically feasible, or disposal of used batteries and accumulators, directly at specially licensed units or through organisations which have been created to ensure the return and re-use of the materials collected.
6. The economic operators shall undertake to receive, without charge, the used batteries and accumulators of the end consumer or most recent user.
7. Only batteries and accumulators which fulfil all the requirements defined in this statute and other applicable legislation may be placed on the market and traded.

Article 5
Fulfilment and obligations

1. For the purposes of fulfilling the obligations established above, the economic operators may opt to submit the management of their batteries and accumulators and used batteries and accumulators to one of two Systems, i.e. the Consignment



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- System or the Integrated System. The operating rules and regulations governing these systems are specified herein and in the orders referred to in Article 9.
2. Under the Integrated System, the responsibility of the economic operators for the management of used batteries and accumulators may be transferred to an entity duly licensed to carry out this activity, under the terms of this statute and other applicable legislation.
 3. In the case specified above, the aforementioned entity must provide the financial resources necessary to cover the operations involving the selective collection and sorting of used batteries and accumulators, and for the return and re-use or disposal of used batteries and accumulators, in the following way:
 - a) In the case of batteries and accumulators contained in urban waste, by means of contracts with the local authorities responsible for carrying out the selective collection and sorting of the batteries and accumulators contained in urban waste, and with organisations of suppliers and processors of battery and accumulator materials, which have been set up to ensure the return and re-use of the materials recovered;
 - b) In the case of other batteries and accumulators, the responsibility for the selective collection and sorting of the waste of batteries and accumulators may also be transferred to local authorities, by entering into contracts with the latter; the provisions of the above paragraph with regard to the return and re-use of the waste of these types of batteries and accumulators shall accordingly apply.
 4. The responsibility of the entity referred to in the above paragraphs for the end use of used batteries and accumulators shall cease only upon the delivery thereof to companies licensed for their re-use or disposal.

Article 6
(Markings)

1. The batteries and accumulators contained in Annexe I must be marked with special symbols, defined in Annexe II.
2. The marking must be carried out by the manufacturer or its representative established on national territory, or failing that, by the party responsible for selling and marketing the batteries and accumulators on the national market.



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Article 7
(Collection and treatment objectives)

The collection and treatment objectives for used batteries and accumulators are those defined in the programmes of action referred to in the order specified in Article 9.

Article 8
(Trading restrictions)

1. The trader and distributor may not market any battery or accumulator referred to in Annexe I which is not marked in accordance with the provisions of Article 6.
2. It is also prohibited to place on the market of batteries and accumulators which contain more than 0.0005% of mercury by weight, including cases in which these batteries and accumulators are incorporated into equipment. "Button" type batteries and batteries comprising "button" type cells, with a mercury content of not more than 2% by weight, are not covered by this prohibition.
3. The batteries and accumulators may only be incorporated into equipment provided they can be easily removed by the consumer after use. This provision shall not apply to the categories of equipment referred to in Annexe III of this statute.

Article 9
(Regulations)

The rules governing technical execution specified in this statute, in particular, those relating to the operation of the consignment and integrated systems, the entities specified in Article 5, the used battery and accumulator management plans, systems providing information and transmitting data to users of batteries and accumulators, the Institute of Waste and to the ministry responsible for the protection of used battery and accumulator-producing activity, as well as the respective adaptation to scientific and technical progress, are defined by the joint orders of the Minister for Finance and Economy, and Minister for the Environment and Territorial Planning.



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Article 10
(Monitoring and handling infringements)

1. The Inspectorate-General of Economic Activities, the Inspectorate-General of the Environment, the Institute of Waste, the Regional Offices for the Environment and Territorial Planning, the Regional Delegations of the Ministry of the Economy and other relevant bodies authorised according to law shall be responsible for monitoring the fulfilment of the provisions of this statute.
2. Those bodies which, under the terms of the previous point, have drawn up the official documents shall be entitled to handle the infringements specified in this statute.

Article 11
(Infringements)

1. An infringement, punishable by means of a penalty of between \$10,000 [i.e. 10,000 escudos] and \$750,000 in the case of a natural person, and between \$100,000 and \$9,000,000 in the case of a legal person, shall be understood to have occurred in the event of:
 - a) The placing on the market by the manufacturer or importer of batteries and accumulators without the management thereof and of the associated waste having been carried out in accordance with the terms of item 1 of Article 5 and the orders specified in Article 9;
 - b) The refusal to accept used batteries and accumulators, and also the refusal to repay the deposit due on the part of the distributor, when this acceptance is compulsory, in accordance with the provisions of the orders specified in Article 9, which establish the rules of operation of the consignment and integrated systems;
 - c) The failure to fulfil the obligations referred to in the orders specified in Article 9;
 - d) The failure to mark the batteries and accumulators referred to in Annexe I, with the symbol applicable thereto, in accordance with the terms of Article 6;



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- e) The placing on the market, by the manufacturer or importer, of batteries and accumulators in breach of the provisions of Article 8;
 - f) The failure to notify the Institute of Waste of [relevant] information, or wrongly informing it thereof, in accordance with the terms of the order specified in Article 9.
2. Assault and negligence shall be punishable.

Article 12
(Additional fines)

The entity entitled to apply the penalties specified above may also decide upon the application of the following additional fines, in accordance with general provisions of law:

- a) Suspension of the exercise of a profession or activity;
- b) Privation of the right to a subsidy or benefit granted by public services or authorities;
- c) Suspension of authorisations, licences or permits.

Article 13
(Application of penalties)

- 1. The Inspectorate-General of the Environment and the President of the Institute of Waste shall be responsible for applying the additional fines specified in the articles above.
- 2. The penalties specified in Article 11 shall be allocated as follows:
 - a) 20% for the inspection body which drew up or examined the official document;
 - b) 20% for the entity which decided upon the application of the penalty;



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c) 60% for the Government.

Article 14

(Battery and accumulator management commission)

[Comissão de Acompanhamento da Gestão de Pilhas e Acumuladores]

1. A Battery and Accumulator Management Commission was set up, hereinafter called CAPA, chaired by a representative of the Ministry of the Environment and Territorial Planning, responsible for overseeing compliance with the provisions of this statute.
2. CAPA is a technical consultancy body that works in conjunction with members of the Government who are responsible for licensing the entities referred to in Article 5; it is responsible for drafting its Rules of Procedure, preparing the decisions for subsequent adoption, as well as giving an opinion with respect to all the fields of application of this statute which it is called upon to express, providing the link between the public authorities and the various economic operators covered by these provisions.
3. CAPA is made up of the following members:
 - a) One representative from the Ministry of the Economy;
 - b) One representative from the Ministry of Trade and Tourism;
 - c) One representative from the Ministry of the Environment and Territorial Planning;
 - d) One representative from the National Association of Portuguese Local Authorities;
 - e) One representative from each association representing the economic sectors concerned;
 - f) One representative from each managing body specified in point 2 of Article 5.
4. The Ministerial representatives specified in points a) to c) shall be appointed by order of the relevant minister.



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Article 15
(Repeal)

Decree-Law no. 219 of 20 August 1994 and Orders 281 of 7 April 1995 and 1081 of 7 April 1995 shall be repealed.

Article 16
(Entry into force)

This statute shall enter into force on the day immediately after the publication thereof, subject to the provisions ... [Translator: source text cut off].



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ANNEXE I

Batteries and accumulators containing hazardous substances:

1. batteries and accumulators placed on the market as from 1 January 1999 which contain more than 0.0005% mercury in weight;
2. batteries and accumulators placed on the market as from 18 September 1992 which contain:
 - more than 25 mg of mercury per cell, with the exception of alkaline manganese batteries;
 - more than 0.025% in weight of cadmium;
 - more than 0.4% in weight of lead.
3. Alkaline manganese batteries with more than 0.025% in weight of mercury, placed on the market as from 18 September 1992.



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ANNEXE II

Marking System

1. Manufactured for sale on national territory or imported into national territory as from January 1994.
2. The symbol indicating separate collection, consists of a waste container with a cross as shown in the two drawings below:

[see Portuguese source text]

3. The size of the symbol referred to in point 2 shall be equivalent to 3% of the surface area of the largest face of the battery or accumulator, and may not exceed a maximum of 5 cm x 5 cm. For cylindrical batteries, the size of the symbol must be equivalent to 3% of half the surface area of the cylinder and may not exceed a maximum of 5 cm x 5 cm.

If, owing to the size of the battery or accumulator, the area to be occupied by the symbol is less than 0.5 cm x 0.5 cm, the battery or accumulator need not be marked. However, the packaging must be printed with a symbol measuring 1 cm x 1 cm.

4. The symbol indicating a heavy-metal content is made up of the chemical symbol of the metal concerned, i.e. Hg, Cd or Pb, according to the category of batteries or accumulators described in Annexe I.
5. The symbol referred to in point 4 shall be printed underneath the symbol specified in point 2. Its size must be equivalent to at least one quarter of the area of the symbol described.
6. Each of the symbols mentioned must be printed in a clear, legible and indelible manner ... [Translator: text appears to be missing as sentence is not completed]



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ANNEXE III

List of categories of equipment excluded from the scope of application of point 3 of Article 8.

1. Equipment to which the batteries are permanently secured or attached by any other means, to points of contact, in order to ensure a continuous power supply for intensive industrial use and to store computer equipment data, provided the use of the batteries and accumulators referred to in Annexe I are technically necessary.
2. Reference batteries of scientific and professional equipment, and batteries and accumulators fitted to medical equipment designed to maintain vital functions and to cardiac stimulators, provided their permanent operation is essential and the batteries and accumulators are only removed by qualified personnel.
3. Portable equipment, when the replacement of the batteries by non-qualified personnel might pose a safety risk to the user or might affect the operation of the devices and equipment, and professional equipment designed to be used in very sensitive environments, e.g. in the presence of volatile substances.

Equipment whose batteries and accumulators may not be easily replaced by the user under the terms of this annexe, must be accompanied by instructions of use which inform the user that the content of the batteries or accumulators poses a threat to the environment, instructing him/her how to remove them in total safety.



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DRAFT [MINISTERIAL] ORDER ON BATTERIES AND ACCUMULATORS AND WASTE FROM BATTERIES AND ACCUMULATORS

SECTION I

Article 1 Scope

This statute establishes the Programmes of Action relating to Batteries and Accumulators, and defines the operating rules of the consignment systems, integrated systems and relevant managing entity, with which economic operators responsible for the management of batteries and accumulators and used batteries and accumulators must comply, in accordance with the terms specified in Article 4 of Decree-Law no. [blank]/2000.

SECTION II

Programme of action relating to industrial accumulators and vehicle accumulators

Article 2 Management rules

1. Producers and importers of industrial and vehicle accumulators shall be responsible for the management and end use of their used accumulators. To this end, they must establish a consignment system which enables the selective collection and recycling of the accumulators after they have been used by the consumer. This system must have a correct geographic distribution, taking into account the population density.
2. The consignment shall, by necessity, involve a deposit being charged to consumers at the time of purchase, which may only be reimbursed on return [of the used battery]. The Government may, by means of a joint order of the Ministers for the Economy and Finance and for the Environment and Territorial Planning, and after having consulted the Associations which represent the sectors involved, set a minimum value of the deposit, which must be implemented throughout the entire distribution chain and which must encourage the [consumer to] return the used accumulator, without exceeding its actual value.



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3. The distributors/traders shall undertake to charge and reimburse the deposit specified above, as well as to ensure the collection of the used accumulators at the point of sale, and their storage in appropriate conditions.
4. The storage referred to above must be implemented in sealed containers made of a material which does not react with the liquid inside the accumulator. The accumulators must be stored with the liquid in the inside and in the vertical position, with the openings closed and facing upwards.
5. The deposit referred to in the above points shall not be subject to further payment and its value must be clearly stated on the packaging or medium used to indicate the selling price of the product.
6. For the purpose of the selective collection of the used accumulators specified above, manufacturers and/or importers may establish sites for the collection of the used accumulators.
7. Manufacturers and importers shall undertake to collect the accumulators received and stored by the distributor/trader, within a period to be agreed between the parties.
8. The distributors/traders are not required to accept or store used accumulators in whose type, format or brand they do not trade.
9. Used accumulators subject to the consignment system may not be included in the local authority waste-collection circuits.
10. As an alternative to the system referred to in point 1, the economic operators referred to therein may transfer their responsibility to a managing entity of the integrated system, which must operate in a similar way to the system described in Article 7, with the necessary adaptations, and which shall be approved by the Institute of Waste.

Article 3
Responsibility

1. At the end of the return cycle, the relevant manufacturer or importer shall be responsible for the end use of the used accumulators.



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2. The responsibility specified in the previous point shall cease only upon the delivery of the used accumulators to a company licensed to recycle them.

Article 4
Objectives

No later than 1 January 2002, manufacturers and importers must guarantee the collection and recycling of at least 80% in weight, of the quantities of accumulators annually placed on the market.

Article 5
Statistical data

1. Manufacturers and importers must, on an annual basis, send the Institute of Waste statistical data relating to the quantities of accumulators which are placed on the market and to the quantities of used accumulators collected, as well as to the quantities delivered to the companies which are responsible for their recycling.
2. The statistics referred to in the previous points must be forwarded by 15 February of the year following the year to which they relate, in accordance with the model to be published by order of the Minister for the Environment and Territorial Planning.

Article 6
Management plans

1. Manufacturers and importers must draft the relevant management plan for used accumulators, which describes the system adopted under the consignment system and the system-monitoring methods, to make it possible to measure the proportion of accumulators collected for recycling vis-à-vis the accumulators sold.
2. The management plan must contain the following:
 - the measures to be taken relating to research into reducing the content of heavy metals and hazardous substances and into their replacement with other less contaminating materials, with a view to promoting the marketing of



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accumulators containing lower quantities of hazardous and/or contaminating substances;

- the measures to be taken relating to research into recycling processes;
- the measures to be taken relating to consumer-awareness campaigns on the dangers of uncontrolled disposal of this waste, the marking of accumulators and equipment with accumulators permanently incorporated and the method of removing these accumulators.

These measures must be taken individually or by associations of which they form a part.

3. Management plans shall have an annual periodicity; the first must be sent to the Institute of Waste within three months of the date of publication of this order, and subsequent plans by 30 November of the year prior to the one to which they relate.
4. Manufacturers and importers which have a consignment system on the date this order takes effect must maintain this system and adapt it to this order, submitting the relevant management plan on an annual basis, according to the terms of the above points.
5. In relation to the consignment systems currently in force, all measures shall be prohibited which tend to derive economic benefits as a result of an adjustment to the minimum value of the deposit, to be fixed according to the terms of item no. 2 of Article 2, so that when the accumulators are changed, no adjustment of the deposit may be demanded.
6. The management plans must ensure full compliance with the objectives of this programme of action, in particular, those specified in Article 4.



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SECTION III

Other batteries and accumulators

Article 7 Management rules

1. Manufacturers and importers of batteries and accumulators shall be responsible for the management and end use of their used batteries and accumulators; they may transfer this responsibility to a managing entity of the "integrated system", governed by the provisions of Articles 8 et seq.
2. The managing entity of the integrated system must be duly licensed to carry out this activity, under the terms of Decree-Law no. [blank]/2000, and the provisions of this order.
3. The transfer of responsibility to the managing entity shall be subject to a written contract, valid for a minimum of four years, and containing the following information:
 - a) The name and characteristics of the batteries and accumulators covered by the contract;
 - b) An estimate of the number of used batteries and accumulators to be returned annually by the entity;
 - c) The terms of the control to be elaborated by the entity, so as to check the quantities and nature of the batteries and accumulators under its responsibility;
 - d) The financial resources due to the entity, taking into account the respective responsibilities, defined in this order.
4. The responsibility of the entity specified in point 1 for the return and re-use or disposal of used batteries and accumulators shall be assumed, in accordance with Article 8 of this order, by means of contracts with local authorities or companies managing multi-authority or inter-authority systems which have been licensed to carry out selective collection and sorting, and with organisations of suppliers and processors of accumulator and battery materials, set up to ensure the return and re-use of the recovered materials.



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5. The responsibility of the managing entity for the end use of the used batteries and accumulators shall cease only upon the delivery thereof to a company licensed for their re-use or disposal.
6. As an alternative to the system referred to in point 1, the economic operators referred to therein may organise a consignment system, which must operate in a similar way to the system described in Article 2, with the necessary adaptations, and which must be approved by the Institute of Waste.

Article 8
Managing entity

1. Any managing entity intending to assume responsibility for the management of used batteries and accumulators under the integrated system specified in the article above, shall require a licence to be granted according to the joint decision of the Minister for the Economy and Finance, and for the Environment and Territorial Planning.
2. The granting of the licence shall depend upon the technical and financial capacities of the entity for the operations concerned, as well as the assessment of the specifications referred to in Article 9 with which the same must prepare the relevant request.
3. The request must be submitted to the Institute of Waste which is responsible for co-ordinating the relevant process and forwarding the final decision.

Article 9
Specifications

1. If the used batteries and accumulators are to be collected by local authority systems, the specifications shall include the following references:
 - a) Identification and technical characteristics of the used batteries and accumulators concerned;
 - b) Estimate of the numbers of used batteries and accumulators to be returned annually;



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- c) Bases of the financial contribution required from manufacturers and importers, in particular, the formula for calculating the relevant rate, taking into account quantities specified, volume, weight, as well as the nature of the materials present therein. This contribution must, in particular, reflect the mercury, cadmium and lead content of the batteries and accumulators;
- d) Conditions for the relationship of activity between the entity and the local authorities (or companies managing multi-authority or inter-authority systems, under the terms of point 4 of Article 7), specifically, the method of proposing the return of the waste collected and sorted thereby, the technical specifications of the materials to be returned and the bases for the resources to be paid by the entity to the local authorities (or above-mentioned companies) for the increased cost of the selective collecting and sorting operations with respect to the used batteries and accumulators;
- e) Stipulation of funds earmarked for finance:
 - consumer-awareness campaigns on the dangers of an uncontrolled disposal of waste, the marking of batteries and accumulators, equipment with batteries and accumulators permanently incorporated and the method of removing these batteries and accumulators;
 - technical and economic feasibility studies on new recycling and re-use processes to be set up at national level;
 - studies which promote research into the reduction of the content of heavy metals and hazardous substances and on their replacement with other less contaminating materials, with a view to promoting the marketing of batteries and accumulators containing lower quantities of hazardous substances and/or contaminating substances;
- f) Economic circuit designed for re-use or disposal, stating the terms of the relationship between the entity and the economic operators involved;
- g) Conditions of reciprocity, if any, to be applied with respect to batteries and accumulators originating from other countries.



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Article 10 **Accounting results [profit]**

The profit of the entity must be reinvested or used in its business or connected activities, in accordance with the provisions of the above paragraph e) of item 1 of Article 9; it may be made up of provisions or reserves for future operations, but the distribution of the surplus, dividends or profit to shareholders, partners or associates is expressly prohibited.

Article 11 **Annual report**

The managing entity undertakes to deliver to the licensing entities an annual business report, showing the results obtained with respect to the management of used batteries and accumulators, in particular with respect to recycling and other forms of re-use or disposal, by 15 February of the year following the one to which the results relate, in accordance with the model to be published by the joint order of the Ministers for the Economy and Finance, and for the Environment and Territorial Planning.

Article 12 **Objectives**

No later than 1 January 2002, manufacturers and importers must guarantee by themselves, or through the managing entity referred to in Article 7:

- the selective collection of at least 75% in weight of the quantities of these batteries and accumulators annually placed on the market;
- the recycling of at least 60% in weight of the quantities collected selectively.



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SECTION IV
Final provisions

Article 13
Frequency of the programmes of action

The programmes of action specified in Sections II and III of this order shall be reviewed and updated at least every 4 years, depending, in particular, on technical progress and the economic and environmental situation.

Article 14
Entry into force

This order shall enter into force on the date of publication thereof. Number [blank] of Article [blank] must be fulfilled in full by 1 January 2001.